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Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features three pages of news, plus a full page from **UFS Pharmacies**.

FIP wants vax training for all

THE International Pharmaceutical Federation's (FIP's) new vaccination reference guide aims to boost the global immunisation workforce by ensuring vaccination is part of pharmacists' training.

The FIP vaccination reference guide: *Knowledge and skills to support professional development and inform pharmacy education in vaccination*, also aims to support the profession in meeting the changing needs of patients, communities and health systems.

FIP noted that since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic the number of countries where pharmacists can administer vaccinations has grown from 36 to more than 40.

CLICK HERE for more.

Hospital pharmacists to get bonuses

MOST pharmacists working in NSW and Victorian public hospitals are expected to receive bonus payments, the Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia (SHPA) believes.

Commenting on reports that few if any NSW-based hospital pharmacists were likely to be eligible for the State Government's \$3,000 'thank you' bonus due to outsourcing arrangements, SHPA CEO, Kristin Michaels, said the majority were directly employed by NSW Health.

"SHPA understands that the vast majority of NSW hospital pharmacists working in public hospitals will be eligible for the \$3,000 recognition payment to NSW Health clinicians," she said.

"The vast majority of these hospital pharmacists are employed in in-house hospital pharmacy departments, led by Directors of Pharmacy employed by their Local Health District's (LHD's) hospitals.

"Further, we understand the \$3,000 recognition payment will be extended to clinicians working in affiliated health organisations who are recognised in the *Health Services Act 1997*, encompassing hospitals and health services adjacent to NSW LHDs, such as St



Vincent's and Calvary Health Care, who are also essential to NSW's public hospitals system," Michaels told **Pharmacy Daily**.

"SHPA also welcomes the announcement of the \$3,000 bonus payment for Victorian public healthcare workers, which we understand will be extended to hospital pharmacists who have been crucial to the COVID-19 pandemic response.

"The next Enterprise Bargaining Agreement for Victorian public sector pharmacists is yet to be finalised, however we understand it is imminent, and SHPA strongly believes there should be pay increases for our pharmacists to appropriately recognise the

expertise and value they bring to Victorian hospitals and patient care."

Michaels noted that the NSW Government has also announced funding to boost the hospital workforce, including supporting additional pharmacist positions.

She added that the SHPA would be advocating that LHDs prioritise the hospital pharmacist workforce, "given NSW has the lowest pharmacist-to-hospital-bed ratio of all Australian states".

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Grow your career

BALLARAT-BASED UFS Pharmacies is offering a generous sign-on bonus to attract a suitable candidate to take on a pharmacy manager position.

The group, which operates across Ballarat and the western region of Victoria, is seeking an experienced pharmacist who is interested in clinical excellence. See **page four** for more.



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TGA take action over vaping ads

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has launched proceedings in the Federal Court of Australia against Prefixx Pty Ltd and its sole Director, Brad Anthonisz, for alleged unlawful advertising of nicotine vaping products (NVPs).

The medicines regulator noted that the company and Anthonisz failed to take adequate steps to stop running ads for NVPs, and continued to sell them, despite being warned about alleged noncompliant advertising on their websites and social media pages.

The TGA alleges that the offences took place "from at least 01 Oct 2021 to 24 Dec 2021", in breach of the *Therapeutic Goods Act 1989*.

CLICK HERE for more information.

Sim secures PSA presidency win

HISTORY-MAKING Western Australian pharmacist, Dr Fei Sim (**pictured**), will become the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia's (PSA's) first female National President, after being unanimously elected to the position.

Former PSA WA Branch President, Sim will succeed incumbent, Associate Professor Chris Freeman, who has held the National President role since 2018.

Sim brings experience as both a community pharmacy owner and as a Senior Lecturer at Curtin University's Curtin Medical School.

The outgoing President congratulated Sim on her election victory, saying he was "very proud to be handing the torch to the PSA's very first female National President".

"Fei has been a great asset to the Society, and we are very excited that she has been elected to lead the profession – continuing to support the important work of pharmacists around Australia,"

Freeman said.

"She has demonstrated her passion and talent over many years, as PSA WA President, and more recently as Chair of PSA's Contemporary Community Pharmacy Practice Community of Speciality Interest.

"I wish Fei every success in the role and encourage all members to support her in her leadership at this critical time for the profession."

Sim will be backed by two experienced National Vice Presidents, including incumbent, Michelle Lynch, and former PSA interim-CEO and past National President, Dr Shane Jackson.

Meanwhile, outgoing National Vice President, Renae Beardmore, and Tasmanian pharmacist, Anne Todd, will step down from the PSA's National Board.

"I thank both Renae and Anne for their incredible service to the Society and the profession, and I am thankful we are able to retain their skills and experience on their



respective Branch Committees," Freeman said.

Acknowledging Freeman's contribution to the profession, PSA CEO, Mark Kinsela, noted "he was instrumental in PSA's inclusion as a signatory in the Seventh Community Pharmacy Agreement for the first time, ensuring positive outcomes for pharmacists, enabling them to practise to full scope and deliver better health outcomes for patients".

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▼ This vaccine is provisionally approved and is subject to additional monitoring in Australia. This will allow quick identification of new safety information. Healthcare professionals are asked to report any suspected adverse events at www.tga.gov.au/reporting-problems.

References: 1. Moderna Data on File. 2. Spikevax Product Information, 18 February 2022.

3. <https://www.health.gov.au/initiatives-and-programs/covid-19-vaccines/getting-your-vaccination/booster-doses#winter-dose>. Accessed 25 March 2022.

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DoH gives remote dispensing warning

PHARMACY owners are being warned that they could find themselves in breach of the *Privacy Act 1988*, if the opt to use remote dispensing services.

The Commonwealth Department of Health (DoH) has raised concerns that some providers may be based offshore, or have employees located outside of Australia.

"There are risks involved in outsourcing pharmacy processes or assigning work to a third-party provider," the DoH said.

"You need to be aware of these risks and ensure you meet your responsibilities under State, Territory and Commonwealth government law.

"There may be penalties if you don't comply.

"If you're a pharmacy owner and you engage the services of a third-party provider, do you know where that provider's staff are located?

"Engaging a third-party provider might seem like a good idea.

"However, the Department encourages you to check your current arrangements and make sure you are not committing any offences."

The DoH noted that pharmacy owners would be held responsible

if any information they have provided to a third party is mishandled.

It added that providing patient information to a third party provider based overseas without patient consent "is an offence under the *Privacy Act*".

Furthermore, the DoH warned that owners could find themselves in breach of the *National Health Act 1953* if a dispensing service allows a person who is not registered as a pharmacist with the Pharmacy Board of Australia to dispense medicines.

"This may have implications for your professional indemnity insurance," the DoH said.

MEANWHILE the Victorian Pharmacy Authority (VPA) has issued a reminder notice for applications to renew pharmacy premises registration and business licences by 01 Jul to avoid its new late fee.

"A late renewal application may be submitted with payment of the late lodgement fee from 01 Jul 2022 until 28 Jul," the VPA said.

"If a licence or registration renewal remains outstanding after the late period, the VPA may decide not to renew the licence or registration.

"It will then be unlawful to



continue to carry on the pharmacy business or operate in those premises until applications for a new pharmacy business have been lodged and approved; this may take several days or weeks."

The VPA previously announced a 15% increase in its fees for 2022-23, with annual registration of a pharmacy business now \$330, while the annual licence fee for an individual is set at \$355.

"The VPA is always mindful to keep fee increases to a minimum and this is the first significant increase in fees since 2019," the Authority said.

"Two licence renewal fees were increased in 2021 and there was no increase in 2020."

Dispensary Corner



COULD this become the next must-have pharmacy service?

It's not quite expanding the scope of pharmacist practice, but a robotic nail-painting machine might help get the health and beauty customers in.

The Clockwork robot manicurist (pictured below) is currently being trialled at several Target in-store pharmacies in the USA.

It doesn't actually cut your nails, but can do a full colour change in under 10 minutes.

The product was developed by Renuka Apte, an entrepreneur who said the concept was ideal for busy people who want to look good, but "can't prioritise beauty time".

The machine uses artificial intelligence and 3D imaging to automatically calculate the shape and size of each nail and the amount of polish to use.

It uses regular nail polish, and works with a soft cartridge tip applying the colour on the outside edges of the nail before working its way inward until the nail is filled in.

There are seven of the gadgets in pilot locations, with the company attracting US\$8.5 million in venture capital funding which will see it expand further in 2023 - check it out at pharmacydaily.com.au/videos.



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Owners' Summit

PHARMACY Redefined will hosts its Owners' Summit at Sails in the Desert, Ayers Rock Resort, from 01 to 05 Aug.

The event will include presentations from experts in the fields of leadership, culture and marketing, alongside a Future of Pharmacy Forum.

Delegates will also get to experience Uluru at sunrise.
CLICK HERE for more.



PHARMACY MANAGER

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