

Mag-Sup
High absorption magnesium

Available in 50's, 100's and 250's from Symbion, Sigma, API and CH2.

50's PBS & RPBS Listed

Always read the label and follow the directions for use.

Pharmacy only.

Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features four pages of news, plus a full page from TerryWhite Chemmart.

Preventing suicide with AI

ARTIFICIAL intelligence (AI) could help improve suicide prevention, research from the Black Dog Institute reveals.

A meta-analysis evaluating the performance of 54 machine learning algorithms previously developed by researchers to predict suicide-related outcomes of ideation, attempt and death, found AI models outperformed traditional risk prediction models in predicting suicide-related outcomes.

The researchers said that over time AI could be configured to better identify patterns associated with suicide risk.

Staff shortages close Dubbo store

PHARMACY'S workforce crisis is forcing one regional NSW-based pharmacy to close its doors, following the resignation of the store's sole pharmacist.

The owners of Dubbo's Chemist Outlet on Macquarie Street have struggled to find a pharmacist to run the pharmacy and are unsure when they will be able to reopen the store, the *Daily Liberal* reported.

A spokesperson for Chempro, which owns the Chemist Outlet banner, said workforce shortages were impacting the profession across the country.

"It's not just Dubbo, there's actually an industry shortage of pharmacists at the moment so trying to find one that can permanently work at the Dubbo store has proven very difficult," the spokesperson said.

"We targeted everywhere for someone - being a pharmacy, the last thing you ever want to do is not be able to open the store, but legally we can't run the store



without a pharmacist.

"This has been going on for about a year but it's become really apparent over the last six months.

"There's so many jobs going at the moment, employees have the choice where they want to go.

"It never used to be like that. It used to be that we would put up a job ad and get up to 100 applicants - good applicants - and now we're

lucky to get one... if that."

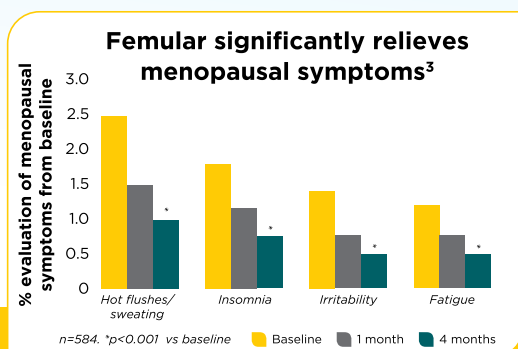
Patients who have prescriptions on file and Websterpaks have been advised to go to Bowen's Pharmacy for further assistance.

While staff shortages have challenged the profession over the course of the COVID-19 pandemic, an industry source has told *Pharmacy Daily* that they are unlikely to result in store closures.



Perimenopause? Help your patients take back control.

Clinically proven multi-symptom relief in a matter of weeks.



#1
SELLING
MENOPAUSE
RELIEF
PRODUCT IN
SWITZERLAND*²



New Look Same Formulation

ALWAYS READ THE LABEL AND FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS FOR USE

*#1 selling non-prescription menopause relief product in Switzerland. References: 1. Lopatka L et al, Journal of Menopause 2007; 2:16-21.
2. IQVIA, national sales data Switzerland, sell-in (Pharmacy, Drugstore, Self-dispensing Doctors), turnover (ex-factory) in CHF, MAT June 2021.



Doctors urge NSW to drop UTI trial

MEDICAL groups are urging NSW Health Minister, Brad Hazard, to abandon plans to introduce a trial of pharmacists prescribing for uncomplicated urinary tract infections (UTIs) (**PD** 05 Oct).

Both the Australian Medical Association (AMA) and the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) have warned against expanding pharmacists' scope of practice.

Speaking at the General Practice Crisis Summit yesterday, AMA Federal President, Professor Steve Robson, described the proposal as a "dangerous experiment", and voiced concerns about Queensland's decision to make pharmacist prescribing for UTIs a permanent part of pharmacists' scope of practice in the sunshine state (**PD** 04 Oct).

"Governments need to come to the table with viable solutions to support general practice and build collaborative models of care - not changes that completely

undervalue the quality of care that is provided through general practice and fragment patient care," he said.

"We know from the Queensland trial that it did not relieve pressure on emergency departments, but instead resulted in women waiting longer for treatment for conditions that are easily mistaken for UTIs, including pregnancy, pre-cancerous conditions, and sexually transmitted infections that can lead to infertility."

RACGP Expert Committee - Quality Care member and NSW-based GP, Dr Michael Tan, also raised concerns about the proposed pilot, saying the description of it being a "prescribing" trial would be problematic.

"People don't present with a diagnosis of a UTI," he said.

"They present with symptoms that might be due to a UTI, but it may well be due to another diagnosis that will need treatment.

"One wonders, for instance, how



many STIs have been missed in the Queensland trial.

"This transactional and unintegrated approach to primary care worsens care quality.

"Specifically in this situation, it seems to throw out the principle of antimicrobial stewardship."

An economic analysis of the expected financial benefits of pharmacists in NSW being able to treat UTIs, presented at the Guild's Pharmacy Industry Roadshow last month, estimated that it would generate savings of \$297.2 million over a 10-year period.

RACF research

ALMOST \$1 million in funding has been secured for a project which aims to show how "sophisticated and user-friendly IT systems can improve medication management" in residential aged care facilities (RACFs).

Researchers from six universities, led by Johanna Westbrook, Director of the Centre for Health Systems and Safety Research at the Australian Institute of Health Innovation at Macquarie University, will work with the BESTMED system used in over 500 RACFs as well as pharmacists and GPs caring for over 58,000 older people.

The project aims to show how data can help improve medication management by reducing staff workloads, providing real-time information to residents and their families, and supporting and guiding decision-making.

5-IN-1 ANTI-INFLAMMATORY BLEND

GOLDEN CHLORELLA

A rich source of Vitamins A, B, C, D + E, iron, omega-3 and fibre



BLACK PEPPER

A natural antioxidant that promotes well-being and also supports healthy digestive activity



GINGER

Another natural superfood. Ginger is an anti-inflammatory, digestive aid, circulatory stimulant and immune support all-in-one

CINNAMON

A natural warm tasting spice that also helps promote circulation throughout our bodies



TURMERIC

Nature's inflammation-fighting superfood. A therapeutic 200mg dose of highly bioavailable curcumin per serve to help fight symptoms of inflammation



AVAILABLE FROM SYMBION AND API OR TALK TO YOUR PHARMABROKER SALES REPRESENTATIVE

melrosehealth.com.au | melrosehealth

melrose





Click here to follow Pharmacy Daily on Twitter



AbbVie appoints

NATHALIE McNeil has been promoted to be the new Vice President and General Manager of AbbVie Australia and New Zealand.

McNeil moves across to AbbVie from her former leadership role at Allergan where she became General Manager ANZ in 2019, prior to its integration with AbbVie.

She replaces AbbVie's former local chief Chris Stemple who has been promoted to a Europe-based regional role.

Stemple will step down as Deputy Chair of Medicines Australia (MA), while McNeil has signalled her intention to nominate for the MA Board election, in which voting kicks off next Mon.

Non-practising rego numbers rising

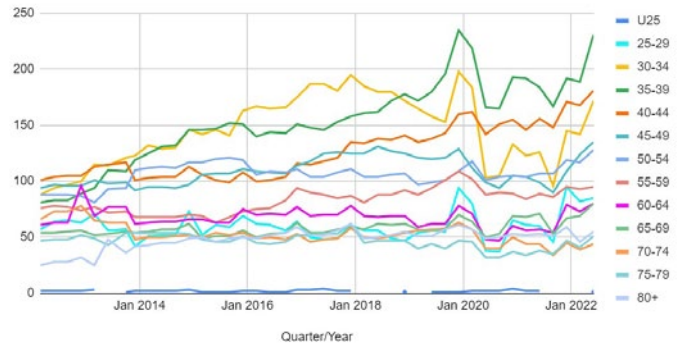
DATA from the Pharmacy Board of Australia shows the number of pharmacists holding non-practising registration is approaching an all-time high, with increases across all age groups.

Figures for the Jun quarter revealed 1,338 pharmacists have opted to hold non-practising registration - 16 less than the record high in Dec 2019 - accounting for 3.8% of all registered pharmacists.

The new data reported in the latest Board newsletter, showed that close to 37% of non-practising pharmacists were under 40 years of age, with the 35 to 39 years age group reporting the sharpest increase.

A further 23.6% of non-practising registration holders are aged 40 to 49 years.

Pharmacy Board of Australia registration - non-practising by age group.



Female pharmacists who accounted for 67% of all registered pharmacists in Jun, represented 64.5% of non-practising pharmacists, a 0.2% increase compared with the Mar data. The rise in the number of

pharmacists opting to hold non-practising registration is reflected in the decline in general registration holders across all age brackets, with the exception of 40 to 44-year-olds, which saw numbers climb by six in Jun compared with the Mar data.

Costco launches into NZ pharmacy

AMERICAN "big-box" membership-based retailer Costco Wholesale has opened a new facility in Auckland's Westgate, featuring an in-store pharmacy along with optical and hearing aid departments.

It is the first Costco in New Zealand and the 829th worldwide, and the pharmacy operation is a contrast to the brand's 13 Australian stores which do not offer pharmacy services due to location rules.

Costco regional chief Patrick Noone told the *NZ Herald* "it's easier here to operate a pharmacy".

"We have pharmacies in North America, Sweden, Canada and other countries but not Australia."

Costco members are not charged dispensing fees for prescriptions at the new NZ in-store pharmacy, which employs two pharmacists alongside about 330 other staff working at the warehouse.

The Costco NZ website urges customers to "stop by the pharmacy to fill your scripts and get helpful advice from our qualified pharmacists...get amazing value on a range of prescription medicines as well as over-the-counter staples".

UK RPS pharmacy technician proposal

BRITAIN'S Royal Pharmaceutical Society (RPS) has revealed aspirations to expand its membership eligibility to encompass pharmacy technicians alongside pharmacists.

The organisation said the move would be "a more unified approach to pharmacy leadership," according to UK trade publication *C+D*.

Forming a single body would "amplify pharmacy's collective professional voice to employers, other professionals and governments," the RPS wrote in a submission to the UK Commission on Pharmacy

Professional Leadership.

"Being represented by one body would allow both professions to capitalise on their strengths and ultimately achieve parity in opportunity, as well as improving pharmacy practice and patient care," the Society said.

RPS CEO Paul Bennett admitted that the "ambitious vision" would be a significant evolution of the current arrangements, with widespread consultation with members required as well as a potential change to the organisation's Royal Charter.

"We are open to this," Bennett added.

DRAW THE LINE...

when it comes to Hayfever & Allergy relief



Affordable, quality healthcare supporting Australian families

Always read the label and follow the directions for use.

The APOTEX trademark is under license. Apotex Pty Ltd Macquarie Park NSW 2113. ABN 52 096 916 148. Copyright © CONSUMER-000779. August 2022. All rights reserved.

www.apohealth.com.au

Dispensary Corner

PHARMACIST-TURNED-MOVIE Director, Tarun Verma, is mixing his passion for cinematography with his knowledge of medication to produce his debut feature, *Conception*.

Having previously flirted with short movies, the Texan pharmacist's new release focuses on the story of a couple struggling to conceive.

Leaning on his healthcare background, Verma's lead characters undergo intrauterine insemination and in vitro fertilisation (IVF), and the emotional side effects these procedures can have, in an effort to start their family.

"The women are pumped with hormones, and it affects you, it affects the way you think, it affects the way you feel," Verma said.

"The man's body is perfectly healthy, the woman's body is perfectly healthy, but for some reason, call it destiny, they can't have a kid together."

Conception will be streamed on-demand on various platforms from 11 Oct.



Pharmacists need positive mind set

PHARMACISTS are being urged to look for positives in challenging situations to drive themselves forward, Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) National President, Dr Fei Sim said.

Speaking on the latest episode of Raven's Recruitment's *Your Pharmacy Career* podcast, Sim noted that pharmacists have faced turbulent experiences throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

"I am very aware of how burnt out our profession is at the moment," she said.

"We've been in COVID for the past two-and-a-half years and not only have we been impacted by COVID ourselves, we have had to put forward a very strong front and continue to practise to service the community."

While Sim acknowledged that the issues pharmacists have had to tackle have been difficult, she stressed people should not hope to avoid challenges in their careers.

"What we should be working towards is to be able to go through and overcome challenges," she said.



"What separates someone who is successful from someone who may not be, is the ability to see the positive and opportunity in every challenging situation.

"I've been quite lucky in my whole career that I've had very supportive mentors around me, who helped guide me and shared their wisdom and experience.

"One of my mentors said to me, 'Fei, in every challenging situation there is always a silver lining - there is always something positive to come out of it'.

New cervical cancer screening toolkit

THE Department of Health and Ageing has launched a new Cervical Screening Communications Toolkit, with the aim of helping health practitioners to spread the word about the importance of regular screening to help protect against cervical cancer.

"More than 70% of Australians who develop cervical cancer have never had a cervical screening test, or not regularly," the Department noted, with the new toolkit containing a host of resources including social media

and other marketing collateral.

There are also training modules to help practitioners understand barriers to screening, learn useful strategies to engage patients, and details of screening options including clinician collection of samples as well as a new "self-collect" option.

The National Cervical Screening Program recommends cervical screening for women aged 25-74 years whether HPV vaccinated or unvaccinated.

For full details of the toolkit and resources see health.gov.au.

"I reflected on that, and thought that is very true, because sometimes when we're in a very challenging situation - right now we might feel like we're so burnt out we don't know where we are in our career - there is always something good that can come out of it.

"If we can have the ability to see and extract the positives in every situation then that's going to make us better, because that's going to help us advance in our career."



Transform your Pharmacy

Dream It | Design It | Make It Happen

We design spaces which reflect the way you work, and create efficiencies throughout your pharmacy with particular emphasis on dispensary operations.

pharmacium.com.au
+613 9429 9244

PHARMACIUM 

find out how we can help

Innovation in the heart of every local community



TerryWhite Chemmart is driving pharmacy forwards.

- Through eScripts, eCommerce, click & collect, delivery, digital receipts and health alerts, your customer will always be able to shop 'their way'
- Simple and accessible booking systems using the number one Health Engine platform to guarantee a seamless and hassle-free customer experience
- The TerryWhite Chemmart iHUB™ is a sophisticated data engine that empowers you to make better business decisions and improve your bottom line
- Coming soon, myTWC is a digital health platform that will help develop a deeper relationship with your customers, delivering higher lifetime value

Want to grow your business? Call today:

NETWORK DEVELOPMENT

Richard Jensch	(QLD) – 0401 560 712
Gary Flynn	(SA/NT) – 0488 223 155
Fiona McKenzie	(NSW) – 0437 599 920
Peter O'Brien	(VIC/TAS) – 0427 352 902
Rebecca Wall	(WA) – 0477 538 865

realchemistry.com.au



that's *real* chemistry