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## Today's issue of PD

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

- Selima Pharmaceuticals
- Gluco Beans

## Selima savings

**SECURE** discounts of up to 20% on Selima Pharmaceuticals' Ultra Nature Essentials range of vitamin supplements.

For more information, see **page four**.

## New jellybeans

**THERE'S** a new bean on the pharmacy scene, with Gluco Beans joining the pharmacy-only jellybean market.

Gluco Beans are available in assorted flavours and pack sizes - 70g, 150g and 1kg.

See **page five** for more.

# Pharmacists have skills to prescribe

**PRESCRIBING** should be within pharmacists' scope of practice, Queensland University of Technology Head of School for Clinical Sciences, Professor Lisa Nissen, believes.

Nissen backed the profession in an article published by *The Conversation* following Victorian Premier, Daniel Andrews, announcing his Government would implement a trial of pharmacist prescribing if re-elected.

"Scope of practice means the pharmacist has the training, plus the authority [what the state law about medicines allows], as well as accountability," she said.

"This means being accountable to a professional board and the public to be safe.

"Pharmacists already have demonstrated expertise, skill and training in medicine use.

"Pharmacists understand their role in the health-care team and the role of medicines for patients.

"Given their training and expertise

in medicines, they certainly can and should prescribe."

In the same article, Macquarie University Centre for Health Economy Director, Professor Henry Cutler, also voiced support for authorising the expansion of pharmacists' scope.

"Australia has a shortage of GPs," he said.

"People are waiting longer to be treated, potentially leading to worse health outcomes.

"Pharmacists should play a greater role in helping the health system deliver better-value care.

"Allowing patients to access triptans without a prescription to treat migraines would also increase health outcomes and be cost-effective.

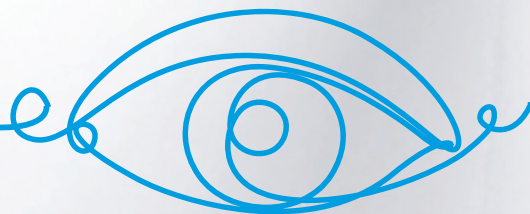
"While any decision to allow pharmacists to prescribe should evaluate risks, decision-makers should also consider all potential benefits and costs to patients and the health system."

However, Australian National



University Medical School Clinical Associate Professor Louise Stone, raised concerns in the piece about pharmacists' capacity to prescribe and suggested the Pharmacy Guild of Australia had "negotiated state government-endorsed antibiotic prescribing, bypassing the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA), the independent authority which determines who can prescribe safely".

# DRAW THE LINE... when it comes to Eye Relief



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## Wizard Mount Pleasant scores win

**WIZARD** Pharmacy Mount Pleasant has taken the Wizard Pharmacy of the Year title, after landing a 100% mystery shopper score.

The suburban Perth pharmacy was presented with the group's top award at a ceremony at Optus Stadium over the weekend.

In addition to delivering a flawless performance for the mystery shopper, franchisee Frank Napoli's team's community engagement efforts helped make the pharmacy stand out from the crowd.

The Mount Pleasant store has worked with local schools and produced a three-day Wizard Mentoring program for students in years 11 and 12, who are interested in studying pharmacy.

Napoli said the team was honoured to take home the group's Pharmacy of the Year crown, noting the strong competition from stores across WA and the NT.

"For a pharmacy that's only been open just over a year, we're all so thankful for how warmly the community has welcomed us and for the amazing opportunities to engage with and enrich the local community," Napoli said.

"I am so proud of my team, the



culture they have created and how hard they have worked to serve their customers and patients in such an authentic and personalised way, despite the challenging conditions the healthcare industry has experienced."

Wizard Pharmacy Cannington's Maxwin Choug was named as the network's 2022 Pharmacist of the Year, for his dedication and passion for his patients.

"I was astounded when my name was called during the Awards night as so many pharmacists have worked so hard and given so much to their communities - beyond what they are required to do," he said.

"I have to say a huge thank you to my team, who have all played

such a significant part in serving the community with me during times of unprecedented crisis.

"I am proud to say we have not shut our doors once to the community since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic."

Wizard Pharmacy Kelmscott Stargate's Alice Muge was awarded the group's inaugural Intern of the Year Award, while Wizard Pharmacy Girrawheen's Emma Ewers was named Team Member of the Year.

**Pictured:** Wizard Pharmacy COO Sally Parker; Monique D'Amato; Mount Pleasant Pharmacist Manager Nancy Rostom; Eva Mujagic-Jones; Mount Pleasant franchisee Frank Napoli and Wizard Pharmacy CEO Lyndon Dyson.

## RACGP backs president pay

**MEMBERS** of the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) have approved remuneration packages for the organisation's directors.

Under the package approved by GPs at the College's annual general meeting last week, more than 77% of delegates backed setting the maximum presidential remuneration for the 2022/23 financial year at \$240,000, while the organisation's 15 directors will receive a total aggregate remuneration of \$1.05 million in FY2023/24, *NewsGP* reported.

RACGP CEO, Paul Wappett, said the support for the remuneration packages would allow the organisation to "attract and retain directors of high calibre to be able to lead the College in such turbulent times".

The AGM also marked the start of Dr Nicole Higgins' term as RACGP President, with Adjunct Professor Karen Price stepping down.

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## Aidacare issues seat walker warning

**PATIENTS** who have an Aspire Superlite Adjustable Seat Walker with serial numbers starting with 727584, are being advised not to use it, as a securing nut in the frame may have been incorrectly assembled.

The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) announced that Aidacare Pty Ltd is taking corrective action to repair the issue.

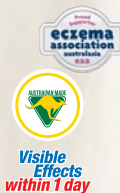
The issue was caused by a change in the washers used in manufacturing, which may lead to the nut securing the frame's cross brace to become loose over time and lead to the frame becoming unstable.

Users can return the walker to the place of purchase for repair, or contact Aidacare on 1300 133 120, to arrange for a correction kit to be sent out.

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[Click here for more info](#)

## Dispensary Corner

**RESEARCHERS** at Canada's University of Waterloo look to have achieved the holy grail of restroom accessories - a splashless urinal.

A ground-breaking study unveiled last week at the American Physical Society's Division of Fluid Dynamics meeting in Indianapolis demonstrated the urinal's superior performance, based on the same geometry as a nautilus cell which ensures the urine stream hits at a shallow angle no matter where it is aimed.

The Waterloo team noted that about half of the world's population "inadvertently marks bathroom floors, and themselves, through unintentional urine splash back".

"A surface designed to always intersect the urine stream equal to or smaller than the critical angle prevents splashback... we designed urinal surface geometries that effectively eliminate splatter by satisfying the splash-suppressing intersect criteria," they wrote.

"Our numerical and experimental validations show that our urinal designs are superior to the typical use of a popular urinal available on the market, as well as scenarios where urine streams are highly unstable," they added.



## Managing sore throat

**COMMUNITY** pharmacists have a key role to play in helping patients to manage cases of sore throat, while limiting "unwarranted use of antibiotics", International Pharmaceutical Federation President, Dominique Jordan, believes.

In the forward to *FIP's Sore throat - Quick reference guide for pharmacists* (which was launched last week), Jordan said the condition was "usually self-limiting, but leads to frequent consultations with community pharmacists".

"Pharmacy teams can play a supportive role in the identification of symptoms and their respective management through non-prescription medicines, as well as non-pharmacological interventions," he said.

"Pharmacists can play an important role in the screening and referring of patients, in addition to educating them about the consequence of the inappropriate use of antibiotics.



"As a community pharmacist, I hope you will find this publication useful for your work and easy to use. "I hope this guidance will serve as a reminder of the importance of this topic and how, as pharmacists, we can effectively contribute to better health and more sustainable health systems."

In addition to providing advice on management options for the treatment of sore throat, the guide also covers point-of-care tests for streptococcus.

## Screwdriver brandishing bandits busted

**AUTHORITIES** in Ireland have arrested two men in their 40s following a robbery at a pharmacy in Dublin over the weekend.

The duo entered a store in the leafy suburb of Donnybrook, wielding screwdrivers and threatening staff.

The two men fled the scene on foot, having grabbed an unspecified sum of cash, a phone and medications, [breakingnews.ie](#) reported.

Police launched a "search and arrest" operation after being alerted to the incident and



apprehended the pair a short time later.

Quantities of medication were recovered when the men were arrested.

The bandits were taken to Irishtown Garda Station for questioning.

## Weekly Comment

Welcome to **Pharmacy Daily's** weekly comment feature. This week's contributor is **David Dutka, Commercial Director, Omnicell Australia.**



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