

MENOPAUSE

for a new generation

DATE: Wednesday Nov 17th 2021

TIME: 6 – 7:15 pm AEDT

- Prescribing protocols for menopausal patients
- Advancements in research & insights
- Interactive Q & A with experienced clinicians
- Delegates will receive complimentary meal voucher & registration pack including product samples



Professor Petra Stute, head of Gynecological Endocrinology & Menopause centre in Switzerland



Sandra Villella, Leading Australian Naturopath, Herbalist & lecturer

Register at: www.flordis.com.au/menopause-webinar

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Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features four pages plus a front cover page from Floridis and a full page from Storbie.

Floridis webinar

FLORDIS will host a special event on "Menopause for a new generation" on Wed 17 Nov from 6pm-7.15pm AEDT.

Attendees will receive a meal voucher and registration pack including product samples - for details see the cover page.

Priceline expands Scripts Now

PRICELINE Pharmacy has announced the expansion of its Scripts Now partnership with SiSU Health (PD 13 Jul 2020) to now offer patients seamless ordering and delivery of medications, including access to a medical consultation if required, without leaving home.

The initiative will "revolutionise health management for the thousands of Australians who struggle to obtain medications when needed, due to geographical, time or other constraints associated with visiting their usual doctor," according to SiSU MD Noel Duncan.

"Our goal is to deliver a simple end-to-end service for ordering medication," he said, adding that the service would make an enormous difference to rural and regional Australians, senior citizens and time-poor customers.

Customers can access Scripts Now via a dedicated website on either desktop or mobile, or in Priceline Pharmacies via the SiSU Health Stations and in 2022 the service will be available via the Priceline app.

All requests are reviewed by an Australian-registered GP or nurse practitioner, with a telehealth consultation provided if needed.

Duncan said a key benefit of the partnership was the ability for customers to regularly have their blood pressure and weight measured in-pharmacy via the free SiSU machines, and to have this "medical-grade data" reviewed with script renewal requests.

"We will also soon be able to notify the customer's regular GP of the measurements and request, ensuring an integrated approach to healthcare management."

The Scripts Now service fee is \$19.99 including delivery, or \$39.99 if a consultation is required.

Duncan said ultimately patients just want their routine medication safely, with Scripts Now making it easy "while including appropriate checks and balances to ensure their health needs are met".

Actemra info

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration has published a new consumer information sheet produced by Pain Australia about shortages of tocilizumab (Actemra) medicines.

The document gives patients instructions on how to access tocilizumab ACTPen and pre-filled syringes from their community pharmacy - for details see tga.gov.au.



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ANTI INFLAMMATORY

HYDROCORTISONE 1% w/w
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HELP EXTINGUISH MORE THAN THE ITCH



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For Pharmacists and Doctors: Resolve Plus 1.0 contains Miconazole Nitrate 2% w/w and Hydrocortisone 1% w/w. Directions: Clean and dry affected area thoroughly. Gently apply to infected skin and surrounding area two times daily. Once inflammation has subsided continue treatment with an antifungal cream for 14 days after symptoms disappear to avoid recurrence. Do not use Resolve Plus 1.0 on children under 2 years of age.

Review full PI before recommending or supplying Resolve Plus 1.0. PI available on request from Ego Pharmaceuticals.

References: 1. Resolve Plus Product Information. Date of Most Recent Amendment 26 October 2018. 2. Van Cutsem JM, Thienpont D. Miconazole, a broad-spectrum antimycotic agent with antibacterial activity. *Chemotherapy* 1972;17:392-404.

Resolve Plus



Get a website!

MEDMATE and Storbie are offering to help your pharmacy get a world-class website allowing patients to access OTC products, services bookings and health information, along with ePrescriptions and delivery - see the last page.



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Over 161,000 pharmacy jobs in Qld

MORE than 161,000 COVID-19 vaccines have been administered through almost 700 pharmacies across Qld since the rollout commenced, with Queenslanders being encouraged to find their closest location to book their free coronavirus immunisation.

Pharmacy Guild of Australia Branch Vice President, Amanda Seeto, said "one of the greatest things about being able to access COVID-19 vaccinations through community pharmacy is the accessibility".

"97% of Queenslanders living in metro areas live within 2.5km of a community pharmacy, as do 66% of those in regional areas.

"Greater accessibility to COVID-19 vaccinations will mean more Queenslanders will get fully vaccinated sooner, and community pharmacies are only too happy to



be part of this," she said.

"Additionally, many pharmacies are open for extended hours and over the weekend for your convenience, so if you've been put off by long waits, jump onto findapharmacy.com.au, give your community pharmacy a call or walk in and receive your free COVID-19 vaccination at a participating

pharmacy," she concluded.

Seeto is **pictured** at right above after providing an update on the rollout during a Qld Government media conference, alongside pharmacist Peter FairGray from TerryWhite Chemmart Arana Hills, Qld Deputy Premier Steven Miles, and Qld Chief Health Officer Dr Jeannette Young.

NCPA names new President



AMERICA'S National Community Pharmacists Association (NCPA) has appointed Michele Belcher from Grants Pass Pharmacy in Oregon (**pictured**) as its new National President.

She was formally installed at the organisation's 2021 Annual Convention which took place last week, with Belcher telling delegates that it is vital to focus on pharmacist scope of practice issues and changing the pharmacy payment model.

"Now is the time to step up and invest in our future," she said, highlighting how independent pharmacists and their staff had showed their full potential during the COVID-19 pandemic by administering almost 135 million doses of vaccines under the Federal Retail Pharmacy Program.

The conference also approved position statements on pharmacist-administered COVID-19 monoclonal antibody therapeutics and recognising pharmacists as providers.

Win with Cheeki

Cheeki and Pharmacy Daily are this week giving away a 350 mL insulated coffee mug each day.

Cheeki's insulated coffee mugs are 100% leakproof, easy to clean and keep coffee seriously hot for up to 8 hours which makes them ideal for the coffee lovers who like to sip on-the-go.

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What makes the coffee mug so easy to clean?

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CPAP class action

CARBONE Lawyers has issued legal proceedings against Philips, which earlier this year recalled 18 models of its CPAP machines due to a safety hazard caused by foam degradation (**PD** 28 Jun).

Philips was late last month expecting initial delivery of a batch of new DreamStation devices, with replacement work to start mid-Oct as part of a global program estimated to take about a year.

Carbone said the class action had the potential to be the biggest in Australian history.

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Dispensary Corner

DIET drinks may do exactly the opposite of what is intended in some people, according to a new study published in *JAMA Network Open*.

The University of Southern California research found drinks made with sucralose may stimulate appetites.

The study correlated the impact of the sodas on men, women and those of varying levels of obesity.

Study author Katie Page said that after consuming the artificial sweetener "we found that females and people with obesity had greater brain reward activity".

These groups also showed lower levels of hormones which inhibit appetite, and they ate more food after they consumed diet drinks than those sweetened with natural sugar.

Page said she was surprised at the impact of body weight and biological sex, adding "they were very important factors in the way that the brain responded to the artificial sweetener".

The report (published [HERE](#)) noted most previous research into diet drinks had focused on males and people of normal weight, with the findings suggesting products sweetened with sucralose "could be disadvantageous to the people who could benefit most from an effective diet strategy".

FNQ pharmacy vaccination expands

THE Queensland Government has extended its support for in-school COVID-19 vaccinations (**PD** 14 Oct), with a program which had initially been set to roll out in private schools in the state's far north now also extended to the public education sector.

Qld Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk made the surprise announcement in Parliament on Fri, with the move welcomed by Pharmacy Guild of Australia National President, Trent Twomey, who confirmed a signed agreement with the Government had been finalised.

"So now the Pharmacy Guild will be in contact with pharmacies so they can reach out to school principals to get the program up and running," he said.

Queensland's COVID-19 vaccination program had previously included pop-up weekend clinics for the whole community at selected high schools in the Darling Downs, Mackay, South-East and Central regions, while jabs had also previously been administered at some schools in the west and in the Torres Strait.

At this stage the extension of



the pharmacy vaccinations to public schools is only for Far North Queensland institutions, with the government saying at this stage there were no plans to implement a statewide school-based COVID-19 vaccination program.

The first state school doses under the new scheme were administered at Mareeba State High School west of Cairns, delivered in partnership with Mareeba's Wholelife Pharmacy and Healthfoods headed by local pharmacist Bianca Hope.

The program is open to students, subject to parental permission, as well as to school staff, with jabs delivered in school hours by qualified pharmacist immunisers.

Mareeba State High School Principal, Scott Whybird, who is **pictured** with Hope, said "the opportunity for students and staff to receive their vaccinations at school through the support of our local pharmacy has provided a safe and easily accessible choice for our students and staff".

NZ Super Sat

NEW Zealand community pharmacies participated in a "Super Saturday" COVID-19 vaccination drive yesterday.

A total of 129,995 COVID-19 immunisations were administered, with 85% of NZ's population now having had at least one jab.

UK labelling glitch forces remedy recall

THE UK Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) has confirmed the recall of three batches of Tesco Max All-In-One Chesty Cough & Cold Lemon Sachets.

About 78,000 packs are involved in the incident, which is due to sachets incorrectly stating

that the product can be used by children aged 12 and over.

The first of the batches was distributed more than 18 months ago, on 16 Mar 2020.

The medicine is only approved for those aged 16 and up, with product also removed from shelves while labelling is updated.

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Coal sector COVAX deal

THE Pharmacy Guild of Australia has sealed an agreement with Coal Services, a special scheme which delivers integrated services to mitigate workplace risks in the NSW coal industry.

Under the pact, Coal Services offshoot CS Health will facilitate COVID-19 vaccinations in local community pharmacies for industry workers, aiming to help instil confidence that staff, their families and communities are protected

against the virus.

An online portal hosted by the Guild will help workers locate and book a vaccine appointment near them, with Guild National President, Trent Twomey, saying that with community pharmacies able to take bookings at short notice "it means less down time for employees and it means they can access this service almost immediately when they are ready to do so".

AFT adds new skincare range

AFT Pharmaceuticals today launched a new NZ-made skincare offering, with the products infused with organic hemp seed (cannabis sativa) oil.

Dubbed Hemptuary, the new range was developed after AFT's Director of International Business, Louise Clayton, "discovered the amazing benefits of hemp seed oil on the skin" while evaluating the hemp plant as part of a wider pharmaceutical project.

The launch range includes Hemp Soothing Balm, Hemp Nourishing Face & Body Oil and Hemp Infused Moisturiser, and is now available for in-pharmacy purchase across Australia.



Weekly Comment

Welcome to Pharmacy Daily's weekly comment feature. This week's contributor is **Amit Saha, M-Pharm, MBA, MPS group technical manager, LaCorium Health.**



Put your best foot forward

Suddenly found it's painful to stand or walk? You are not alone; heel pain is common and most often due to plantar fasciopathy, often referred to as plantar fasciitis. The plantar fascia is a piece of strong, thick tissue running along the bottom of the foot connecting the heel bone to the toes, creating the arch of the foot. It supports the arch of the foot and takes the strain when we stand, walk or run. We tend to only become aware of this vital piece of foot architecture when it starts to complain.

Plantar fasciitis is most common in the 40-60 year age group, accounts for up to 15% of all foot complaints and occurs in up to one in 10 regular runners but equally in non-sporty people too. The good news is that for most people, symptoms resolve or improve with simple treatment such as rest, ice therapy and painkillers including topical pain relief products.

Your healthcare professional can diagnose, give exercises and an individualised program progressively increasing activity.

Other treatment techniques include manual manipulation, taping, or prescribing insoles.

Dermal Therapy has added a topical foot and knee pain relief gel in its ever-expanding foot care armour, for effective pain relief associated with plantar fasciitis.

Pfizer antiviral

FEDERAL Health Minister Greg Hunt has announced a new agreement with Pfizer Australia for the supply of 500,000 courses of the company's investigational oral antiviral candidate medication for COVID-19.

Subject to regulatory approval by the Therapeutic Goods Administration, PF-07321332 in combination with ritonavir, is said to be the first orally administered investigational candidate to be evaluated in clinical trials that is specifically designed to combat COVID-19.

PF-07321332 is a protease inhibitor which is designed to block the activity of the main SARS-CoV-2 protease, an enzyme essential for viral replication.

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