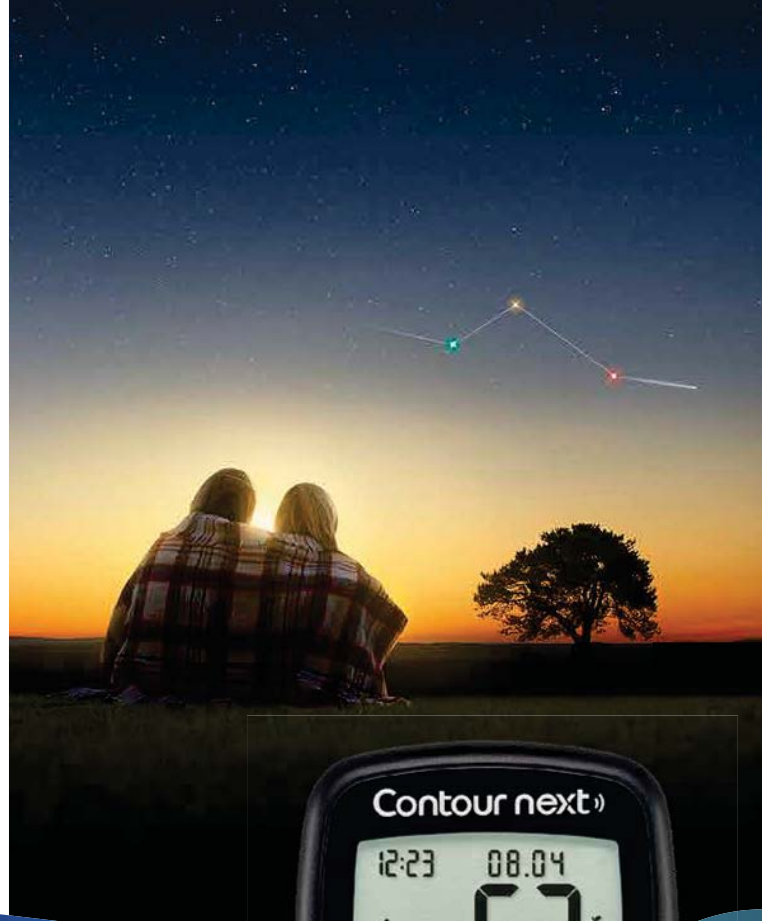


How the new button battery safety standards will impact your pharmacy

Consumer Goods (Products Containing Button/Coin Batteries) Safety and Information Standards 2020 will be effective from Wednesday, 22 June 2022. Any relevant products containing button/coin batteries must comply with the new requirements by having a secure battery compartment and warnings on the dangers of ingesting or inserting button batteries.

This legislation has been implemented to ensure children's safety to avoid swallowing and inserting to body orifices which can lead to injuries or death. It is the responsibility of retailers, wholesalers, importers and manufacturers to comply with the mandatory safety and information standards who supply and sell products containing button batteries. For more information, read the fact sheet from ACCC.



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Warning: Batteries are hazardous and must be kept away from children. If swallowed or placed inside any part of the body they can cause severe or fatal injuries in 2 hours or less. If you suspect a battery has been swallowed or placed inside any part of the body, seek medical attention immediately and contact the Australian Poisons Information Centre for 24/7, fast expert advice at 131 126.

Always read instructions for use. Consult your healthcare professional if this product is right for you.

[‡]To identify a CONTOUR[®]NEXT meter kit with an updated secure battery compartment, the bottom left corner on the front of the box will have a clear warning symbol and message. [^]On a compatible Android or iOS device. For a full list of compatible mobile operating systems, visit compatibility.contourone.com.

¹Conditions apply. 1. CONTOUR[®]NEXT BGMS User Guide, Rev. 12/21. 2. Richardson JM et al. Clinical Relevance of Reapplication of Blood Samples During Blood Glucose Testing. Poster presented at the 20th Annual Diabetes Technology Meeting (DTM); Nov 12-14 2020. © Copyright 2022. Ascensia Diabetes Care Holdings AG. All rights reserved. Ascensia, the Ascensia Diabetes Care Logo, Contour, Microlet, Smartlight, and Second-Chance are registered trademarks of Ascensia Diabetes Care Holdings AG.



Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features four pages of news, a front cover from Ascencia plus a full page from UFS Pharmacies.

Push the button

PHARMACIES are being urged to recommend fully compliant blood glucose meters in light of new regulations on button battery safety which become effective later this week.

Full details from Ascencia Diabetes Care on the **cover page** of today's *PD*.

Ballarat opening

UFS is offering a generous sign-on bonus and relocation assistance for qualified pharmacists interested in taking up roles in Ballarat and Western Victoria - see the **last page** for details.

Accredited workforce needs to grow

AUSTRALIA'S accredited pharmacist workforce needs to grow significantly to meet the needs of the aged care system, incoming Australian Association of Consultant Pharmacy (AACP) Chair, Dr Shane Jackson, believes.

Jackson, who was named as one of two Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) National Vice Presidents, last week (*PD* 17 Jun), will assume the AACP Chair on 01 Jul, for the second time, succeeding former Pharmacy Guild of Australia National President, George Tambassis.

Speaking with *Pharmacy Daily*, Jackson noted that the AACP Chair rotates between the PSA and the Guild on an annual basis.

"The PSA Board was comfortable for me to step into the role," he said.

With plans to cut reaccreditation fees from 01 Jul (*PD* 06 Jun), Jackson said Commonwealth Government plans to embed pharmacists into the aged care system will require a significant



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increase in the numbers of pharmacists holding accreditation.

"We'll need around 1,200 full-time equivalent pharmacists in the aged care sector," he said.

"That's five to six times what we currently have."

He added that AACP's accreditation procession "will remain unchanged", noting an independent review had found it

was "robust and fit for purpose".

Jackson noted that during the AACP's ConPharm conference on the Gold Coast at the weekend delegates has show strong interest in pharmacists being embedded in aged care facilities.

"Around 40% of attendees said they would consider being involved in an on-site position from 01 Jan 2023," he said.

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Ratliff to replace Read at MedAdvisor

OUTGOING MedAdvisor CEO, Robert Read, is set to remain with the medication management platform as an Executive Director, following the appointment of Rick Ratliff as the company's new US-based Managing Director.

The announcement, made to the Australian Securities Exchange (ASX) this morning, came less than three months after Read announced his intention to retire earlier this year, and the company's intention to hire a US-based successor (**PD 05 Apr**).

Read previously noted that close to 80% of the company's revenues and earnings were now sourced in the US.

MedAdvisor Chair, Linda Jenkinson, said Ratliff would bring significant experience working in both the US and Australian healthcare and pharmaceutical technology markets, having played a pivotal role in making Surescripts the largest electronic prescribing network in the US.

He also delivered the initial versions of the My Health Record for the Commonwealth Department of Health, during his time as Managing Director of Accenture in Australia.

"Rick bring tremendous experience and a strong track record in healthcare, specifically in the pharmacy technology sector, to this role," Jenkinson said.

"His SaaS (Software as a Service) background is directly applicable to MedAdvisor's business as well as the US growth strategy for Adheris.

"Rick is a very strong leader with a track record of growing revenues and margins.

"He has experience in both the US and Australian markets, and understands the importance of bridging cultures.

"With a demonstrated history of scaling companies and creating and leading large effective teams, Rick has a deep understanding of SaaS in the healthcare and pharmacy sectors.

"With Rick leading our great team of people globally, we believe we are very well placed to deliver on the exciting potential we see for MedAdvisor."

MEANWHILE MedAdvisor also revealed that Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Simon Glover, has resigned.

General Manager Finance, Annabelle Grant has been named as interim CFO, as an executive search is conducted to appoint an



Australian-based CFO.

Outgoing CEO, Read, noted that Glover had played a key role in MedAdvisor's acquisition of Adheris.

"On behalf of the Board I would like to thank Simon for his commitment to MedAdvisor over the past three years, and for his achievements - particularly on the US Adheris acquisition, integration and growth across the US and Australia," Read said.

"Simon leaves having built a strong and capable finance team, and we wish him all the best in his future endeavours."

SHPA hails hospitals pledge

THE Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia has welcomed an announcement last week by National Cabinet that the National Partnership on COVID-19 Response is being extended by a further three months to 31 Dec 2022 - along with a commitment to review how Australia's hospitals and health system is funded.

SHPA CEO Kristin Michaels said the extension of 50-50 funding between the Commonwealth and jurisdictions for hospital funding in recognition of the pandemic is welcome news for hospital pharmacists, but urged longer-term certainty.

"We have all seen the reports on the strain, stress and fatigue in our at-capacity emergency departments and hospital wards," she said.

"Hospital pharmacists live this reality every single day, working under immense pressure to ramp up and maintain bed flow, as they are typically the last clinician a patient sees before being discharged from hospital."

Michaels said SHPA strongly supported entrenching the 50-50 hospital funding partnership as a permanent arrangement, as well as the removal of the 6.5% growth cap which is a "significant handbrake on the development of pharmacist-led outpatient services, which are proven to prevent avoidable hospital readmissions and improve care outcomes".

She said hospital pharmacists often faced barriers due to "arbitrary funding rules" that don't prioritise patients.



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MHRA joins in

BRITAIN'S Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) is expanding its global links by becoming a member of the International Medical Device Regulatory Forum, the International Council for Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Pharmaceuticals for Human Use and the Medical Devices Innovation Consortium.

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



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MA slams waiver

MEDICINES Australia (MA) says it's disappointed at a decision made at the World Trade Organization Ministerial Conference in Geneva to waive intellectual property (IP) rights on COVID-19 vaccines.

MA CEO Elizabeth de Somer said intellectual property was one of the key reasons that safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines could be produced and scaled up so quickly during the height of the pandemic.

"This decision...has disregarded the evidence and distracts from the real barriers that are getting in the way of vaccinating more people around the world," she said.

The WTO waiver "pulls apart the very system that supported the fastest development of vaccines and enabled unprecedented collaboration and partnerships," she added.

No flu jabs refunds for South Australia

SOUTH Australians who paid to have an influenza vaccination prior to the rollout of the State's free jab campaign this month will not be able to get a refund.

Responding to calls for a reimbursement program for those who paid to get vaccinated, Minister for Health and Wellbeing, Chris Picton, there was no capacity to implement such a system.

"We have been very clear about this: this is a scheme that has been put in place for the first time here in South Australia, and around the country other states are putting it in place for the first time," he said.

"It is running during Jun to allow people who haven't had the flu vaccine to come forward, get access to a free flu vaccine and be protected this winter.

"It is not intended, nor is there the ability, to go back and provide payments to people who have already received the flu vaccine

previously.

"They have received the vaccine through a variety of different means: there are workplace vaccination programs, there are general practice vaccination programs, there are pharmacy general practice programs.

"There is no ability that we have as a state government to go back to those records and find individual people.

"What we are doing is we are now providing a mechanism where we can provide those free flu vaccines through GPs and pharmacies.

"They will provide them for free and they will keep a record of those.

"They will then provide an invoice, essentially, to SA Health in arrears, and we will provide that payment in arrears.

"This is essentially the same operation that is now rolling out in other states and territories around the country as well."



Picton said the program was proving successful in encouraging South Australians to get the flu shot, with more than 145,000 administered through the scheme to 16 Jun.

"It is fantastic to see that level of vaccination increase, but we want to see it increase even further, so I appreciate the opportunity to tell the house—and I hope all members can spread this message to their community—that there are appointments available through pharmacies and GPs and to come forward and to get the protection," he said.

AMSL moves fix insulin pump defect

AUSTRALASIAN Medical and Scientific Pty Ltd (AMSL) has initiated a product defect correction for its t:slim X2 Insulin Pumps.

Patients and healthcare providers are being urged to check which version of the software they are using, and if it is version 6.4.1 or earlier, they should email diabetes@amsl.com.au or call 1300 851 056 to arrange to update their pump's software.

The Therapeutic Goods

Administration (TGA) noted that three problems were affecting the devices - inaccurate battery life display while charging; touchscreen staying on; and non-volatile memory malfunction.

The TGA noted that if insulin delivery is stopped it could result in hyperglycaemia.

"The sponsor has received several complaints and adverse event notifications linked to these three problems since 2018," the regulator noted.

TGA completes sunscreen investigation

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has confirmed it has concluded its investigation the cause of benzene contamination in seven sunscreen products (**PD 02** May).

The regulator said no other brands have been affected by the recalls, and added that "no further updates" will be provided.

However, the TGA noted that the outcomes of two reviews of sunscreen products, which were announced in Dec 2021



(**PD 04** Jan), will be published on its website and if any products are deemed to present a risk to consumers, a new recall may be undertaken.

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Dispensary Corner

TEAM building activities can be an important way to improve a company's culture - but things appear to have gone a little astray at a gathering in Zurich, Switzerland last week where employees of a business are now bonding over the shared experience of burnt flesh and wound treatment.

The group was undertaking a fire walking ritual during a corporate retreat, traversing hot coals in bare feet, when apparently things went wrong.

A call to the Zurich Protection and Rescue operations centre saw a large contingent of paramedics deployed, comprising 10 ambulances, emergency medical teams and multiple police officers.

25 people were treated on site, 13 of whom were briefly hospitalised, with the organiser of the activity telling local media he had warned participants not to "stroll, run or hop across" the fire but instead walk steadily using a "military-step" like gait. "It could have been a great event," he said.



Vivid wish comes true



AFTER two years of COVID-19-induced delays, Make-A-Wish Australia has turned the "Vivid" dreams of eight-year-old Melburnian, Hannah, into a reality, with the support of Blooms The Chemist and Destination NSW.

Hannah was born with a serious heart defect, which required her to undergo three open heart surgeries in her first year and a half of life.

She was subsequently diagnosed with Ayme-Gripp syndrome, which means she cannot hear or speak, is vision-impaired and has an intellectual disability.

The girl's mother, Emma, said that Hannah "loves anything with lights". "Hannah has always been drawn to sensory rooms at any place

we've visited. It has been our long time wish to attend Vivid Sydney as we knew she'd love the visual experience and at last that wish has come true," she said.

Blooms The Chemist Casey Central proprietor, Andrew Leslie, played a role in making Hannah's wish come true, by leveraging the group's partnership with Make-A-Wish Australia.

This year's trip followed the creation of an immersive light display in her back yard last year courtesy of Blooms, Make-A-Wish and AV specialist Resolution X when COVID hampered travel plans.

To date Blooms stores across the country have helped to raise more than \$1.2 million for the charity.

SHPA welcomes new PSA President

THE Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia (SHPA) has congratulated incoming Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) National President, Dr Fei Sim, on her election (**PD** 17 Jun).

SHPA President, Peter Fowler, said the two organisations shared

many common interests in achieving quality use of medicines and medicines safety in all areas where members practice.

"We look forward to continuing our strong relationship into the future as the pharmacy sector faces both opportunities and challenges," he said.



Weekly Comment

Welcome to Pharmacy Daily's weekly comment feature. This week's contributor is **Chris Cromie, General Pharmacy Services Manager at Wizard Pharmacy.**



Moving to a new brand

CONVERTING to a new pharmacy brand is a big decision. Here's what to look out for in the onboarding process before deciding which brand to convert to.

Is the process a personalised conversion tailored to your pharmacy, team and demographics? There is no one-size-fits-all solution. The onboarding team should work with you to create a plan to help achieve your business goals.

A complete refit isn't always necessary to affect the right change. They should work with you to simplify the process and reduce unnecessary costs while maximising ROI for your professional services and retail spaces. Having the Brand project manage the conversion removes avoidable stress so you can focus on your patients and customers.

They should remain by your side after the conversion is complete. Finding your feet as a new brand can take a while, so you should ensure you'll have regular follow-up visits that provide the support and guidance you need.

Wizard Pharmacy's dedicated Onboarding Team is here to assist you during your conversion and as your pharmacy grows.

Learn more [HERE](#).



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