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WEBINAR

Cognitive Health Through the Ages: Research Insights & Clinical Conversations

DATE: Wednesday 6th April 2022 **TIME:** 6 – 7:15 pm AEST

- Explore cognitive changes throughout the lifespan
- Research insights into treatments for cognitive decline
- Clinical discussion examining the role of PUFAs for neurodiversity
- Interactive live Q&A session with guest presenters



Research Insights: Risk factors for cognitive decline and the potential for interventions

Deep dive into the evidence for preventing cognitive impairment and dementia, including the role of lifestyle and interventions such as CDRI 08, *Bacopa monnieri*. Presented by Matthew Pase, Associate Professor of Neurology at Monash University, & Associate Professor of Epidemiology at Harvard University. Dr Pase's core initiatives include elucidating risk factors for the development of dementia and identifying strategies to reduce this growing health crisis.



Clinical conversations: Practical applications for PUFAs in neurodiversity

An exploration of the role of polyunsaturated fatty acids in the treatment of neurodiverse children. Presented by Gerald Quigley, Integrated Pharmacist, and Master Herbalist, Gerald will share his unique expertise and experience on the integration of PUFAs in complex patient management.

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Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features four pages of news, a front page from Floridis plus full pages from:

- Good Price Pharmacy
- Direct Chemist Outlet

Cognitive health

INTEGRATIVE medicine specialist, Floridis, will host a webinar exploring cognitive health and the role of PUFAs for neurodiversity on 06 Apr. See cover page for more.

Grow with DCO

PHARMACY owners looking to compete with the big guys are being invited to join the growing Discount Chemist Outlet (DCO) group. The banner now has 83 stores having converted pharmacies from leading groups - see page six for more.

Patients back full scope pilot: Guild

SUPPORT for pharmacists to be empowered to operate to their full scope of practice is “sky high”, new research commissioned by the Pharmacy Guild of Australia reveals.

Research company, Insightful, found more than 75% of Queenslanders back the controversial North Queensland Pharmacy Scope of Practice Pilot (NQPSP), which would allow pharmacists to prescribe medications for 20 common ailments.

Guild Queensland Branch President, Chris Owen, said patients in the community have long been supportive of pharmacies practicing to their full scope.

“This is reflected by commitments made by both of the major political parties at the 2020 state election to support community pharmacy’s scope of practice,” he said.

“The pilot will be a step towards bringing Queensland in line with countries like Canada, New Zealand, England and Wales that

allow pharmacists to practice to their full scope.

“A clear outcome from the research is that North Queenslanders are demanding better access to primary health care services.

“They see community pharmacy as a critical part of the solution.

“The low-risk NQPSP will see community pharmacists able to treat and advise patients for common health conditions, such as pain management, ear, nose and throat conditions, and uncomplicated urinary tract infections.”

Pharmacists seeking to participate in the pilot will be required to undertake additional post-graduate study for 12 to 16 months.

However, Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) Rural Chair, Dr Michael Clements has voiced concerns about the pilot, warning it could see GPs and pharmacists working in greater isolation rather than collaborating



to deliver patient care.

“If the pilot proceeds in its current form, continuity of care, which is particularly important for patients with complex health conditions, will be disrupted and the GP won’t be aware of what the pharmacist is doing and vice-versa,” he said.

“This is unimaginably dangerous. “It’s important to keep in mind that pharmacists will not only be diagnosing conditions, but then also selling patients medications based on that very diagnosis.”

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Wesfarmers' API takeover rolls on

ORDERS made by the Federal Court of Australia approving Wesfarmers' acquisition of pharmacy wholesaler, Australian Pharmaceutical Industries (API) (PD 21 Mar) have been lodged with the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC), making the purchase scheme legally effective.

As a result of the lodgement of the orders trading of API shares on the Australian Securities Exchange (ASX) has been suspended, with Wesfarmers subsidiary, WFM Investments Pty Ltd, set to acquire 100% of the shares in the wholesaler that it does not already own.

Under the scheme API shareholders will be paid consideration of \$1.50 per share that they hold as of 7pm on 29 Mar, when the scheme is implemented on 31 Mar, with a special dividend of \$0.03 per share to be distributed on 29 Mar.

The acquisition bid received the support of more than 86% of API



shareholders at a virtual meeting held last week (PD 18 Mar).

The implementation of the scheme will mark the successful conclusion of Wesfarmers' efforts to takeover API and its coveted Priceline Pharmacy network, having seen-off rival bids from pharmacy wholesaler, Sigma Healthcare (PD 05 Nov 2021), and supermarket giant, Woolworths

(PD 07 Jan).

MEANWHILE Wesfarmers Managing Director, Rob Scott, has previously pledged to provide capital support to Priceline Pharmacy owners to grow their businesses (PD 16 Dec 2021), while also safeguarding the Priceline Sister Club's data from Wesfarmers' Flybuys loyalty program, which it co-owns with Coles.

Marotti honoured

SOUTH Australian pharmacist, Sally Marotti, has been named as the Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia's (SHPA's) 2021 Australian Clinical Pharmacy Award winner.

The SHPA noted that Marotti has played a key role in leading significant changes in processes in South Australia, including implementing Entrustable Professional Activities for pharmacists, interns and pharmacy assistants across the State's health system.

In their recommendation, SHPA Board member Dr Jacinta Johnson, Associate Professor Michael Barras and Professor Debra Rowett commended Marotti's enthusiasm, dedication, and drive to improve clinical pharmacy practice for the benefit of others.

The award will be formally presented later this year.

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1. Spada F et al. Dermatol Ther 2021;34(4):e14970. (n=100) Study sponsored by Ego Pharmaceuticals Pty Ltd.
2. Consumer satisfaction survey on people with mild or moderate eczema. n=48. Participants confirmed condition status through a declaration. Survey conducted by Beauty Heaven on behalf of Ego Pharmaceuticals Pty Ltd. 2021





Ryaltris approval

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration has granted approval for Seqirus's Ryaltris (olopatadine hydrochloride and mometasone furoate) combination nasal spray, for the treatment of allergic rhinitis and rhinoconjunctivitis in children aged six years and older.

The treatment is now available as a private script for patients with unmet needs.

Pharmacy must be impactful: Blooms

COVID-19 combined with recent floods in south east Queensland and NSW have highlighted the importance of maintaining a community focus in the pharmacy sector, Blooms The Chemist CEO, Emmanuel Vavoulas, believes.

Announcing a new recruitment campaign, Vavoulas said Blooms is looking for pharmacists who want to make a meaningful impact in their local community, to join the group.

"Since our inception more than 40 years ago, our core purpose at Blooms The Chemist is to put people first, and use our role in the communities we serve to have meaningful impact and to make a real difference," he said.

"Our stores are locally-owned and operated. We live alongside our customers and see the everyday stresses that can take a toll on their health and wellbeing. "We're often the first point

of care for many people from culturally diverse backgrounds, because our pharmacy teams reflect our local communities.

"If our intention is to continue adding value to people's lives, to fulfill our role as healthcare professionals and future-fit our industry and our businesses against inevitable change, we must continue putting people first.

"Blooms The Chemist is actively looking to recruit pharmacists who are motivated to be the best version of themselves.

"People who want to make a real and lasting difference in their local communities and help make the world a better place.

"These are the people we want to join our network."

As part of the campaign the group is offering to donate \$50 to its not-for-profit partners, Make-A-Wish Australia, Gidget Foundation Australia and The Butterfly Tree,



or the Australian Red Cross bushfires and floods support and recovery programs, for every pharmacist who signs up to the Blooms mailing list between the start of the Australian Pharmacy Professional Conference (APP), which gets underway tomorrow, and 24 Apr.

CLICK HERE for more information or to join Blooms the Chemist's mailing list.

Guardian commits to helping homeless

SIGMA Healthcare's Guardian Pharmacy banner is rolling out its new-look Health Kids' Guide Series as part of its efforts to support homeless Australians, through the group's ongoing relationship with the St Vincent de Paul Society.

The guide will be published as a series of educational videos presented by Guardian pharmacists and will be aligned with the Vinnies Back to School campaign.

The videos will also provide targeted advice to relevant audiences, such as parents.

The group is planning to implement a range of initiatives to help people in need, Guardian

boss, Kurt O'Brien said.

"We're excited to be continuing our relationship with Vinnies, as we take our programs, including those to be launched into the future, into a more interactive and digitally advanced space – a natural extension to an already successful initiative and long-term relationship with the charity," he said.

"Through the relationship, we're excited to provide our franchise partners with greater opportunity for customer engagement, while also providing our customers with more direct and personal ways to participate in our pharmacies' charity work, now both in-store and online."

Rats hit CWH

A CHEMIST Warehouse outlet in Sydney's inner west has been forced to call in exterminators after rats were filmed running through the store's aisles.

The video posted on Instagram was recorded through the store's door and showed the rodents scurrying around the pharmacy.

A spokesperson for the group told *news.com.au* that any stock that was "in any way exposed to contamination from the unwelcome pests" was to be removed, with the infestation attributed to the recent severe weather in Sydney.

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Dispensary Corner

MEDICINAL marijuana can be taken in many dose forms, but true innovation is clearly being driven in the recreational cannabis market, particularly in the USA where one of the newest products is edible "gummies" which look like a severed ear.

They're being made by a company called Tyson 2.0 backed by former championship boxer Mike Tyson, in reference to the 1997 fight where he famously took a bite out of the ear of his opponent, Evander Holyfield.

The new items, cleverly named Mike Bites, are available at marijuana retailers in Nevada, California and Colorado.

It's unclear whether Holyfield is getting a percentage of the profits, with some fans suggesting he should be getting a piece of the action since the gummies are in the shape of a piece of his ear.

The cannabis company launched the products on social media (pictured), with a tweet captioned saying "Holy ears! They're finally here!"



Patient set for jail time over threats

A METHADONE patient in northern NSW is facing a jail sentence after pleading guilty to threatening to douse a pharmacist with petrol and set her alight, if she did not supply him with the drug, the *Daily Telegraph* reports.

Bonalbo man, Robert Harvey, admitted "talking to the chemist lady a bit silly", after he was arrested following a series of phone calls to his local pharmacy demanding to be given methadone on 27 Dec 2021.

The pharmacy was closed at the time and the calls were diverted to the pharmacist's personal phone.

Initially the pharmacist advised the 32-year-old to go to a pharmacy in Casino, only for Harvey to call back a second time demanding that she meet him at the store, or he would throw a brick through the window and get the medication for himself.

"Then I'll pour petrol on you and set you alight," he said.

"I might have to go round and



shoot your little assistant."

Harvey was subsequently arrested at a house in Casino.

At a hearing of Grafton Local Court earlier this month, Harvey pleaded guilty to charges relating to possession of a prohibited drug and using a carriage service to menace, harass or offend.

Magistrate, Kathy Crittenden, noted that the pharmacist would have been terrified by the threats,

and ordered that he be remanded in custody while a sentencing assessment is prepared.

Police prosecutor, Ursula Kryj, told the Court that the 32-year-old, who is a father of two and estranged from his former partner, had a lengthy history of drug use, adding that he had a poor prospect of rehabilitation.

The case has been adjourned until 02 May, when it has been listed for sentencing.

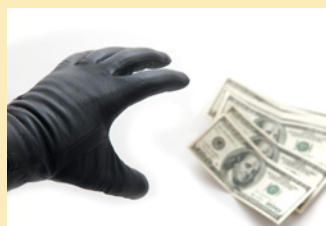
Qld Police hunt hi-vis pharmacy bandit

QUEENSLAND Police are searching for a knife-wielding pharmacy robber, following a hold-up at a pharmacy on the Sunshine Coast yesterday.

The suspect entered the Palmwoods Pharmacy shortly before 8.30am, brandishing a blade and demanded access to prescription medicines.

After being handed a bag containing boxes of an unspecified medication the man fled in the direction of the local train station.

"He wasn't after any money but the female pharmacy attendant gave him a bag containing boxes



of prescription medication," a police spokesperson said.

"A number of police attended the scene, but were unable to locate the suspect.

"He's described as being in his 50s, with sandy red hair and was wearing black and white boardshorts with a hi-vis T-shirt."



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