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### Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features four pages of news, plus full pages from:

- TerryWhite Chemmart
- Pharmacy Platform

### Catch the Kouk

GAIN insights into the economic future of pharmacies with economist Stephen Koukoulas and TerryWhite Chemmart at APP this week.

See page five for more information.

## StrongRoom AI takeover

ARTIFICIAL intelligence (AI) controlled drug management platform provider, StrongRoom AI, is laying the foundation for expansion into Western Australia, entering a deal to acquire EasyDose.

StrongRoom CEO, Max Mito, said the company aimed to provide EasyDose customers with a consolidated pharmacy platform including an electronic S8 controlled drug register and stage supply modules.

"Throughout the acquisition our

key priority is our customers," Mito said.

"EasyDose has a meaningful impact on their customers' workflow by simplifying the process for dispensing opioid-replacement therapy.

"This in turn has a significant flow-on effect in reducing adverse events and making medication supply safer, which really aligns with our mission here at StrongRoom AI."

"We want to do everything we possibly can to ensure a smooth transition across to StrongRoom AI and will be working closely with all EasyDose customers on a timeline suitable for each individual site."

## APP 2022 Digital Coaching

- Digital trends every pharmacy must know
- Digital fads to avoid wasting \$ on
- 2022's exciting digital opportunities

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Broad spectrum antifungal, active against a wide variety of pathogenic fungi and yeasts<sup>1</sup>

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Active against Gram-positive bacteria such as *S. pyogenes* and *S. aureus*<sup>1,2</sup>

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HELP EXTINGUISH MORE THAN THE ITCH

INFLAMED TINEA

INFLAMED ATHLETE'S FOOT

INFLAMED JOCK ITCH

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Resolve Plus - combination therapy that treats the fungal infection and inflammation, even when an underlying bacterial infection is present.<sup>1</sup>



**For Pharmacists and Doctors:** Resolve Plus 1.0 contains Miconazole Nitrate 2% w/w and Hydrocortisone 1% w/w. Directions: Clean and dry affected area thoroughly. Gently apply to infected skin and surrounding area two times daily. Once inflammation has subsided continue treatment with an antifungal cream for 14 days after symptoms disappear to avoid recurrence. Do not use Resolve Plus 1.0 on children under 2 years of age.

Review full PI before recommending or supplying Resolve Plus 1.0. PI available on request from Ego Pharmaceuticals.

**References:** 1. Resolve Plus Product Information. Date of Most Recent Amendment 26 October 2018. 2. Van Cutsem JM, Thiépoint D. Miconazole, a broad-spectrum antimycotic agent with antibacterial activity. Chemotherapy 1972;17:392-404.

**Resolve Plus**



### Going for PotY

PHARMACY Platform is wishing two of its Pharmacy Catalyst members, Cooleman Court Pharmacy, Weston, ACT, and Karen Carter Chemist, Gunnedah, NSW, the best of luck as they vie for the Pharmacy Guild of Australia's Pharmacy of the Year (PotY) title, at APP on Thu.

See page six for more.

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## PPA gets political

**EMPLOYEE** pharmacists are being urged to lobby their local Federal MPs to push for changes to the *Pharmacy Industry Award 2020*, ahead of the Graduate Pay Review, which is due later this year.

Union group, Professional Pharmacists Australia (PPA) has called for a 30% increase in graduate wages, noting that "currently graduate pharmacists are the lowest paid graduates in Australia".

"Even a graduate studying a one-year Cert 3 in manufacturing is paid more than an intern pharmacist," the PPA said.

"You can help by sending a message to your Federal MP, asking them to meet with you to discuss the terrible working conditions you and your fellow pharmacists are experiencing."

**CLICK HERE** for more information.

## Tas hospital pharmacy funding boost

**FRESH** funding is being allocated to recruit 30 new hospital pharmacy technicians to support Tasmania's new Bedside Medication Management approach to improve medicines safety.

Tasmanian Health Minister, Jeremy Rockliff, announced the technicians will provide ward-based support to improve the timeliness of medication treatments, reduce waste and decrease non-nursing and midwifery tasks, freeing up more time for direct patient care.

Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia (SHPA) Tasmanian Branch Committee Vice Chair, Tom Simpson, welcomed the Government's decision to fund the roles.

"We know that wards where hospital pharmacy technicians manage medications have lower levels of missed doses and omitted doses, which pose some of the biggest medication safety risks to patients," he said.

"The Bedside Medication Management program will see



ward-based pharmacy technicians taking on responsibility for ensuring every medication is available for every patient, as close to the bedside as possible.

"In an Australian first, the establishment of a statewide pharmacy technician manager position will give an executive leadership voice to this growing workforce, and provide an enhanced career structure for pharmacy technicians."

Simpson added a survey of nurses involved in pilot programs

integrating ward-based pharmacy technicians into hospitals found high levels of support for the service.

"Nurses reported much higher levels of satisfaction on wards that have a pharmacy technician, as well as much less time spent finding medications, time which can be spent providing direct care," he said.

"Crucially, the trial of pharmacy technicians on wards improved patient outcomes and reduced their length of stay in hospital, benefits that will now be realised across the state."

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Blooms  
THE CHEMIST



## Blooms elevates Bishop to COO role

**BLOOMS** The Chemist has promoted the group's Chief Marketing Officer, Pamela Bishop, to the newly created position of Chief Operating Officer (COO).

Bishop (**pictured**) will report directly to Blooms CEO, Emmanuel Vavoulas, overseeing the group's retail and pharmacy operations.

Vavoulas said Bishop's 16 years' experience at Blooms would be instrumental to ensuring the group implements key strategic business priorities.

"With more than 110 pharmacies nationally and growing, Pamela's experience in leading change management, improving business performance, driving positive impact and delivering stakeholder value will all be key attributes in her COO role," he said.

"I am really looking forward to working even more closely with her as we continue to take the business further and achieve our vision of being Australia's leading community pharmacy group.

"I am sure everyone will join me in wishing Pamela every success in this new role."

Bishop said she was excited to take on the new role.

"I've been part of the pharmacy industry for more than 20 years in both Ireland and Australia, of which 16 years has been with Blooms The Chemist," she said.

"After starting out in stores, I've been fortunate to have worked in various departments across the business.

"I'm excited about this next step in my career with Blooms The Chemist and bringing my extensive knowledge of the brand into this new and exciting COO role.

"Together with my team, we will drive profitability, execute the company strategy, develop more purpose-led business activities, and prioritise initiatives that will create the greatest customer impact."

Meanwhile, Vavoulas and Bishop will address the Australian



Pharmacy Professional Conference on the Gold Coast on Sat morning, during a session entitled *Community pharmacy leadership and innovation - putting people first*.

The Blooms team are scheduled to expand on the pillars of the group's 2030 vision, and challenge pharmacists and pharmacy owners to consider what it means to be a truly community-driven pharmacy.



### Dispensary Corner

**IF WORDLE** is a little bit too mainstream for you, a new free medical version, Meddle, has been developed to test the minds of health professionals.

Meddle gives players seven tries to guess medical words with six letters, with a new game being made available every 24 hours.

The game uses US spelling, with no drug brand names or abbreviations.

While the game is free to play, its developer, Jonathon Alderman is encouraging players to make a contribution to UNICEF Australia to support the organisation's efforts to distribute COVID-19 vaccinations to developing countries.

**CLICK HERE** to try Meddle, and **HERE** to donate.

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Practical applications for PUFAs in neurodiversity Presented by Gerald Quigley, Integrated Pharmacist,

[Click here to find out more & secure your place](#)

[Flordis.com.au/cognitive-webinar](https://flordis.com.au/cognitive-webinar)

## Moderna pledge

COVID-19 vaccine developer, Moderna, will permanently waive patents for its Spikevax in certain low- and middle-income countries, Reuters reports.

The company has also pledged to develop and test vaccines for 15 worrying pathogens, including Ebola, MERS, Crimean-Congo hemorrhagic fever, Malaria and Dengue.

## Guild appoints Kicuroski

**FORMER** Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists Head of Policy and Advocacy, Daniel Kicuroski (pictured), has been appointed as the Pharmacy Guild of Australia NSW Branch Director.

Branch President, David Heffernan, said Kicuroski was taking the position at a critical stage, and would build on the strong foundations laid by former Branch Director, Caroline Argent, who has "left the branch well-placed to tackle the challenges ahead".

"Community pharmacists are in the midst of a major evolutionary phase of their profession," Heffernan said.

"We are now providing a greater range of health services as was made clear by the pivotal role played by community pharmacists in the COVID-19 vaccination rollout.

"On top of that we provide a range of vaccination services as well as wide ranging health services.

"But there is so much more we can do to help patients and working to our full scope is a major focus for us.

"Being able to work to full scope



will also ease pressure on our medical colleagues and hospitals.

"It is an exciting time for Daniel to join us."

Kicuroski said he was looking forward to working with the Guild's NSW Branch and representing the profession at the state-level.

"During the pandemic, pharmacists have stepped up to support their communities, delivering over six million vaccines across the country," he said.

"I look forward to working with colleagues across the health sector to build on this success and to improve health outcomes for communities across NSW."

## Malinauskas needs to fund pharmacy

**NEWLY** elected South Australian Premier, Peter Malinauskas, is being urged to invest in hospital pharmacy staffing, to strengthen the State's health system.

Congratulating Malinauskas on his election win, Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia CEO, Kristin Michaels, said increasing funding for pharmacy services would be critical if the new government is to deliver on its pre-election promises.

Michaels called on Malinauskas to allocate funding for pharmacists in emergency departments, "not just during business hours, but after hours and on weekends".

She added that emergency medicine pharmacists could play a key role in reducing ambulance ramping times, "as they improve the bed flow within hospitals by having patients' medicines charted more accurately, freeing nurse and doctor capacity".

## APP Update

### APP is here!

APP gets underway this week, (24-27 March) and the good news is registrations are still open.

In fact, you can even come to the conference and complete a walk-in registration.

APP2022 Conference Convenor Kos Sclavos AM said the conference program is a unique opportunity for the entire industry to choose from over 60 sessions, where experts will share their knowledge across clinical, business, innovation and leadership.

"Attendees will be able to hear industry updates first-hand from Federal politicians, including Hon Greg Hunt MP, Federal Minister for Health and Aged Care and Hon Mark Butler MP, Shadow Minister for Health and Aged Care," he said.

"They will also receive updates from Dr John Gerrard, Queensland's Chief Health Officer and Dr Lisa Nissen, Professor and Head of School of Clinical Sciences, Queensland University of Technology."

"Experts are travelling to APP not just from around Australia but internationally," said Mr Sclavos.

"Professor Ross Tsuyuki, full scope of practice expert, is flying in from Canada just for APP."

More details available [here](#).

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# Economic future for pharmacies.

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[CLICK HERE to read more  
about Stephen Koukoulas](#)

**WHEN:** Friday 25th March  
10:05am – 10:35am  
**WHERE:** APP 2022, Arena 1A





# Congratulations

to our two Pharmacy Catalyst member finalists  
in Guild Pharmacy of the year!



Karen Carter Chemist, Gunnedah, NSW



Cooleman Court Pharmacy, Weston, ACT

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