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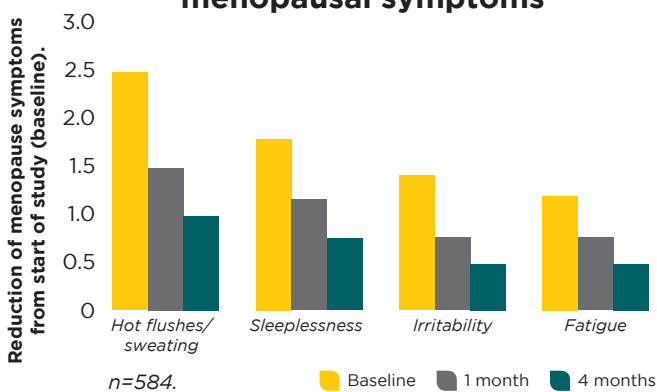
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 References: 1. Lopatka L et al, Journal of Menopause 2007; 2:16-21. 2. Schellenberg et al, Evidence-Based Comp and Alternative Med 2012. Funded by Max Zeller Soehne AG. 3. Drewe J et al, Phytomedicine 2013; 20:659-666. Funded by Max Zeller Soehne AG. 4. IQVIA, national sales data Switzerland, sell-in (Pharmacy, Drugstore, Self-dispensing Doctors), turnover (ex-factory) in CHF, MAT June 2021.

Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features four pages of news, a cover page from **Flordis** plus a full pages from **Willach** and **TerryWhite Chemmart**.

Take back control

HELP patients experiencing menopausal symptoms take back control with **Flordis' Femular**.

See **cover page** for more

CONSIS choice

TAKING an evidence-based approach to dispensary automation, **Willach's CONSIS** range offers robotic solutions to fit individual pharmacies' unique needs.

Willach also provides practical and easy to use software.

For more info **page five**.

Vaccine leader

AUSTRALIA'S largest and fastest growing network of vaccinating pharmacies, **TerryWhite Chemmart (TWC)**, offers members robust marketing campaigns and exclusive vaccination programs to drive customer footfall.

The support means pharmacy teams can spend more time focused on their patients, knowing they have the support of **TWC** behind them.

See **page six** for details.

Pharmacist prescribing now critical

PHARMACISTS across Australia should be empowered to prescribe medications to ensure patients retain access to primary care services, as the country grapples with a shortage of GPs, Pharmacy Guild of Australia Western Australian Branch President, Andrew Ngeow, believes.

In an opinion piece published in *The West Australian* on Sat, Ngeow noted that WA has the lowest number of GPs of any mainland state, and that one-in-three people in the State are unable to access urgent GP care within 24 hours.

"This week alone, Federal Minister for Health and Aged Care Mark Butler said he is terrified at the small number of young doctors, junior medical graduates who are choosing general practice as a career," he said.

"So bad is the situation, that the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Australia's largest representative body for GPs, recently held a General Practice Crisis Summit after having identified that, as their workforce ages, 25% of Australia's current GPs intend on retiring within the next five years.

"Given all this, and the likelihood that it will be even more difficult to access a GP into the future, there is a critical and urgent need to act and act now.

"We must use our trained health workforce at their full capacity, their 'top of scope' to deliver more services to patients."

In a separate statement issued today, Ngeow praised Queensland Health Minister, Yvette D'Ath, for giving the North Queensland



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Pharmacy Scope of Practice Pilot (NQPSPP) the green light last week (**PD 13 Oct**).

"This is a significant step forward, and better aligns us with international patient care models," Ngeow said.

"Pharmacy prescribing is an effective mechanism which is already utilised in countries

including Canada, New Zealand and the UK.

"I'm absolutely confident that the NQPSPP will demonstrate the benefits of the better utilisation of pharmacists in the provision of primary healthcare."

He added that pharmacist prescribing was not about replacing GPs, but providing patient choice.



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Reference: 1. Spada F et al. *Dermatol Ther* 2021;34(4):e14970. (n=100) Study sponsored by Ego Pharmaceuticals Pty Ltd. **EGO PHARMACEUTICALS PTY LTD**, 21-31 Malcolm Road, Braeside, 3195, Australia. Australia Ph: +61 3 9586 8800 | Toll free 1800 033 706. Date of Preparation: 06/22.

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Pay rates rising in race for top talent

SKILLS shortages are driving pharmacists' pay rates up, as pharmacy owners compete to attract available talent, Raven's Recruitment's *The Pharmacy Salary and Market Report 2022* reveals.

Raven's Recruitment General Manager, Heidi Dariz, said the current staff shortages in the pharmacy sector were "at a level unmatched in Raven's Recruitment's 35 year history".

Dariz noted that despite hospital and retail pharmacists being listed on the Priority Migration Skilled Occupation List last year, COVID-19-induced border closures meant this "has done little to ease the current shortages in the pharmacy workforce.

The report, now in its fifth year, found that full-time employee pharmacists in regional and rural locations across the country earn annual salaries of between \$90,000 to \$130,000.

When it comes to the capitals,

Canberra-based pharmacies offer the highest salaries, ranging from \$88,000 to \$105,000, while pharmacists looking for permanent roles in Perth should set their sights a little lower, with rates of \$82,000 to \$94,000 being offered.

Pharmacists in charge can earn up to \$165,000 a year in regional Queensland and the Northern Territory, while pharmacy owners based outside the major metro areas of South Australia and Western Australian expect salaries ranging from \$110,000 to \$153,000.

Regional Queensland and the NT also offer the top rates for pharmacy managers, with rates from \$125,000 to \$195,000.

"Continued shortages in finding pharmacists for permanent roles, combined with recent international border restrictions easing and travel an option again have made locum pharmacists more in demand than ever," Dariz said.

"Pay rates have increased



significantly, with hourly rates for locums who are available at short notice in some instances doubling over the last 12 months"

Locums are now seeing hourly weekday rates of \$65 to \$75 an hour in capital cities, and \$75 to \$95 in regional and rural areas, plus accommodation and travel expenses, while emergency locum placements are paying between \$80 and \$110 per hour, depending on location.

Albury life saver

PURCHASING a defibrillator for her pharmacy has proven to be a life-saving decision three times in the past 12 months, for Albury Amcal Pharmacy's Amanda Ward.

"It's pretty unbelievable, in 20 years in pharmacy I'd never used one until the last 12 months," she said.

"Then I've used it three times, once in-store, once just outside my store, and one in the optometry practice down the road."



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Krammer, H et al. *Zeitschrift Für Gastroenterologie*. 2021;59(2):125–34. Funded by Microbiotica GmbH.





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Sanofi's targets net-zero by 2050

PHARMACEUTICAL firm, Sanofi Australia, is set to double the size of the 'solar farm' at the company's facility in Brisbane, as it moves towards carbon neutrality.

Unveiling the site's first 1,500 rooftop solar panels Sanofi Australian and New Zealand Country Lead, Karen Hood, said the plan to add a further 1,500 panels at the Brisbane plant was "critical" to the company's global goal to be carbon neutral by 2030.

"As a global healthcare company, we recognise that climate change presents one of the greatest challenges of our age and that environmental action, taken by everyone, is a key to protecting the health of people worldwide," she said.

"Globally we are committed to achieving carbon neutrality by 2030 and net-zero by 2050 across all scopes.

"We have started a number of major programs to deliver on these commitments including switching to renewable energy across all global operations.

"Locally, our solar panel program in Brisbane is a proud part of this critical journey."

Once complete Sanofi's Brisbane facility is expected to generate 2GWh of electricity, which is more than 25% of its annual electricity use, while saving approximately 1,400 tonnes of carbon dioxide.

Qld PotY Award for 'Lucky' Zeniou

INSTITUTE for Urban Indigenous Health (IUIH) Senior Pharmacist, Laris 'Lucky' Zeniou, has taken the 2022 Pharmaceutical Society of Australia's (PSA's) Queensland Pharmacist of the Year (PotY) Award.

Zeniou was presented with the title at the Queensland Annual Therapeutic Update (ATU) on Sat by PSA Queensland Branch Vice President, Karla Wright.

The PSA lauded Zeniou's work with Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations (ACCHOs) throughout the state, liaising with community and hospital pharmacies to encourage quality use of medicines initiatives through collaboration and improved cultural safety.

Brisbane South Palliative Care Collaborative's (BSPCC's) Project Pharmacist, Elisha Noone, was named as the PSA Queensland Branch's Early Career Pharmacist crown.

In her role at the BSPCC Noone works on the PalliPHARM initiative, which ensures community palliative patients have timely access to anticipatory medicines.

She also provides palliative care advice to doctors, nurse practitioners and pharmacists through the PallConsult hotline, and has supported the Queensland state-wide Voluntary Assisted Dying services.

The 2022 PSA Queensland Lifetime Achievement Award went to Carmel Delahunty, who has contributed to pharmacy education in the state over the course of her 46-year career.

James Cook University's Renee Buckland took out the 2022 Professor James Dare Queensland Pharmacy Graduate of the Year Award for her outstanding commitment to pharmacy and her promising career in the sector.

"These pharmacists have gone



above and beyond to demonstrate their leadership and commitment to the health and wellbeing of their communities," Wright said.

"PSA is proud to be celebrating all that makes Queensland pharmacists great.

"The 2022 QLD ATU has demonstrated the commitment and dedication of our profession, bringing together pharmacists from around Queensland to collaborate and celebrate our many successes."

Intern workplace assessment webinars

THE Australian Pharmacy Council will host two webinars to provide information for interns and preceptors about new intern workplace-based assessment tools, and how to support learning.

The sessions will be hosted by the University of Newcastle School of Biomedical Sciences and Pharmacy's Senior Lecturer, Dr Hayley Croft, on 09 Nov and 17 Nov.

The webinars will provide preceptors with advice about

how they can give interns better feedback, and help them to consolidate learning and transition to competent future pharmacists.

Interns will gain access to tips on how to develop a good relationship with their preceptor and how they can take control of their learning.

From Jan 2023, all Intern Training Programs will incorporate workplace based assessment tools as part of the requirement for completion of their program.

UTI Rx training

QUEENSLAND-BASED pharmacists have until 01 Nov to take advantage of the Australasian College of Pharmacy's complimentary urinary tract infection (UTI) training.

Under the Queensland Government's Extended Practice Authority pharmacists are required to complete appropriate training before being approved to prescribed UTI treatments.

CLICK HERE for more.

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Dispensary Corner

BRITISH Health Secretary, Therese Coffey, is taking some heat off her embattled Prime Minister, Liz Truss, and drawing the ire of health professionals.

Coffey, who is Britain's newly appointed Deputy Prime Minister, has been accused of "monumental stupidity" after it emerged that she told civil servants that she had given leftover antibiotics to a friend who was feeling unwell.

British Medical Association GP Committee member, Dr Richard van Mellaerts, told *The Guardian* that Coffey's approach to medicines use contrasted with authorities' policies to combat antimicrobial resistance.

"Sharing prescribed medications, particularly antibiotics, is not only potentially dangerous, but also against the law," he said.

"We would ask our Health Secretary to instead support us in encouraging good and safe prescribing.

"Antibiotics are a precious resource and should be prescribed only when absolutely necessary.

"Overusing antibiotics risks making them less effective, and makes some infections increasingly difficult to treat, which can then actually increase pressure on the health service as patients remain unwell."

Coffey's actions have temporarily drawn media scorn away from Truss's turbulent first few weeks as Prime Minister, which have been marked by economic concerns and the Pound plunging in value.

Wizard targets growth

WESTERN Australian banner, Wizard Pharmacy, is engaging consultancy firm, EY Strategic Advisors Australia, to assist in acquiring a strategic growth investor to support its expansion across the country.

With a current network of 41 stores in WA, the Northern Territory and South Australia, Wizard's CEO, Lyndon Dyson, is aiming to secure investment to see more than 100 stores nationwide by 2027.

Dyson said the strategy would provide an investor with the opportunity to secure an equity stake in a business he believes will reach a market size of \$26.1 billion by 2028.

"I have really been amazed by the positive industry response to the Wizard information memorandum and have already received many applications for further information," he said.

"Feedback from the industry indicates a significant escalation in the anticipated value of our franchise partners' pharmacies.

"With a strong brand name and market footprint, we have a proven growth model supported by powerful industry tailwinds.

"Our integrated business platform



and full-service model drive our strategy implementation and promote pharmacy growth and profitability, providing best-in-class systems and attractive economics."

Dyson added that securing strategic investment would "directly benefit" franchisees and "the interest they hold in the brand".

"We're excited by the opportunity this next stage presents to significantly increase value, not only for the company and our new investor partner, but also for our individual franchisees," he said.

EY's Strategic Advisor Division is accepting expressions of interest in Wizard's offer until 21 Nov.



Weekly Comment

Welcome to *Pharmacy Daily's* weekly comment feature. This week's contributor is **Amit Saha, M-Pharm, MBA, MPS- Pharmacist and Group Technical Manager, LaCorium Health.**



Common foot fungus - not so innocuous!

The term foot fungus describes superficial fungal infections of the foot. These infections can affect the outer layers of the skin, hair, and nails. Hot and humid environments and restrictive footwear encourage fungal infections. Two of the most common foot fungi infections are tinea pedis and onychomycosis. A fungal infection of the foot typically refers to tinea pedis, also known as athlete's foot or foot ringworm. If a person has a fungal infection of the nail, it is called onychomycosis, which is also known as tinea unguium. Fungal foot infections, although seemingly innocuous, are a common problem particularly in the at-risk foot which can adversely affect tissue viability. A growing body of evidence appears to suggest fungal foot infections is a significant risk factor for the development of lower limb cellulitis. Patients and practitioners are suggested to remain more vigilant in recognition and management of the disease with an effective treatment as well as preventing recurrence. Dermal Therapy, one of the leading foot care brands, offers a range of effective solutions to both athlete's foot and onychomycosis.

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