

Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features two pages of news plus a full page from Healthone.

Masks matter

QUALITY counts when it comes to personal protective equipment (PPE), including face masks.

Australian PPE Supply is offering pharmacies access to Australian made masks, that feature anti-fog and anti-glare technology, alongside a bacterial filtration efficiency of 99%.

See page three for more.



TGA warns Kelly over misleading claims

LAWYERS for the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) have written to United Australia Party leader, Craig Kelly, demanding the party stops distributing incomplete extracts of COVID-19 vaccine adverse event reports.

"The TGA has acted in an effort to ensure that the public receives accurate information about adverse event reports," the TGA said.

"It is alleged that extracts were selectively taken from the Database of Adverse Event Notifications on the TGA website

by the United Australia Party and used by the United Australia Party in text messages to members of the public.

"The reports are subject to copyright and the extracts distributed by the United Australia Party have removed important information about the reports and the TGA's copyright statement.

"Information on the Database of Adverse Event Notifications cannot be used to identify whether a medicine or a vaccine is safe or has caused the reported adverse event or not."

Pharmacies hold 1.1m COVAX doses

CALLS for pharmacies to share excess stock of COVID-19 vaccines (COVAX) appear to be falling on deaf ears, with 1.15 million doses currently sitting in stores' fridges across the country.

Data provided by the Commonwealth Department of Health revealed community pharmacies administered 114,346 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine in the week to 15 Sep, with stores ordering 183,400 additional doses during the same period.

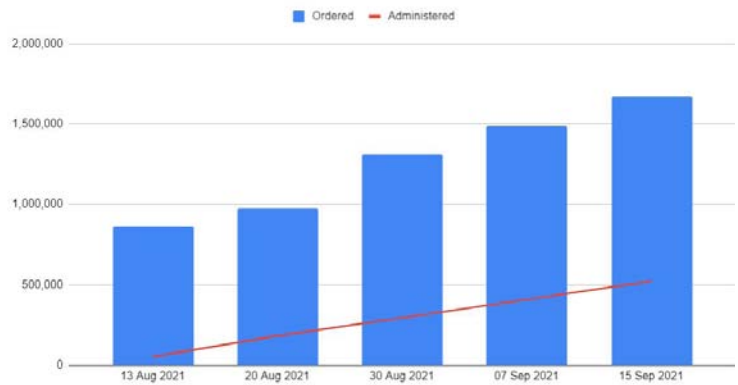
Speaking at a Pharmacy Guild of Australia webinar last week, National President, Trent Twomey, urged pharmacy owners to share stock, rather than dipping into Commonwealth supplies.

"There's an awful lot of stock sitting in fridges," he said.

"My call out to all of you is the quickest way for you to order stock is to transfer it from a mate.

"If you're out there and you're running low on AstraZeneca, please don't order more from the Commonwealth.

COVID-19 vaccines ordered and administered through community pharmacies as of 15 Sep



"Please call your mate down the road, who is probably sitting on an awful lot and get them to transfer it to you - it's completely fine to horizontally move stock, you just need to update the COVID-19 Vaccine Ordering System (CVAS) every Fri to say you've either transferred it out or you've accepted it.

"Please share out the remaining

AstraZeneca stock."

While pharmacies' stockpiles of COVAX continue to grow, the sector surpassed the 500,000 doses administered milestone, with the total number standing at 522,439 as of 5pm (AEST) yesterday.

NSW continues to lead the way, administering 307,900 doses to date, followed by Victoria (87,900) and Queensland (71,800).

Changes at the top in PSA Tas Branch

THE Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) Tasmanian Branch has announced its newly elected leadership team, with David Peachey succeeding Dr Ella van Tienen as President.

Former PSA National President, Shane Jackson and Anne Todd have been appointed as Vice Presidents.

PSA National President, Associate Professor Chris Freeman, welcomed the newly elected branch committee and thanked van Tienen for her contribution to the organisation.

"I congratulate David and Anne

on their appointments to lead the branch," he said.

"Drawing on their extensive experience and skillsets, they will advocate for the profession and promote membership across Tasmania.

"David is a strong proponent of contemporary pharmacy practice, driven by best practice and placing the patient at the centre of care delivery.

"Their appointments will ensure members' interests are represented as part of the Member First pillar of PSA's Strategic Intent."



Wesfarmers to strengthen API brands

WESFARMERS aims to boost the competitive position of pharmacies operating under Australian Pharmaceutical Industries (API) brands, should its latest takeover offer succeed, the company's Managing Director, Rob Scott, says.

Having seen an initial indicative proposal of \$1.38 per share knocked back by the API Board in Jul (PD 29 Jul), the retail conglomerate returned this morning with an increased offer of \$1.55 (PD breaking news).

In a statement to the Australian Securities Exchange (ASX), API CEO, Richard Vincent, said the new proposal "better reflects the strength and potential of our stable of businesses", with the company's Board stating that it intends to recommend the proposal to shareholders subject to the parties entering into a binding Scheme Implementation Deed "on terms no less favourable than the revised proposal" or no superior offer being received.

In a separate announcement to



the ASX, Scott said the proposal would deliver an attractive premium to API shareholders, adding that "Wesfarmers supports the community pharmacy model, including the pharmacy ownership and location rules".

"If the proposal is successful, we see opportunities to invest to strengthen the competitive position of API and its community pharmacy partners by expanding ranges, improving supply chain capabilities and enhancing the online

experience for customers," he said.

"API would also provide the basis of a new Healthcare division of Wesfarmers and a platform from which to invest and develop capabilities in the growing health, wellbeing and beauty sector."

Under the new proposal, API and Wesfarmers have entered into a Process Deed, under which Wesfarmers has been granted until 16 Oct to undertake confirmatory due diligence to facilitate a binding offer.



Dispensary Corner

COVID-19 vaccination advocate, Pope Francis, appears to have taken a jab at one of his colleagues, while urging people to get immunised.

Speaking to media during a flight from Slovakia to Rome, the pontiff expressed a level of confusion over vaccine hesitancy amongst his flock.

"It's a bit strange, because humanity has a history of friendship with vaccines," Pope Francis said.

"As children [we are vaccinated] for measles, polio... all the children were vaccinated and no one said anything.

"Even in the College of Cardinals there are some vaccine negationists.

"But one of them, poor thing, has been hospitalised with the virus.

"These are the ironies of life."

While the Pope did not name names, newsagency Reuters reported that vaccine sceptic, US Cardinal Raymond Burke, was in hospital after contracting COVID-19.

It also seem that the pontiff's pro-vaccine message had failed to sway some Australian Catholics, with Archbishop of Hobart, Julian Porteous, saying he was "obligated to respect the decision of those members of the clergy who have a conscientious objection to receiving one of the COVID-19 vaccines currently available in Australia".

However, Porteous stressed that he has followed the Pope's advice and has received a double dose.

Builders, retailers turn to pharmacy

THE Pharmacy Guild of Australia has announced new partnerships with Master Builders Australia and MGA Independent Retailers, to deliver access to the Guild Corporate COVID-19 vaccination program.

Welcoming the new agreements, Guild National President, Trent Twomey, said they would support the building and retail sectors in delivering safe environments for employees.

"The Guild Corporate COVID-19 Vaccination Program is a tremendous resource for employees as well as employers,"



he said.

"Your local community pharmacy is an efficient, safe way to obtain your vaccination, at a time to suit you.

"Employees can receive a COVID-19 vaccination from a qualified community pharmacist immuniser at a quality-accredited community pharmacy."

Fearnley for APP

TRIPLE Paralympic gold medalist, Kurt Fearnley, has been confirmed as one of the key speakers at the 2022 Australian Pharmacy Professional Conference (APP).

APP Convenor, Kos Sclavos, said Fearnley will be one of more than 100 speakers who will present at next year's event, with a full program to be released in Nov.

Earlybird registration for APP 2022 is now open with a 10% discount on offer to the first 200 attendees who register as full delegates using the code FIRST200.

YOU WOULDN'T BUY A CAR WITHOUT SEATBELTS

Why would you buy a mask that doesn't protect you?

**The quality of your masks matter, our
100% Australian Made medical masks are:**

- ✓ Australian Made
- ✓ Quality Controlled
- ✓ Meets Australian Standard AS4381:2015
- ✓ ARTG 356770



TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

- Bacterial Filtration Efficiency 99%
- Anti Fog & Anti Glare Technology
- 3D shape contouring around the side of the face for no side leakage



VISIT [AUSTRALIANPPESUPPLY.COM.AU](https://australianppesupply.com.au) FOR QUALITY PROTECTION