



NEW **Ferro-Max C™**
with Vitamin C to aid absorption.*
Available from Symbion, Sigma, API and CH2.

For use when iron deficiency or iron deficiency anaemia has been diagnosed by your doctor and a therapeutic iron supplement is recommended. Always read the label and follow the directions for use. If symptoms persist, worsen or change unexpectedly, talk to your health professional. *Vitamin C has been shown to enhance the absorption of iron when taken together.



Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features three pages of news plus a full page from TerryWhite Chemmart.

US pharmacist to Rx Paxlovid

PHARMACISTS in the US can now prescribe Paxlovid (nirmatrelvir and ritonavir) to eligible patients.

Announcing the decision, US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Centre for Drug Evaluation and Research Director, Dr Patrizia Cavazzoni, said it would boost access to the antiviral medication.

"The FDA recognises the important role pharmacists have played and continue to play in combatting this pandemic," she said.

"Since Paxlovid must be taken within five days after symptoms begin, authorising state-licensed pharmacists to prescribe Paxlovid could expand access to timely treatment for some patients who are eligible to receive this drug for the treatment of COVID-19."

ATAGI expands COVAX winter booster

AUSTRALIANS aged 30 years and older are now eligible to receive a winter COVID-19 vaccine (COVAX) booster, following updated recommendations from the Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI).

The new advice recommends that all Australians over the age of 50 years should receive a second booster shot, following a surge in COVID-19 cases in recent weeks.

While the updated advice has given the green light for 30 to 49-year-olds to get a winter jab, ATAGI noted "the benefit for people in this age group is less certain".

ATAGI said the increasing numbers of patients with respiratory infections, including COVID-19, was behind the recommendation.

"A surge in cases of COVID-19 from the SARS-CoV-2 Omicron BA4 and BA5 subvariants is a contributing factor and is expected to worsen in the coming months," ATAGI said.

"Increasing the uptake of winter booster doses of COVID-19 vaccine in populations most at risk during this time is anticipated to play a limited, but important role in reducing the risk from COVID-19 to individuals and pressure on the



healthcare system.

"The Omicron BA4 and BA5 subvariants can partly escape the immune response generated by both prior vaccination and infection.

"A first booster dose of COVID-19 vaccine has been shown to increase the immune response to these new subvariants, but wanes over several weeks.

"A winter dose (the second booster dose) is anticipated to boost this immune response."

ATAGI added that current coverage with first booster and winter booster doses was "suboptimal",

with 70.6% and 59.5% of the respective eligible populations having received their shots.

"ATAGI emphasises the importance of vaccination in preventing severe disease and death during this time, particularly in older adults and people aged 16 years and older with a medical condition or disability," the group said.

Speaking in Adelaide prior to the ATAGI announcement, Federal Health Minister, Mark Butler, said he was in discussions with Pfizer and Moderna, to secure priority access to new vaccines.

Chemists' Own®

OWN your pain relief

UP TO 40% DISCOUNT



To order contact your Arrotex OTC Territory Manager or call 1300 927 769

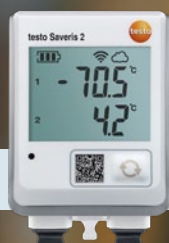
Deal pricing valid 1 July – 31 August 2022. Available via Turnover only. Always read the label and follow the directions for use. Incorrect use could be harmful. Ask your pharmacist about this product.

FRED PROTECT

24/7 monitoring and response by an expert Cyber Security Operations Centre

Get protected today!

Call 1800 888 828



testo Saveris 2 data-loggers for fridges and freezers.

24/7 temperature monitoring for optimal storage of vaccines and reliable cold chain. That's smart!

With local service & calibration | testo.com.au

Be sure. **testo**

Pharmacists should be able to say no

HOSPITAL pharmacists need to be able to say “no, or at least ‘not now’ to further demands on their role”, without feeling they are letting their patients and colleagues down, a report from the Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia (SHPA) reveals.

The *Pharmacy Forecast Australia 2022* report found it was likely that 20% of hospital pharmacy workers will either leave the profession or “substantially change their role” as a result of unresolved pressures from the work environment.

“Job stress and work climate, as well as burnout, poor public perception and a lack of career progression has direct and indirect effects on turnover intention of hospital pharmacists,” the SHPA’s report said.

“In a survey by the Royal Pharmaceutical Society (UK) 89% of pharmacists reported a high risk of burnout, 33% considered leaving their current role and 32% leaving

the profession altogether.

“There is an irreconcilable conflict here, given a motivation driving people to pursue a career in the pharmacy profession is the willingness to help people, and pharmacists will often choose to ‘do more’ sometimes at the expense of their own wellbeing.

“This is in contrast to being ‘ordered’ to do more, which does not support wellbeing.

“There is a need to ensure the sector has staff support systems that allow (and indeed expect) staff to be actively involved in planning their work and affords staff autonomy.

“Staff should be skilled to be able to say ‘no’, or at least ‘not now’, to further demands on their role within the department or hospital while also feeling they are making a valuable contribution in their roles.

“Workplace culture plays a large role in supporting the wellbeing of staff. It should also be recognised



that individuals can be supported to maintain their wellbeing in the presence of high workloads and pressures through recognition of what their needs are under these circumstances.

“Evidence suggests that having strong support networks, maintaining a healthy lifestyle, working collaboratively and cooperatively, maintaining perspective, feeling valued and making meaningful contributions can all assist individuals to maintain wellbeing and prevent premature attrition.”

TWC celebrates Ding's Award win

TERRYWHITE Chemmart (TWC) is celebrating Coffs Harbour-based pharmacist, Sarah Ding, taking home the group's 2022 Pharmacist of the Year crown.

See **page four** for more details.

TGA disinfectant efficacy tests

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has told sponsors wishing to make claims about the efficacy of disinfectants against Monkeypox that they must test them against vaccinia virus.

CLICK HERE for more.

Amcal to roll out health screening

SIGMA Healthcare's Amcal pharmacy group is launching an in-store user-pays health screening service.

The Your Amcal Health Check service provides patients with a pharmacist-delivered health assessment, monitoring key indicators including body mass index, blood pressure, blood glucose and total cholesterol.

Launching the new service, Amcal Head, Kurt O'Brien, said pharmacists will provide expert recommendations based on the results of the screening services, which will be conducted in a private consultation room, and refer patients to their GP if needed.

“Australians are more attuned to their health than ever before, and that's why offering comprehensive health checks, completed in person and competitively priced, are crucial to meeting this growing demand,” he said.

“This new offer will not only



support more meaningful patient and pharmacist relationships, but also reinforce Amcal's wider in-pharmacy capabilities, including other health screening, medication management and prescription services.

“As the country's leading, and longest-serving, pharmacy destination for healthcare advice - we're looking forward to seeing new, and returning, customers take advantage of this unique, value for money offer.”

Appointments for the service will be available online and will cost \$30 per health check.

Papaw recall

LUCAS' Papaw Remedies is recalling 11 batches of its popular papaw ointment due to microbial contaminations.

In an alert issued yesterday the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) reported that the recall affected batches of the product in 15g, 75g and 200mg sizes, with expiry dates ranging from Apr to Jun 2025.

Consumers who have affected products are being advised to stop using the ointment immediately and to return it to the place of purchase or contact Lucas' Papaw Remedies' customer service on 1800 861 852.

The TGA noted that the moulds and bacteria identified as contaminants “pose minimal risk to the general population”.

“There is a remote risk that individuals who are immunocompromised could become ill if they are exposed to these organisms,” the regulator said.

Viatrix is rebranding. All packaging will soon feature the Viatrix logo



© 2022 Viatrix Inc. All Rights Reserved. VIATRIS and the Viatrix Logo are trademarks Viatrix Inc. Alphapharm Pty Ltd (trading as Viatrix), ABN 93 002 359 739, Viatrix Pty Ltd, ABN 29 601 608 771 Upjohn Australia Pty Ltd, ABN 50 629 389 91, Level 1, 30-34 Hickson Road, Millers Point NSW 2000. Tel: 1800 274 276. www.Viatrix.com. NON-2022-7456. SSW. VIA-002965-00. Date of preparation: May 2022.

Click here to learn more.



Dispensary Corner

NORTHERN Irish pharmacist, Patrick Slevin, was pleasantly surprised when the Princess Royal made an unexpected appearance at a garden party earlier this week.

Slevin told the *Belfast Telegraph* that he had a quick conversation with Princess Anne, as she walked around the grounds at the Royal's only Northern Irish residence, Hillsborough Castle.

He noted that the former Olympic show jumper had a strong understanding of the role pharmacists play in the health system.

"She was very aware of the importance of local pharmacies in local communities," he said.

"She was very clued in about it all, knowing how they can be a lifeline for elderly people."

Traditionally, the Royal family has relied on the John Bell and Croyden pharmacy for pharmacist-delivered healthcare services.

The London-based pharmacy was initially granted a Royal Warrant in 1909, and was subsequently appointed as "pharmacist to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II" in 1958.



Vaping an effective quit option: GPs

GENERAL practitioners are being urged to brace themselves for increasing numbers of requests for prescriptions for nicotine vaping products (NVPs).

Research published in the *Australian Journal of General Practice* noted that meta-analyses of randomised controlled trials by the Cochrane group and a review commissioned by the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) had concluded that vaping nicotine was 53 to 69% more effective as a smoking cessation aid than nicotine replacement therapy.

"Vaping nicotine is only appropriate for adult smokers who are unable or unwilling to quit smoking tobacco with first-line treatments," the authors said.

"For some smokers it is a short-



term quitting aid, for others it serves as a longer-term, less harmful substitute for smoking.

"GPs can assess suitability for vaping, provide additional quitting support and can write a nicotine prescription if appropriate," the authors said.

"NVPs are unregistered, and the RACGP guidelines advise that it is

reasonable not to prescribe them.

"It is important to ask if the patient has tried approved quitting methods.

"Discussing the risks and benefits of vaping can help the patient make an informed decision.

"GPs can advise on the concentration and safe use of nicotine liquid."

UK pharmacies' funding fears

BRITISH pharmacy organisations are warning that years of funding cuts have created a financially untenable situation for the community pharmacy sector.

In a letter to the Parliamentary Health and Social Care Committee, a number of professional bodies said that while demand for pharmacist-delivered services was on the rise, the reductions in funding had fuelled a workforce crisis.

The Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee reported that 91% of pharmacies across the UK have been experiencing workforce shortages.



We are looking for

Permanent →

ADVERTISING OPERATIONS AND CUSTOMER SERVICE CO-ORDINATOR

Based at our Macquarie Park, NSW office. WFH on Fridays. Full time or school hours (negotiable)

This is a key role in our team, with a variety of tasks working on the development of our daily editions, Travel Daily, Cruise Weekly and Pharmacy Daily.



Requirements :

- ✔ Highly organised with an eye for detail
- ✔ Great communication skills
- ✔ Penchant for design, familiarity with Adobe Suite would be highly regarded.

Full job description available on request. Salary commensurate with experience.

Send your CV to jobs@traveldaily.com.au

 **TerryWhite Chemmart®**

Congratulations

to our 2022 TerryWhite Chemmart
Pharmacist of the Year



Sarah Ding
Coffs Harbour, NSW



MASTERCLASS

— ADVANCED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT —
FOR EXPERTS IN CARE