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## Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features two pages of news plus a full page from Good Price Pharmacy Warehouse.

## Kids' nutrition

GUILD Learning and Development is partnering with Abbott Nutrition to prepare pharmacists to support parents of children with "restrictive or selective" diets.

The new CPD-accredited *Managing nutrition in children* module, aims to give pharmacists the information required to assist parents who are concerned about their children's nutritional intake, providing basic information regarding nutritional needs, and referring children who are at nutritional risk for further assessment.

The course educates pharmacists on the nutritional needs of children and how nutrition can affect growth and development, exploring the challenges parents often face in terms of their children's diet.

## ACT adopts new RTPM

PHARMACY bodies in the ACT are welcoming the rollout of Canberra Script, a new real-time prescription monitoring system (RTPM) to replace the current DORA platform.

Speaking to *Pharmacy Daily*, Pharmacy Guild of Australia ACT Branch President, Simon Blacker, said Canberra Script, which is linked to the National Data Exchange project, was a step in the right direction.

"We're supportive of the change, because Canberra Script should be a more user-friendly platform that gives greater ability for a health practitioner to register themselves quite simply and get onto the system," he said.

"This is not to be viewed [by patients] as a threat, where practitioners are going to come in heavy-handed.

"This provides more information so we're better able to help people and make better clinical decisions, and help those who sometimes struggle to help themselves."

Blacker noted that pharmacists and GPs will initially be able to opt-in to use Canberra Script, rather than having the Territory Government mandating its use.

"The ACT Government

understands that pharmacists have been incredibly under the pump [as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic] and only have so much bandwidth, so they just wanted to get the system up and running and allow pharmacists to opt-in and start using the program," he said.

Pharmaceutical Society of Australia ACT Branch President, Olivia Collenette, said the new RTPM will provide notifications to help practitioners to support safe and effective use of medicines.

"It is quite unnerving to know, that over the past decade in Australia, drug-induced deaths were more likely to be a result of prescription medicines rather than illicit substances, and this is precisely why innovative harm minimisation systems like Canberra Script are needed," she said.

"This patient-centric technology enables both prescribers and pharmacists to have informed discussions with their patients in a non-confronting way, providing them with greater oversight of what other monitored medicines the individual may be taking.

"Canberra Script will help shape conversations around the safe and effective use of these medicines."

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## NACCHO says no to planned NQPSPP

**PLANS** to allow pharmacists to diagnose and prescribe medicines through a pilot program in North Queensland are being opposed by the National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO).

In a statement released this morning the NACCHO raised concerns over the Queensland Government's lack of consultation with Aboriginal Controlled Community Health Organisations (ACCHOs) over the proposed North Queensland Pharmacy Scope of Practice Pilot (NQPSPP).

NACCHO Deputy CEO, Dr Dawn Casey, said Indigenous healthcare groups felt the pilot set out to indiscriminately increase the scope of practice for community pharmacists, without consideration for safety, effectiveness and community needs.

"The trial is proposed for a region in Australia with a very

large Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population, but the proposal makes no mention of the increased health needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and the need for culturally-safe, comprehensive primary health care," she said.

"There has been insufficient consultation with the community-controlled sector on the proposed trial.

"Furthermore, the proposed trial will fragment care and result in missed opportunities for comprehensive team-based primary care.

"An example is the proposal to diagnose and treat acute otitis media. A condition that needs extensive and comprehensive follow-up of hearing health to help address hearing loss in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander kids.

"Pharmacists are a valued part of the primary care team and



NACCHO supports their role integrated within our ACCHOs where they provide for high-quality, team-based care."

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) President, Dr Karen Price, said the lack of consultation with NACCHO was indicative of the NQPSPP having been poorly thought out, adding she was "not surprised" the program was opposed by Indigenous health groups.

## Dispensary Corner

**ROMANCE** is alive and well on the University of Mississippi's campus, and there's a TikTok video to prove it.

Pharmacy PhD candidate, Cellas Hayes, implemented a plan to take his relationship with Higher Education Administration Master's student and mother of his son, Mweyeria Offord, to the next level with an elaborate proposal, last week.

Knowing Offord's passion for literature, Hayes said they were going on a date to their favourite restaurant, but needed to stop off at the university's JD Williams Library, where they first met, to get a book.

Offord was sent off on a scavenger hunt through the library picking up quotes printed on cards from seven of her favourite books, with letters capitalised to spell out 'will you marry me?'

Having unscrambled the message, Offord walked out of the library to find a sharply dressed Hayes down on one knee, in the spot where the couple first met, to pop the question.

After seven months of planning, Dispensary Corner is pleased to confirm that Offord said "yes" and the couple are planning to get hitched in Apr 2023 in a small courthouse ceremony, with a larger event to mark their marriage scheduled to take place in 2024, once they have both graduated - and mask requirements will hopefully have been eased.

## Priceline hits 40

**AUSTRALIAN** Pharmaceutical Industries' Priceline group is celebrating its 40th anniversary with a six-week birthday campaign.

From the first store at Melbourne's Highpoint Shopping Centre in 1982, the group has expanded to include 370 pharmacies and a further 100 non-pharmacy outlets.

The celebratory media campaign, which features ambassador, Chrissie Swan, will run across free-to-air, social media, online and in-store channels, as well as Priceline's Sister Club loyalty program, to communicate brand and key product offers.

## GSK launches new consumer health co

**GSK'S** consumer healthcare brands, Panadol, Voltaren and Centrum, are being rolled into a new company, Haleon, ahead of a demerger later this year.

The Haleon brand will be deployed in more than 100 markets around the globe, as a standalone company.

The new company is the result of a series of investments and strategic changes to GSK's consumer health business over the last eight years, including the integration of product portfolios from Novartis and Pfizer.

GSK CEO, Emma Walmsley, said that "Haleon brings to life years of hard work by many outstanding people to build this

new company purely dedicated to everyday health".

Haleon has enormous potential to improve health and wellbeing across the world with strong prospects for growth, and through listing will unlock significant value for GSK shareholders," she said.

"Haleon will have a world-class portfolio of category-leading global brands, including Panadol, Voltaren, Sensodyne and Centrum.

"Its brands are trusted by healthcare professionals, customers and people worldwide to improve the health and wellbeing of individuals and their communities."

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