

## Maintain salt balance with Saltabs

For use where salt replacement is necessary.



Available from Symbion, Sigma, API & CH2

Always read the label and follow the directions for use.

### Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features two pages of news.

### APC turning 40

THE Australian Pharmacy Council (APC) will celebrate its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary next month.

To mark the milestone the APC will reflect on its past and look to the future with a panel discussion featuring Emeritus Professor Lloyd Sansom, Professor Debra Rowett, Associate Professor Sue Kirsas, Associate Professor Kristie Galbraith and Alexander Burke, at the National Film and Sound Archive of Australia in Canberra, on 21 Nov.

**CLICK HERE** to reserve a seat at the free event.

## PBS Co-payment cuts pass into law

**LEGISLATION** cutting the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) General Co-payment from \$42.50 to \$30, will come into effect from 01 Jan 2023, after passing through the Federal Senate today.

The National Health Amendment (General Co-payment) Bill 2022 received cross-party support through both the House of Representatives (**PD 29 Sep**) and the Senate.

Minister for Health, Mark Butler, noted the legislation marked the first time in the 75-year history of the PBS that the maximum cost of prescriptions funded by the program would fall.

"Pharmacists tell me stories of their customers coming in with a handful of prescriptions asking for advice about which script they can go without, because they can't

afford to fill them all," he said.

"Our delivery of cheaper medicines will make that choice redundant for millions of Australians."

Pharmacy Guild of Australia National President, Trent Twomey, said the co-payment cut was an important first step in returning the universality of access to medicines across the country.

"We heard the cry from families struggling to meet the costs of medicines that something needed to be done," he said.

"I'd like to thank the Australian Parliament for recognising the importance of making medicines more affordable for Australians.

"I'd also like to thank the almost 6,000 pharmacies across Australia, who through the Guild have told our politicians of families paying



for multiple medicines, having to choose which medicines they could afford.

"We look forward to continuing our work with the Government on further reducing the co-payment to \$19."



**Become a diabetes educator and help people living with diabetes, and their families, to manage their condition and prevent complications.**

Join us in 2023, study a Graduate Certificate in Diabetes Education and Management.

[Click here to find out more](#)

UTS CRICOS 00099F  
40223 October 2022

### Tribunal finds Ibrahim 'unfit to practice'

**DISGRACED** pharmacist, Hany Samir Ibrahim, will be unable to renew his professional registration for at least two years, after being found "unfit to practice" by the Civil and Administrative Tribunal of NSW.

Ibrahim was convicted of sexually assaulting a patient who presented at the pharmacy he was working in requesting emergency contraception, and was sentenced to up to two years behind bars, with a non-parole period of nine months, in May 2021 (**PD 12 May 2021**).

The Health Care Complaints

Commission (HCCC) initiated proceedings against Ibrahim in Mar, lodging complaints relating to his conviction and his failure to notify the Pharmacy Board of Australia within seven days of being charged on counts of sexual assault.

The Tribunal cancelled Ibrahim's registration as a pharmacist, ruling that a review on the order cancelling his registration cannot be made for a period of two years from 26 Oct, and ordering him to pay the costs of the HCCC's action against him.

**Talking mental health with young people**  
Free online CPD course

**Start now ▶**

**NPS MEDICINEWISE**

### Ultra Nature Selancy

Optimal health for Mum and Baby

#### Advantages of Selancy...

- ✓ Contains Omega-3 (DHA + EPA)
- ✓ Lower Folic Acid (500mcg) – Perfect for Pre-Conception, Pregnancy & Breastfeeding
- ✓ A true 1-a-day Gel Liquid Capsule
  - Easier to swallow
  - Absorbed faster
- ✓ 100% Australian Made & Owned
- ✓ Very Healthy Margin (> 30%)




Get up to **12.5% OFF\***  
Ask us how!

**Selancy**

**ORDER NOW**




\*Terms and conditions apply



**2022 AMH CHILDREN'S DOSING COMPANION IN BOOK OR ONLINE. ORDER NOW.**

To find out more go to [www.amh.net.au](http://www.amh.net.au)



## Dispensary Corner

**'HAVE a shower,'** villagers in Iran's province of Fars, told 94-year-old Amou Haji, who had not bathed in more than 50 years, fearing soap and water would make him sick.

While *Dispensary Corner* cannot confirm that they didn't add 'it won't hurt you', it is safe to assume that most people would have considered his rationale a little off - surely a good scrub would only improve Haji's wellbeing?

*Islamic Republic News Agency* reported that Haji's skin was covered in "soot and pus" due to his reluctance to wash, and that his diet consisted of rotten meat (usually roadkill) and that he drank unsanitary water from an old oil can, which would cause lesser men to keel over.

However, after recently breaking his decades-long resistance to personal grooming and succumbing to peer-pressure to wash, Haji fell ill and passed away on Sun.

Despite Haji's long life and shower-free ways, the *PD* team will continue to wash.

## Full scope opportunity

**FINDINGS** from the Tasmanian Legislative Council Government Administration 'A' Sub-Committee inquiring into Rural Health Services Final Report, highlight the potential for pharmacists to work to their full scope of practice, Pharmacy Guild of Australia Tasmanian Branch President, Helen O'Byrne, believes.

The report found barriers to accessing health care across rural and regional Tasmania were "many" and included people living in low socio-economic circumstances, low levels of health and digital literacy, and the costs associated with access to health services including transport and technology costs.

O'Byrne noted that the report highlighted the potential for all healthcare practitioners to work to their full scope of practice.

"Pharmacists, if enabled through full scope of practice, could play a huge role in the ongoing management of many health conditions for people across Tasmania", she said.

"We only have to look to Queensland to see the positive role pharmacists have played in diagnosing and treating uncomplicated urinary tract infections, with over 10,000



women treated over the past two-and-a-half years."

O'Byrne urged the Tasmanian Government to reinstate the full list of Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) medications that pharmacists can dispense while waiting for a prescription, as they were during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, to improve access to medicines for patients who are unable to see their GP in time to get a renewal.

"The option for a pharmacist to provide one full supply - generally one month - of a person's regular medication is better than the person going without and potentially having an adverse event and ending up in hospital," she said.

## EBOS growth

**GROWTH** in the community pharmacy sector has been a key highlight for Symbion's parent company EBOS during the 2022 financial year.

Addressing the company's 100th annual general meeting today, EBOS CEO, John Cullity, reported that the firm's healthcare segment had generated revenue growth of 17.1% compared to FY21.

"This performance was driven by strong organic growth across pharmacy wholesale, TerryWhite Chemmart (TWC), medical consumables distribution and our contract logistics businesses, supplemented by the completion of five acquisitions," he said.

"Our TWC business achieved a significant milestone, adding 51 stores to exceed 500 total stores in the network, reinforcing its leading position in community pharmacy.

"Additionally, the TWC pharmacy network has been responsible for delivering approximately 20% of all Australian community pharmacy-administered COVID-19 and flu vaccinations."



**Your trusted partner in healthcare**

For a tailor-made solution for your business, think Symbion.

Find out more at [symbion.com.au](http://symbion.com.au)






[www.pharmacydaily.com.au](http://www.pharmacydaily.com.au)

*Pharmacy Daily* is part of the Business Publishing Group family of publications.

*Pharmacy Daily* is Australia's favourite pharmacy industry publication.

**EDITORIAL**  
**Editor in Chief and Publisher** – Bruce Piper  
**Editor** – Nicholas O'Donoghue  
**Contributors** – Adam Bishop, Myles Stedman, Janie Medbury  
[info@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:info@pharmacydaily.com.au)

**ADVERTISING AND MARKETING**  
 Sean Harrigan, Hoda Alzubaidi  
[advertising@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:advertising@pharmacydaily.com.au)

**BUSINESS MANAGER**  
 Jenny Piper  
[accounts@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:accounts@pharmacydaily.com.au)

Suite 1, Level 2, 64 Talavera Rd  
 Macquarie Park NSW 2113 Australia  
 PO Box 1010 Epping NSW 1710 Australia  
 Tel: 1300 799 220 (+61 2 8007 6760)

Sign up free at [www.pharmacydaily.com.au](http://www.pharmacydaily.com.au)



**CRUISE WEEKLY**

Travel & Cruise Weekly



business events news

Pharmacy Daily is a publication of Pharmacy Daily Pty Ltd ABN 97 124 094 604. All content fully protected by copyright. Please obtain written permission to reproduce any material. While every care has been taken in the preparation of the newsletter no liability can be accepted for errors or omissions. Information is published in good faith to stimulate independent investigation of the matters canvassed. Responsibility for editorial comment is taken by Bruce Piper.