



Mag-Sup
High absorption magnesium

Pharmacy only.

50's
PBS &
RPBS
Listed

Available in 50's, 100's and 250's from Symbion, Sigma, API and CH2.

Always read the label. Follow the directions for use.

Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features two pages of news, plus a full page from *The Pharmacy Guild of Australia*.

APP deadline

PHARMACISTS planning to attend the Australian Pharmacy Professional Conference (APP) in Mar have until Mon to secure an earlybird discount. See **page three** for more.

NSW rent relief

THE NSW State Government has extended its rent relief regulation until 13 Mar. The move will allow small businesses impacted by COVID-19 to continue to access support. Eligibility for the relief will remain unchanged.

Guild seeks rapid RAT payments

PHARMACY Guild of Australia negotiators are pushing for the Federal Government to expedite payments to participants in the provision of free rapid antigen tests (RATs) to concession cardholders.

Speaking during a Guild webinar on Wed, the organisation's Health Economics and Policy Committee Chair, Anthony Tassone, acknowledged the requirement for pharmacies to procure stock for the program was a burden on store cashflows.

Tassone confirmed pharmacies will be paid \$10 plus GST per test, with an administrative handling and infrastructure fee of \$4.30 for each transaction, with initial payments to be made by the Pharmacy Programs Administrator (PPA) before the end of Feb.

"We are advocating and pushing as hard as we can to have that payment as soon as possible," he said.

"We know in many, if not all,

cases, we're basically having to pay upfront for these orders to get stock for the end of the month or early Feb.

"That is a cashflow impost, we get it, we know it, and we're putting that forward to the Federal Government and the Department of Health.

"In terms of from thereafter, we're pushing as hard as we can to get these payments on a fortnightly basis."

Tassone noted that while the business rules for the program have yet to be finalised, pharmacies will be required to hold Section 90 approval, QCPP accreditation, supply RATs in packs of two or five, and record all transactions for concessional RATs through GuildCare's new Project COVID real-time monitoring system.

He said that Project COVID will be available to all pharmacies, to ensure patients have not exceeded



monthly allocations, while also reporting transactions to the PPA for payment.

MEANWHILE Guild National President, Trent Twomey, told the webinar that the Guild was extending its findapharmacy.com.au site to enable pharmacies to record that they are participating in the concessional RAT program.

The update will include a function to enable stores to change their status twice a day depending on whether or not they have RATs available for concessional patients.

Take Ferro-grad C[®] first



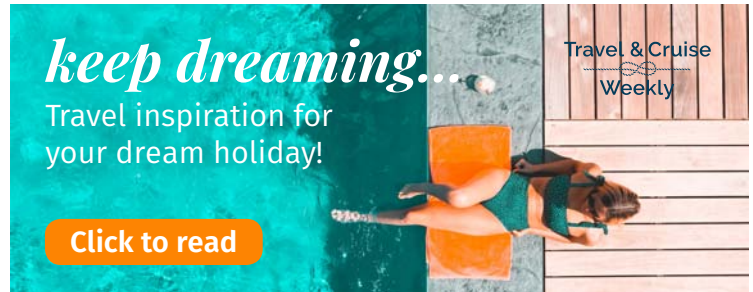
Australia's most widely used brand to treat diagnosed iron deficiency in 10 years#

Always read the label. If symptoms persist, worsen or change unexpectedly, talk to your health professional. Follow the directions for use.

For use when you have been diagnosed as iron deficient and your doctor has recommended a therapeutic oral iron supplement.

#Most widely used brand of therapeutic oral iron supplement, based on cumulative total of IQVIA sales data in the last 10 years. Ferro-grad C contains ferrous sulfate 325 mg (equivalent to 105 mg elemental iron) and sodium ascorbate 562.4 mg (equivalent to 500 mg Vitamin C). Ferro-grad C is a Viatriis trade mark. Copyright © 2021 Viatriis Inc. All rights reserved. Viatriis Pty Ltd. Tel 1800 314 527. FGC-2021-0158. Prepared November 2021.





keep dreaming...

Travel inspiration for your dream holiday!

Click to read

Travel & Cruise Weekly

Dispensary Corner

THERE are lessons in life that should never need to be learnt, particularly when it comes to stealing money from vulnerable patients.

Sadly, the opportunity to take advantage of an elderly patient was too much for British aged care worker, Ruth Fort, who gained access to a client's debit card and pin number.

Fort used the pensioner's money to fund shopping sprees and a holiday to Mexico in 2018.

However, her crimes came to an end after her husband went to the police after hearing her mumbling about money in her sleep and finding the patient's card in his wife's purse.

"I loved Ruth deeply, but I could not ignore what she had done," he said.

The 61-year-old was initially given a 16-month suspended sentence, but after breaching conditions set by the presiding magistrate twice, she is now facing the possibility of jail time if she fails to comply again.

API acquisition on track

WESFARMERS' bid to acquire pharmacy wholesaler, Australian Pharmaceutical Industries (API), is on track to be completed by the end of Mar, API Chair, Ken Gunderson-Briggs, told shareholders.

Addressing API's annual general meeting (AGM) yesterday, Gunderson-Briggs said the company was working closely with the Western Australian retail conglomerate to finalise the \$1.55 per share deal, which is subject to a determination from the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission.

While the Wesfarmers deal is on track, API CEO, Richard Vincent, noted the emergence of the Omicron variant of COVID-19 has adversely impacted the company's distribution and Priceline Pharmacy franchise businesses, with more than one-in-five workers being forced to isolate due to the virus.

"In the lead up to Christmas, following the lifting of state-based restrictions, our Priceline Pharmacy and non-pharmacy stores sales were improving week-on-week," he said.

"Omicron has changed this picture, with consumers voluntarily

choosing to restrict their shopping to essential needs and visits.

"Frustratingly, foot traffic, particularly in the major shopping centres has fallen since, and like most retailers, our stores... have been challenged by the absence of staff, unavailable due to the pandemic and isolation requirements."

Despite workforce shortages, Vincent said the company's teams have worked "tirelessly" to "ensure no Australian community has been denied timely access to vital medicines and healthcare services".

He added that API remains on track to open "a minimum of 20 new Priceline Pharmacy stores in the 2022 financial year".

MEANWHILE, API shareholders elected former Pharmacy Guild of Australia National President, George Tambassis, as a Director.

Tambassis was appointed to the API Board as a Non-Executive Director last year (PD 07 Jun 2021).

NIP access boost

PHARMACISTS in South Australia will be able to administer influenza vaccinations through the National Immunisation Program (NIP) for the first time.

The move confirmed by the State Government yesterday has been welcomed by both the Pharmacy Guild of Australia and the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia.

PSA SA Branch President, Robyn Johns, said the decision would help improve access to the free vaccines for eligible patients, and reduce out-of-pocket expenses.

Guild SA Branch President, Nick Panayiaris, added that it was "vital that flu vaccination be part of everyone's preparations for the coming flu season".

"We commend the SA Government for taking this action," he said.

\$50 VOUCHER GIVEAWAY

Every day this week, Deep Heat & Pharmacy Daily will give away a **\$50 Voucher** to celebrate the launch of **NEW Deep Heat Sensocream!**



Celebrating over 60 years heritage in Australia, Deep Heat is proud to introduce **NEW Deep Heat Sensocream** for the temporary relief of Muscular Aches and Pain.

- ✓ **EFFECTIVE ON PAIN**
- ✓ **5 NATURAL ACTIVE INGREDIENTS** including Arnica, Menthol, Calendula, Melaleuca & Hypericum
- ✓ **DERMATOLOGICALLY TESTED**
- ✓ **CRUELTY FREE**

Deep Heat Sensocream has a **FRESH BOTANIC SCENT** is paraben and sulphate free, easy to apply, non-greasy and releases a mild, cooling sensation when applied to the skin.

Available in 60g, 120g and 250g sizes



For your chance to win be the first to answer the following question:

IN THE 'WHY TO USE' SECTION OF THE WEBSITE, WHAT ARE THE OTHER 3 REASONS TO USE DEEP HEAT SENSOCREAM ASIDE FROM BEING DERMATOLOGICALLY TESTED?

Visit the **Deep Heat website** to learn about the product and submit your answer to **comp@pharmacydaily.com.au**

ALWAYS READ THE LABEL. FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS FOR USE. IF SYMPTOMS PERSIST, TALK TO YOUR HEALTH PROFESSIONAL.



The Pharmacy Salary and Market Report 2021

Available now, the 4th edition of the annual report offers a comprehensive insight into the Pharmacy Industry, with a particular focus on the current state of wages, conditions and career opportunities.

For 2021, we're pleased to present our Raven's Pharmacy Salary and Market Report.

Get Your Free Report Now



www.pharmacydaily.com.au

Pharmacy Daily is part of the Business Publishing Group family of publications.

Pharmacy Daily is Australia's favourite pharmacy industry publication.

EDITORIAL

Editor in Chief and Publisher – Bruce Piper

Editor – Nicholas O'Donoghue

Contributors – Adam Bishop,

Myles Stedman

info@pharmacydaily.com.au

ADVERTISING AND MARKETING

Sean Harrigan, Hoda Alzubaidi

advertising@pharmacydaily.com.au

BUSINESS MANAGER

Jenny Piper

accounts@pharmacydaily.com.au

Suite 1, Level 2, 64 Talavera Rd
Macquarie Park NSW 2113 Australia
PO Box 1010 Epping NSW 1710 Australia
Tel: 1300 799 220 (+61 2 8007 6760)

Sign up free at www.pharmacydaily.com.au

Pharmacy Daily is a publication of Pharmacy Daily Pty Ltd ABN 97 124 094 604. All content fully protected by copyright. Please obtain written permission to reproduce any material. While every care has been taken in the preparation of the newsletter no liability can be accepted for errors or omissions. Information is published in good faith to stimulate independent investigation of the matters canvassed. Responsibility for editorial comment is taken by Bruce Piper.



HURRY! EARLY BIRD CLOSES ON MONDAY!

APP 2022

24-27 MARCH
GOLD COAST



BOOK WITH CONFIDENCE TODAY!

100% refund guarantee*

*T&Cs apply.

PRINCIPAL SPONSORS



MAJOR SPONSORS



PROGRAM SPONSORS



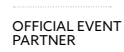
**CLINICAL PHARMACY/
PRODUCT UPDATE SESSION SPONSORS**



BUSINESS SESSION SPONSORS



OFFICIAL DESTINATION SPONSOR



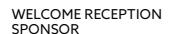
MEDIA PARTNER



OFFICIAL EDUCATION PARTNER



APP STREET PARTY SPONSORS



The Pharmacy Guild of Australia



appconference.com