

Your local Pharmacist, *our hero*

On 25 September, World Pharmacists' Day, we want to celebrate all the frontline Pharmacists working so hard to keep Aussies healthy and safe.

Become a part of our tribe with Priceline Pharmacy's internship program. From nurturing your first connections with patients to cheering you on as you open your first pharmacy, we want to support you every step of the way.

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Priceline interns

PHARMACY graduates are being invited to sign up to the Priceline Pharmacy Internship program as the group marks World Pharmacists' Day this Sun, 25 Sep.

The internship gives new graduates the opportunity to work alongside Priceline's local heroes in white coats and gain valuable experience.

See today's cover page for more information.

Pharmacists' rego fees on the rise

PHARMACISTS' registration fees for the 2022/23 year are on the rise, while five other Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) regulated professions have seen fees frozen and the fees for chiropractors has been slashed by 15%.

The new fee of \$439 represents a 1.4% increase (\$6) on the 2021/22 rate, while pharmacists whose principle place of practice is NSW, will see their renewal costs rise by \$11 to \$518, with \$79 going to the Pharmacy Council of NSW (up from \$74 last year).

Announcing the updated registration fees, Pharmacy Board of Australia Chair, Brett Simmonds, said the regulator was committed to keeping them as low as possible.

However, he noted that the fees were needed to fund the work of AHPRA and the Board to keep the public safe.

While the pharmacy profession is facing a modest below indexation increase in fees, doctors, radiologists, occupational therapists, optometrists, and osteopaths will see their fees rise in line with indexation, while physiotherapists are facing a "corrective increase" of 18%.



"The National Registration and Accreditation Scheme operates on a cost-recovery basis, with each Board meeting the full costs for the professions they regulate," AHPRA said.

"There should not be cross-subsidisation between professions or jurisdictions.

"In 2022/23 we are introducing a new model for allocating costs for each Board which considers the

complexity, volume, and time to manage the regulatory activity for each profession, together with the costs of shared services across the professions.

"The new model reflects access to more detailed data and is designed to ensure costs for regulating each profession are appropriately recovered, target equity levels are maintained to ensure sufficient funds for future activity, and the risk of cross-subsidisation minimised."

Viatrix is rebranding. All packaging will soon feature the Viatrix logo



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Click here to learn more.



Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features two pages of news, plus a front cover from API and a full page from Direct Chemist Outlet.

Interested in an *internship* with Priceline Pharmacy? We don't view interns as provisional employees.

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priceline.com.au/pharmacist-internship-program



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Clinicians the second victims of errors

GREATER support needs to be given to health practitioners in the wake of medication errors, Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia (SHPA) Medication Safety Leadership Committee member, Kerry Fitzsimons, believes.

In a statement issued to mark the 2022 World Health Organization's Patient Safety Day, earlier this week, Fitzsimons noted that it was important to "highlight the need to care for all people who are impacted by mistakes and errors, especially if they result in patient harm".

"Too often I have heard, 'who would make such a mistake?', or 'that doctor/nurse/pharmacist should not be working as they make mistakes', or 'this incident has been the result of someone not concentrating properly', resulting in labelling the health professional at the centre of the incident as incompetent and to blame for the error," she said.

"At the time the incident occurs,

there may be no recognition of something going wrong.

"It is only after the patient suffers complications as a result of the medication error, that there is a realisation of failure and guilt in response to being part of the cause.

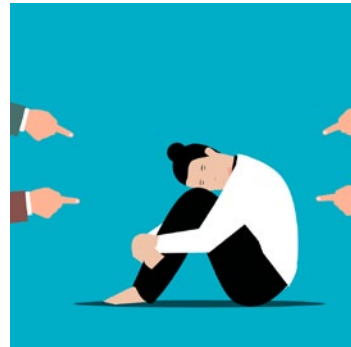
"The main victims of medication errors are the patients and their families.

"The second victim - the health care worker - may have a curtain of blame from their organisation and peers which can cause the person(s) involved psychological harm, guilt, and a significant emotional toll.

"After making an error an intense period of professional and personal anguish may follow, even among the 'strongest' caregivers.

"The impact can be devastating, and some instances result in loss of career or even loss of life.

"It is important to raise awareness of the second victim phenomenon and ensure a proactive response in supporting health professionals



involved with medication incidents.

"Promotion of a 'Just Culture' versus a 'Blame Culture' environment will help promote clinician healing and recovery from the second victim experience.

"The promotion of healthcare workers' wellbeing improves staff morale, leads to fewer medical errors, and is critical in protecting and supporting future clinicians from emotional trauma experienced after unanticipated clinical events."

HPOS reminder

SERVICES Australia is reminding pharmacy owners that from 01 Oct it is only possible to order PBS stationery through the HPOS (Health Professional Online Services) platform.

Before ordering, pharmacies must ensure they have linked their Pharmacy Approval Number to HPOS for PBS Online services.

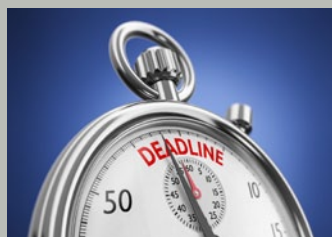
Pharmacies which have only linked to HPOS using their Australian Immunisation Register (AIR) Provider Number will get an error message when trying to order stationery.

To make the appropriate connection, select 'Link identifiers' on the HPOS tile in PRODA, select your pharmacy organisation and then add your Pharmacy Approval Number as a new identifier for HPOS - see servicesaustralia.gov.au.

Practitioners opt-in to sub-register

MORE than 1,790 health practitioners, including pharmacists, who rejoined their profession through the COVID-19 Pandemic sub-register have opted to remain on it.

Practitioners who did not opt-in to extend their registration on the sub-register, or apply to transition to the main register prior to midnight on 21 Sep, are no longer eligible to practise, and will have to apply through the standard process, if they wish to



obtain registration in the future.

At the end of Mar a total of 1,888 pharmacists were registered to practise through the sub-register.

Implied vitamins claims prove costly

AUSTRALIAN healthcare brand, JSHealth Vitamins, has been issued two infringement notices totalling \$26,640, by the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA).

The penalties were issued in relation to alleged unlawful use of restricted and prohibited representations in advertising of complementary medicines.

The TGA reported that JSHealth had allegedly included "references and implied claims

relating to serious health conditions including cancer and Alzheimer's disease", in ads.

"These are restricted and prohibited representations that are not permitted to be used in advertising without permission from the TGA, which the company did not have," the regulator said.

Chemist Warehouse recently signed a deal with JSHealth to roll out the brand's full range of vitamins across its stores (*PD* 05 Jul).

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UK plan for pill

BRITAIN'S Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee (PSNC) has flagged the implementation of a new national pharmacy-based contraception service.

The move will extend a pilot scheme launched last year, in which community pharmacies are paid a set-up fee and £18 per consultation for patients who need a repeat of their regular oral contraceptive pill.

Clare Kerr, part of the PSNC negotiating team, said "the service, when pharmacies have capacity to offer it, will be a positive step forward, allowing pharmacies to give people the advice and contraception they need in a more convenient setting," according to UK trade publication *Chemist+Druggist*.

The UK Government estimates the move will make two million more GP appointments available every year.

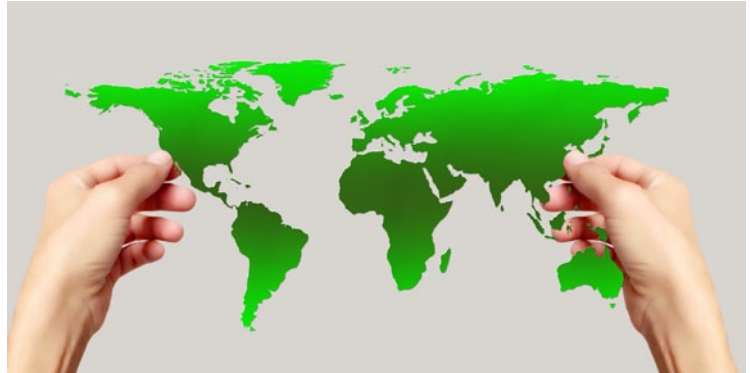
PSA welcomes FIP's return to Oz

THE return of the International Pharmaceutical Federation's (FIP's) World Congress of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, to Australia next year, will provide opportunities for Australian pharmacists, Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) National President, Dr Fei Sim, believes.

The event, which will be co-hosted by the PSA, the Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia (SHPA) and the Australasian Pharmaceutical Science Association in Brisbane from 24 to 28 Sep 2023 (PD 20 Sep), 20 years after the Congress was held in Sydney.

"This will be an opportunity for Australian pharmacists to connect with international pharmacy leaders like never before, right here on our own shores," Sim said.

"The FIP World Congress is well known for being the premier global conference for the pharmacy profession, featuring internationally acclaimed speakers and exciting



social events for pharmacists in a variety of practice settings.

"We are very proud to be working closely with FIP to bring the World Congress to Brisbane, and to showcase the hard work and dedication of Australian pharmacists to the world."

Sim noted that 2023 Congress would also mark the start of former Pharmacy Guild of Australia National Vice President, Paul Sinclair's term as FIP President (PD

19 Sep).

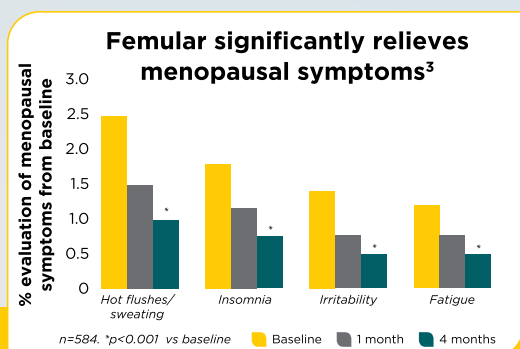
"To be able to host the World Congress here in Australia, under the leadership of the first ever Australian President, is a momentous occasion that we are excited to share with pharmacists from around the country," she said.

"We are excited to work with Paul and the FIP team to strengthen our international engagement and make a global impact."



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Dispensary Corner

SOCIAL media is responsible for yet another wacky health idea, with the US Food and Drug Administration this week forced to issue a statement warning consumers not to cook chicken in cough mixture.

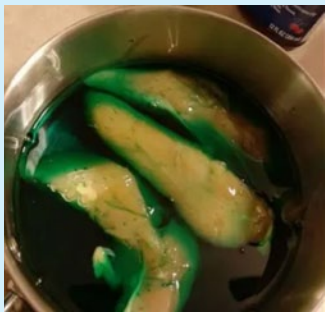
Yes, apparently that's a real thing, after a spate of videos posted on TikTok (pictured) claiming the health benefits of so-called "sleepy chicken" in which the meat is marinated in NyQuil cold and flu mixture.

"A recent social media video challenge encourages people to cook chicken in NyQuil (acetaminophen, dextromethorphan and doxylamine) or another similar OTC cough and cold medication, presumably to eat," the FDA update noted.

"The challenge sounds silly and unappetising - and it is...but it could also be very unsafe," the regulator warned.

"Boiling a medication can make it much more concentrated and change its properties in other ways.

"Even if you don't eat the chicken, inhaling the medication's vapours while cooking could cause high levels of the drugs to enter your body."



APC welcomes Aussie FIP President

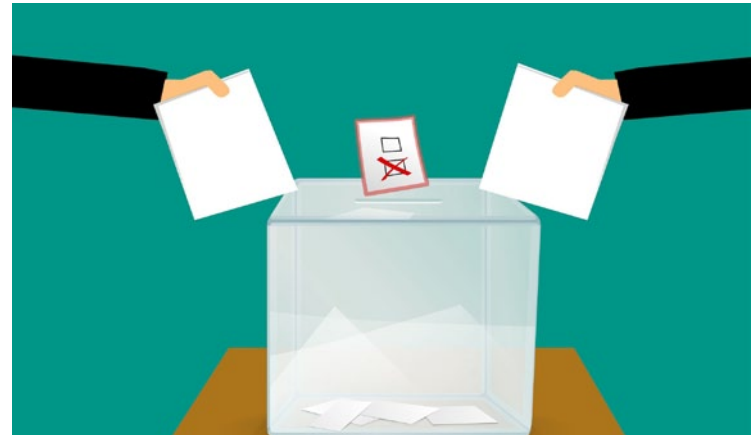
AUSTRALIAN pharmacy will enjoy a higher profile following the election of former Pharmacy Guild of Australia National Vice President, Paul Sinclair, as the International Pharmaceutical Federation's (FIP's) next President, Australian Pharmacy Council (APC) CEO, Bronwyn Clark, believes.

Clark, who was appointed Chair of the FIP Consortium at the FIP World Congress of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences in Seville, Spain, earlier this week, welcomed Sinclair's election.

"This is a fantastic opportunity for Australia and the Australian pharmacy environment," she said.

"We're thrilled to see Paul's leadership further cement our relationship with FIP as part of the world stage.

"His work will no doubt help us



to raise the profile of Australia and highlight our work to advance and assure quality in pharmacy education."

Meanwhile, Sinclair has pledged to "advocate for the pharmacy profession in all its forms, further

advancing pharmacy worldwide, and leaving no one behind", during his four-year term as FIP President.

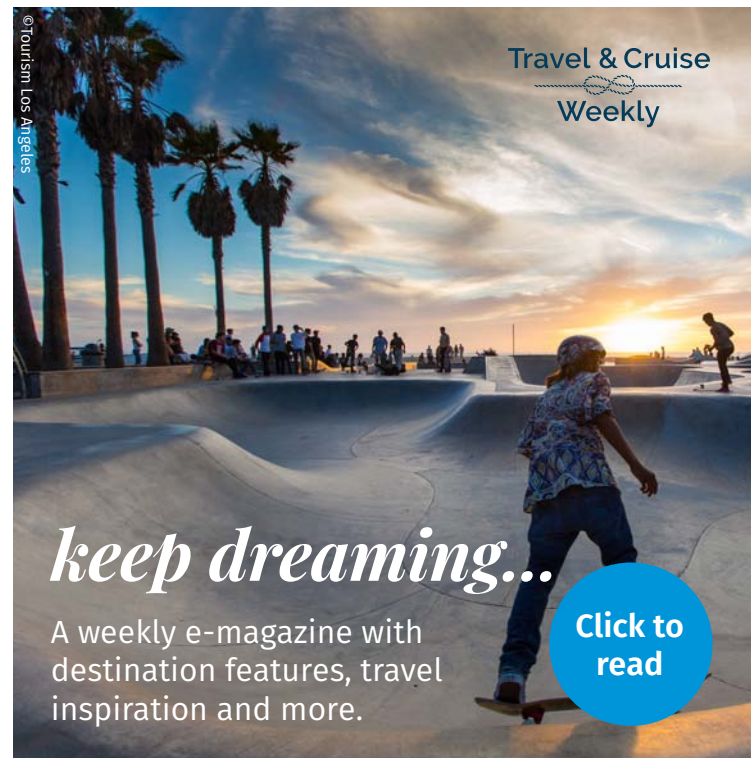
"Our smallest member organisation will always be an important cog in the wheel that drives FIP forward," he said.

Biosimilar tick

THE European Medicines Agency (EMA) has issued a statement confirming that biosimilar medicines approved in the EU are interchangeable with their reference medicine.

While interchangeable use of biosimilars is already practiced in many EMA member states, the joint position harmonises the EU approach.

The EMA has approved 86 biosimilar medicines since 2006, a statement noted, with thorough review and monitoring over the last 15 years confirming that "in terms of efficacy, safety and immunogenicity they are comparable to their reference products and are therefore interchangeable," said EMA Executive Director Emer Cooke.



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