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Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features three pages of news.

NSW funds digital Baby Book

THE NSW Government yesterday allocated \$57.2 million in its state budget for the development of a clinical interface for the Digital Baby Book initiative.

The funding aims to provide real-time information to health professionals, allowing controlled access to hospital, community-based and general practice health records of children.

It's part of an overarching Brighter Beginnings initiative which invests more than \$370 million over four years in child development and family support focusing on the first 2,000 days of life, including providing for universal access to development checks.

Corum launches PharmXchange

LISTED pharmacy software supplier Corum Health has today formally launched a new platform described as a "feature rich tailored digital sales and marketing solution available for use by all pharmacies".

The new PharmXchange Platform caters for a wide range of use cases, including promotional options for brands and products, electronic invoicing compliant with the company's PharmX ordering gateway, integrated payments in partnership with Zenith Payments, supplier access to electronic transactions without the need for full PharmX integration, and "improved pharmacy efficiency through reduced requirement for manual order and invoice".

Launch commercial partners include GlaxoSmithKline Consumer Healthcare Australia and nine other suppliers including Revlon.

Corum Executive Chairman Nick England said the new system was a "key step in our strategy to enable trade between pharmacies and

their suppliers through enhanced PharmX services...we are delighted that several key pharmacy industry suppliers have recognised the opportunity that PharmXchange represents".

The new system has been developed by Corum following the acquisition of the intellectual property rights of a cloud hosted software platform called AlchemX, purchased from a company called Alchemy Healthcare, where England is also a director.

Corum said England did not vote on or participate in the negotiation of the transaction, which includes a revenue share agreement whereby Alchemy receives 10% of turnover.

There's also an option to acquire the revenue share from Alchemy under a pre-determined formula, with the minimum total amount payable being \$200,000 and a maximum of \$1.15 million.

PharmXchange is now live in a pilot phase with a concentrated group of pharmacies and suppliers,

ahead of an imminent full commercial launch.

Corum said the new platform expands the service offering of PharmX "which has operated as the trusted and reliable electronic ordering and invoicing gateway of the Australian pharmacy industry for over 18 years".

More than 99% of Australian pharmacies connect via PharmX to order from their wholesaler and other key industry suppliers.

"As a managed service platform, PharmXchange offers an incremental growth opportunity for PharmX in addition to its existing technology solutions," Corum said.

"Engagement with a broad range of industry suppliers is ongoing to promote the scale up of the PharmXchange platform as an additional service to PharmX following pilot completion," the company added, saying it would update investors "in due course" on revenue estimates as the platform rolls out.

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*Reference: 1. Lang C, et al., *Phanta Med* 2015;81:908-914. Supported by Engelhard Arzneimittel GmbH & Co. KG.

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Hobart GP faces major drug charges

A **TASMANIAN** GP has been charged with making, supplying, and illegally prescribing drugs out of his Mount Nelson clinic, after facing Hobart Magistrates Court on Mon.

Dr. Clive Rohan Stack was one of two men charged with a myriad of offences under the Poisons Act and Misuse of Drugs Act, including 19 counts of 'Issue prescription for restricted substance for an unauthorised purpose' and six counts of 'Unlawfully supplying a narcotic substance'.

Other offences included nine counts of 'Make available drugs of dependence for a period longer than the prescribed period', seven counts of 'Prescription for certain narcotic substances to be issued only on authority of Secretary', and one count of 'Fail to keep Narcotic Substances Register in Accordance with Regulations'.

Detective Inspector Adam Mollineaux of Southern Drug Investigation said, "Police will allege that the men obtained



prescriptions through false conduct and unlawfully made and supplied narcotic substances."

The charges came after a police investigation into the Mt Nelson Medical Centre, which Stack runs through the charity Humanitas, which he founded in 1992 while working on his 'Physiology of the Soul' project.

According to the charity's website, Stack was working on a number of projects including a 'wellness centre' and the development of a

new painkiller drug.

The charity's website states: "Humanitas Trust has been working in conjunction with researchers and developers over the past five years for research and development into the development of a novel non-addictive pain killer that can be used in both dependent and non drug dependent people both safely and effectively".

Stack's case was adjourned without plea - he is scheduled to reappear in court on 13 Sep.

TGA efficacy guidelines

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has released new evidence guidelines for listed medicines, with the new document replacing a previous version (Jan 2019), which was subject to a public consultation earlier this year.

The document, titled 'Evidence guidelines: How to demonstrate the efficacy of listed medicines is acceptable', specifies the type of evidence required to support indications made for listed medicines, excluding sunscreens and listed assessed medicines.

The guidelines cover the different types of evidence and how to assess the relevancy and quality of evidence, how to document and present evidence, as well as case studies and sponsors' legal responsibilities - [CLICK HERE](#) to read the guidelines.



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Community pharmacists' HIV proposal

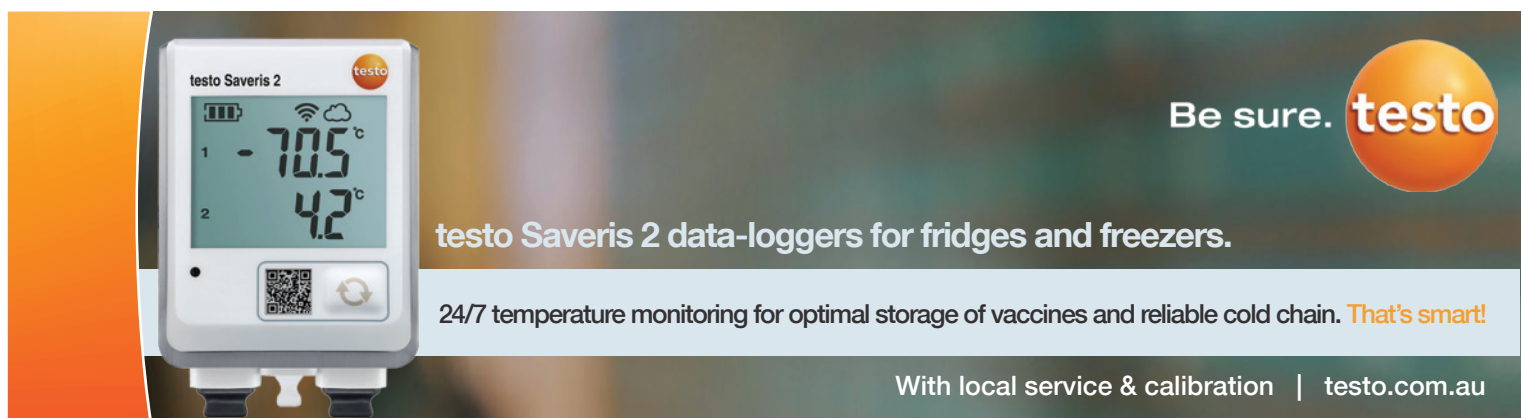
COMMUNITY pharmacists in Wales may be allowed to start providing pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) to patients as early as next year, thanks to a draft action plan released by the Welsh government last week.

The 26-point plan proposes actions to improve prevention, testing, and living well with HIV, and includes a commitment to make PrEP available through

community pharmacies.

Currently, PrEP is delivered in Wales through sexual health clinics and infectious disease units, which the draft says "disadvantages many rural communities and groups who traditionally avoid such clinics".

Following a three month consultation period, a final version of the draft is expected to be published later this year.



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Dispensary Corner

AND you thought that AHPPC was a mouthful.

Now in common parlance after more than two years of mentions in the nightly news, the acronym stands for the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee, and is of course the body comprising the Chief Health Officers of all Australian jurisdictions who have provided government advice during the pandemic.

We also have the Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation or ATAGI - a bit more complicated than the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, sensibly simply abbreviated as CDC.

That's so easy compared to the corresponding body in Egypt, where the country's COVID-19 response has been overseen by the Supreme Committee for the Management of the Epidemiology and Health Pandemic Crisis - or SCMEHPC.

Despite that effort, Australia probably still maintains its world leadership in complicated health committee names, with the Health Department continuing to oversee the ACHERCPD - or to the uninitiated, the Advisory Committee on the Health Emergency Response to Coronavirus for People with Disability of course!

Our favourites are the UK's Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation, or JCVI, and even better, the UK Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies, or SAGE, an acronym that for once actually reflects the committee's purpose.

MyDispense keeps growing

THE MyDispense online pharmacist training platform developed by the Monash Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences (*PD* 15 Oct 2012) has seen "exponential growth" through the pandemic, with interest in the system continuing to grow even with students returning to campus.

First created in 2011, by Jan 2020 MyDispense had accumulated 16,000 student accounts - a figure which has almost tripled to 42,300 over the last two years.

The number of partner universities using the platform has also increased, from 79 before the pandemic to 208 today.

A free service provided by Monash, MyDispense has been customised for 10 different regions across the globe, with students now using the tool in Germany, the Philippines, South Africa, Nepal, Sweden, Somalia, Pakistan, Botswana, Zimbabwe and more.

Monash Learning Technologies Project Manager, Keith Sewell, said MyDispense aimed to provide



a safe environment in which pharmacy students can hone their dispensing skills, but also make mistakes without the serious consequences of practising in the real world.

"Students get to have the full dispensing experience, from initial communication with the patient and prescriber, right through to providing professional advice when handing medicine to patients - and the whole experience is completely online," he said.

"Early in 2020 it quickly became evident that there was going to be strong global demand for access to MyDispense to help pharmacy students continue to develop important dispensing skills throughout lockdowns and campus closures.

"It was a lot of work for the team, but from the outset the purpose of MyDispense has been to share the platform for free with our pharmacy peers around the world, so it has been wonderful to see so many students benefit from it since COVID emerged just over two years ago," Sewell added.

Almost 1.5 million exercises and activities have been completed in MyDispense by students from all over the world.

Battery alert

THE Australian Competition and Consumer Commission has today warned that all businesses which supply button batteries, or products powered by them, must now comply with new mandatory safety and information standards.

Effective from today serious penalties apply for non-compliance, with the new standards described as a "critical step in helping prevent potentially life-threatening injuries to children".

For details of the changes see productsafety.gov.au.

UK delivery deal

BRITISH chemist chain LloydsPharmacy is expanding its rapid product delivery services in an updated partnership with Deliveroo.

The pact initially launched in 2020 and after a pilot involving 16 pharmacies, delivery is currently available in 40 stores, allowing customers to order about 50 "best selling products" via the Deliveroo app and receive them in as little as 30 minutes.

The partnership is now being expanded to a further 110 outlets in Bristol, Exeter, Liverpool, Coventry, Newport and Manchester, according to UK trade publication *Chemist+Druggist*.

The arrangements with Deliveroo complement LloydsPharmacy's standard click-and-collect and next-day delivery services, which see products arrive in 24 hours.

The product range available for super-fast Deliveroo delivery includes OTC painkillers, tissues, in-home pregnancy tests, cold & flu relief items.

Rival chain Boots also offers delivery of about 100 OTC items through Deliveroo.

NZ script leaflet

THE Pharmacy Guild of New Zealand has published a new information leaflet for its member pharmacies to give patients details on the country's prescription subsidy card.

The document is designed to be included in script bags, with Kiwis exempt from the \$5 copayment after paying for 20 scripts from 01 Feb each year.