

# *Congratulations*

to the national winners of the  
TerryWhite Chemmart 2021 HEART Awards

## National Pharmacy of the Year

TerryWhite Chemmart Arana Hills, QLD



## Most Improved Pharmacy

TerryWhite Chemmart Sandy Bay, TAS



## Retail Leadership Award

Jo Martin,  
Plunkett's TerryWhite Chemmart  
Port Macquarie, NSW



## Rhonda White Leadership Award

Kaail Bohm, TerryWhite Chemmart Delroy, NSW



## Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features three pages of news, a cover page from TerryWhite Chemmart plus full pages from:

- Pharmacium
- TerryWhite Chemmart

## TWC celebrates network's finest

TERRYWHITE Chemmart's (TWC's) Next Level state-based conference series concluded in Perth last night, with the network announcing the winners of its national awards program.

The event saw Queensland's TWC Arana Hills scoop the national 2021 Pharmacy of the Year Award - see **cover page** for more.

Meanwhile, Perth's TWC Harvest Lakes pharmacy claimed the group's Western Australian Pharmacy of the Year crown.

Accepting the State title, owner, Luke Edmunds, thanked his "amazing" team.

See **page five** for more.

## High demand for flu vaccine in ACT

COMMUNITY pharmacies across the ACT have switched from providing walk-in influenza vaccination services to requiring appointments, as demand surges, Pharmacy Guild of Australia ACT Branch President, Simon Blacker, says.

Blacker told *The Canberra Times* that most pharmacies in the capital had shifted to booking-only systems to cope

with patient volumes.

He added that the organisation had been in talks with the ACT Government about providing free shots to all Canberrans, similar to programs being rolled out in other jurisdictions.

Blacker said pharmacies in the capital were ready to support a free vaccination scheme should the ACT Government implement one in the coming weeks.

## Victoria comes to free flu vax party

VICTORIA is the latest jurisdiction to announce it will launch a State-funded influenza vaccination blitz in Jun.

From tomorrow morning patients ineligible to access flu shots through the National Immunisation Program (NIP) will be able to receive free jabs from community pharmacies and GP clinics, as part of the month-long campaign.

Pharmacy Guild of Australia Victorian Branch President, Anthony Tassone, welcomed the decision to roll out free shots through primary care providers.

"The combination of COVID-19 and a severe flu season makes having a vaccination all the more important this year to help prevent against influenza and its complications," he said.

"Vaccination is the best way to protect against the flu virus and helps protect other people, especially those who are too sick or too young to get vaccinated.

"For the last two years, influenza numbers have been down, largely because of lockdowns and isolation.

"This year we are already seeing it is very different with a resurgence of influenza



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infections and increased hospital presentations.

"Making flu vaccines free for all Victorians will help increase patient access, lift vaccination rates, and reduce the risk of hospitalisations and severe illness.

"Our healthcare system is already under significant pressure, and we must do whatever we can to ease that load."

Tassone acknowledged that a level of vaccine fatigue was emerging in the community, but called on patients to roll up their sleeves to get their flu jab.

"The virus doesn't care if you're

tired, or whether you're fed-up with getting vaccines," he said.

"So what we all need to do together, as a community, is to come forward and get vaccinated.

Under the Victorian program, pharmacies will be paid \$25 plus GST for each shot they administer for both NIP and non-NIP patients.

Following the Victorian Government's decision to roll out free flu vaccinations, Tasmania, the ACT and the Northern Territory remain the only jurisdictions yet to commit to providing free doses of the shot to patients who are not eligible for NIP vaccines.



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## Ozempic shortages not patients' fault

**PATIENTS** using diabetes medication, Ozempic (semaglutide), to manage weight issues, should not be blamed for supply shortages, specialists believe.

In a joint statement from The Obesity Collective and Weight Issues Network, experts noted that while it was critical that patients with type-2 diabetes retain access to the drug, "people with obesity have been using Ozempic have been doing so because their doctor has deemed it clinically important for their healthcare and has prescribed the medication".

Sydney-based endocrinologist, Dr Nic Kormas, noted that obesity is a chronic condition that often cannot be managed by diet and exercise alone.

"The vast majority of people with obesity have made many attempts to manage their weight and complications that result from it, often unsuccessfully without help," he said.

"For them, not being able to access effective treatments to manage weight is a serious health issue.

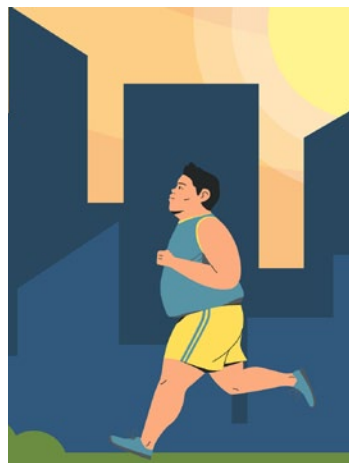
"The Ozempic shortage reinforces the pressing need for additional resources and support for healthcare professionals on how to access help, and manage people with obesity."

World Obesity Federation President-elect, and University of Sydney's Child and Adolescent Health Chair, Professor Louise Baur, urged those engaging in public debate over the shortages of Ozempic, "to resist apportioning blame to particular individuals or groups".

"It's unfortunate that the Ozempic issue has brought out the latent weight bias that still so many people have," she said.

"Stigma is a significant issue facing people with obesity and it can be a very destructive force."

The Weight Issues Network Chair, Dr Divya Ramachandran,



urged those commenting on the supply shortages to "exercise compassion".

"Those taking Ozempic have had it prescribed by their doctor for a whole cluster of health issues alongside their obesity," she said.

"Please do not place unfair blame or hate people when they are simply seeking healthcare for their health problems."

## Flash protest

**ACTION** needs to be taken to protect pharmacy workers from irrational and abusive patients, employee pharmacist, Pardeep Singh, believes.

In a post on the Australian Pharmacy Healthcare Workforce Facebook page, Singh said he has been shocked by the behaviour of customers, highlighting a recent incident which occurred while he was sitting in his car outside the pharmacy he was working in, before he started his shift.

Singh said a woman spotted his white coat hanging in the car, turned around and flashed her rear at him.

"Later, I came to know from the staff that this person was demanding something from the pharmacist without any prescription, her request was denied and she left the pharmacy," he said.

"There is nothing being done to protect health professionals."



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		2570058	074330	380425		
		(per sachet)	(per sachet)	(per sachet)		
61000042	Picoprep Orange 2 x 20g	2560124	946915	380250	10000743	70854
61000043	Picoprep Orange 3 x 20g	2560132	946907	380255	10000726	70853
61000044	Picoprep Orange 50 x 20g	2560079	946591	380260	10000774	70856
61000045	Prepkit Orange	2560141	946893	380265	10000958	70855
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## Dispensary Corner

**SELF-CONFESED** pharmacy bandit, Reginald Jujan Howell, claims he was pressured by a lawyer to confess to a string of pharmacy heists in the US.

Howell has requested approval to withdraw his guilty plea to charges of conspiracy to possess drugs with the intent to distribute, robbery and branding a firearm while committing a violent crime.

Howell's new lawyer, Tim Fleming, told a federal court that his previous attorney had coerced him into entering a written plea agreement in Jul 2021, which detailed four pharmacies he either burglarised or robbed.

However, a few days later, Howell filed a notice of appeal to withdraw his plea, which prompted his former lawyer to question his mental competency.

Fleming said Howell had initially been misinformed about the possible penalty he faced if he pleaded guilty to the federal crimes.

Prior to entering the guilty plea Howell had been told that the penalty of brandishing a weapon during a drug trafficking crime was seven years on top of any other prison sentence issued in relation to the other charges.

However, Fleming noted the penalty was seven years to life in prison without parole.

"This constitutes a critical error of constitutional proportions," Fleming said.

Howell's appeal will be heard on 09 Jun, and if it fails he will be sentenced that day.

## Bohm lands top honour

**INDIGENOUS** pharmacist and TerryWhite Chemmart Delroy co-owner, Kaail Bohm, has been named as the winner of the prestigious Rhonda White Leadership Award, at the group's annual awards night in Perth yesterday.

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, Bohm has played a significant role in supporting the rollout of vaccines in Indigenous communities.

"I am incredibly proud to be recognised for this award, which would not be possible without the support of my brilliant Delroy team," the Dubbo-based pharmacist said.

"It's particularly humbling considering the company of my fellow nominees, who have each made such an enormous impact on their respective communities."

TWC Executive General Manager, Nick Munroe, praised Bohm's leadership during the pandemic.

"Kaail is an inspiring individual who has truly demonstrated this leadership and the value a pharmacist's role brings to the local community," he said.

"He has shown that when a



community can't reach us, we can reach them.

"He is also a tireless advocate who has invested a significant portion of his time driving awareness for vulnerable communities by speaking with local media and collaborating with local organisations to improve patient health outcomes."

Queensland's TWC Arana Hills took home the group's National Pharmacy of the Year title, for its customer service excellence.

TWC Sandy Point in Tasmania was named as the winner of the network's Pharmacy Improvement Award, while Plunkett's TWC Port Macquarie's Jo Martin claimed the Retail Leadership Award.

## EBOS completes LifeHealthcare deal

**SYMBION'S** parent company, EBOS, has announced it has completed the acquisition of medical device distributor, LifeHealthcare.

In a statement to the Australian Securities Exchange (ASX), EBOS CEO, John Cullity, said the deal would have a positive impact on the group's business.

"The acquisition accelerates EBOS's medical devices strategy and further expands and

diversifies our group earnings," he said.

"We look forward to the business making a meaningful contribution towards our future growth, and we are excited to welcome LifeHealthcare's staff, customers and suppliers to EBOS."

LifeHealthcare will be reported in the Institutional Healthcare division in EBOS's financial results from 01 Jun.

## Guild Update

### Building better connections

**WITH** a theme of 'building better connections with patients', this year's Pharmacy Connect program brings together leadership, business and clinical content to support attendees in building better patient relationships.

The event is being held at the Sydney Hilton from 01 to 03 Sep.

Key topics include:

- Digital technology in the delivery of health care services
- Buying and selling a pharmacy
- Pharmacy budgets
- Rental negotiation
- Pharmacy as a pain destination
- Dealing with official complaints

Pharmacy Connect's trade exhibition will feature over 50 stands showcasing the latest industry products and services. Don't miss this opportunity to network with key suppliers.

The trade exhibition is open for pharmacists and pharmacy staff to view for FREE on Fri 02 and Sat 03 Sep.

Early bird registration is now open, with our 100% COVID guarantee ensuring that if you cannot attend the event due to COVID-19 restrictions, you will receive a full refund.

You can register **HERE**.



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TerryWhite Chemmart

**H.E.A.R.T. AWARDS**

PHARMACY OF THE YEAR WA 2021

*Congratulations*

to the

2021 TerryWhite Chemmart

Western Australian Pharmacy of the Year

**TerryWhite Chemmart Harvest Lakes**



*Wow, this is incredible. A huge thanks to my whole team for the amazing work they put in every day!  
And a huge thanks to Martyn our BDM for the incredible support you provide us.*

**- Luke Edmunds**

Pictured above: The TWC Harvest Lakes Team including Network Partner Luke Edmunds, Leanne and Jodi Bibra with TWC Group Operations Manager Michael Beaumont, TWC Business Development Manager Martyn Melling and TWC Executive General Manager Nick Munroe.



**TerryWhite  
Chemmart.**