

## Maintain salt balance with Saltabs

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## Bounce buyout



**HEALTH** and wellness supplements company, PharmaCare, has acquired the Bounce brand, (*PD* Breaking News yesterday).

CEO Glenn Cochran said, "this announcement underscores PharmaCare's commitment to grow through local acquisition".

"We have a team of experts in the natural health sector who are putting their collective minds behind the success of the brand to support Bounce customers to achieve a seamless transition of ownership."

Bounce joins PharmaCare's health foods division alongside the Go Natural brand, with a focus on driving continuity with its existing customer network, and reviewing the product range that includes the Bounce Protein Balls.

Bounce is PharmaCare's 28th brand, along with Nature's Way, Sambucol, Bioglan, and more.

## Vic passes legislation

**THE** passage of legislation that enables the Victorian community pharmacist prescribing pilot has been welcomed by the state's Pharmacy Guild branch, which stated that this is an important step towards expanding the role of community pharmacists.

The amendments to the *Drugs, Poisons and Controlled Substances Act 1981* that were passed today by the Victorian Parliament creates the power to legally authorise pharmacists to supply certain prescription medicines to enable the 12-month pharmacist prescribing pilot, said the Guild.

This follows the 2023/24 Victorian State Budget allocation of \$20 million to support the delivery of the Andrews Labor Government's election commitment to a 12-month expanded scope of practice pilot for pharmacists.

Under the pharmacist prescribing pilot, appropriately trained community pharmacists will be able to reissue repeat prescriptions of oral contraceptives, treat minor skin conditions and provide antibiotics for the treatment of uncomplicated urinary tract infections (UTIs).

Pharmacist immunisers participating in the pharmacist prescribing pilot will also be authorised to administer select travel vaccines following the completion of additional training.

Victorian Pharmacy Guild Branch President Anthony Tassone said, "the community pharmacist prescribing pilot will allow community pharmacists to use

their clinical expertise to provide patients with timely and effective treatment for a selection of common health conditions".

"Authorising pharmacists to treat uncomplicated UTIs, skin conditions and issue repeat oral contraceptive prescriptions is a practical step that will help relieve the burden on our overstretched health system and ensure patients have access to the routine healthcare services they need," explained Tassone.

The Victorian pharmacist prescribing pilot would follow a successful UTI pilot in Queensland, which has seen pharmacist treatment of UTIs become a permanent program, and a NSW UTI pharmacy prescribing trial, which began in May.

To participate in the Victorian pharmacist prescribing pilot, community pharmacists will need to complete additional training and will be required to follow clear structured protocols and guidelines for prescribing the medicines, shared Tassone.

The Victorian pharmacist prescribing pilot program is due to commence from Oct this year.

The Pharmacy Guild stated it is among the expert advisory and clinical groups providing guidance to the Victorian gov't on the design and implementation of the pharmacist prescribing pilot.

## Today's issue of *PD*

*Pharmacy Daily* today features two pages of the latest news, plus full pages from:

- Minfos
- FIP - International Pharmaceutical Federation

## Demo available

**MINFOS** is offering pharmacists help from dispensing to front of shop retailing, to make managing a pharmacy business successful.

Request a demo from Minfos, and see more on **page three**.

## Diverse program

**THE** FIP World Congress has a diverse program from digital pharmacy to industrial pharmacy practice, with a specific focus on Australia's community pharmacy.

See more on the **back page**.

## APC exams on

**REGISTRATIONS** are now open for the Australian Pharmacy Council for its CAOP exams, with a closing date of 30 Oct.

For exam related questions and to learn more **CLICK HERE**.

## Stand alone e-scripting tool invented

**TELECARE** has launched its first ever standalone platform in Australia for electronic prescriptions, known as RxPad, **HERE**.

It is built by clinicians for clinicians to replace the conventional methods of paper prescriptions.

According to Telecare's Chief Medical Officer, Dr Chris Sia, with this tool, "doctors no longer have to write up and send out paper prescriptions by snail mail to their patients, cutting down on wait times in obtaining medications from pharmacies".

RxPad will also replace the process of writing up, signing

off and posting out paper prescriptions by streamlining it as a digital work flow, therefore allowing doctors to have a better focus on patient care.

RxPad is compliant with the Australian Digital Health Agency guidelines, and is integrated with MIMS.

The integration aims to ensure that doctors have the latest drug information, minimising errors and ensuring accuracy in prescriptions.

RxPad claims to be cost-efficient, operating on a cloud-based, mobile-friendly platform without any need to log into any practice management software.



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## Dispensary Corner

**RESEARCHERS** analysed almost 700 TikToks uploaded by young people, tagged #Boomer or #OKBoomer, and found that half of the videos had negative stereotypes about older adults.

Videos criticising older adults' values/beliefs, or portraying negative encounters with them, were more likely to feature negative age stereotypes (such as those relating to their appearance, competence, or physical functioning).

Such videos often claim older people have old-fashioned views and are holding back progress.

'Boomer-blaming' videos suggest older people have wrecked the economy, environment, or give examples of them behaving badly towards younger people.

On the other hand, videos portraying older adults as "warm" were 43% less likely to contain negative stereotypes.

Dr Reuben Ng, who led the study from the National University of Singapore, said, "portrayals of older adults in the 1900s were very positive, celebrating older adults as heroes and romantics.

"In the last 50 years, the view of ageing has changed dramatically, and ageism is rife on TikTok, with one in two videos created about older adults found to be disparaging."

Authors of the study say these results show the importance of exposing young people to counter-stereotypical depictions of older adults, and fostering intergenerational solidarity.

## WA Premier to grow role



**THE** Pharmacy Guild's WA Forum held yesterday saw the state's Premier Roger Cook acknowledge that the primary healthcare system needs to adapt in order to cater for changing patient needs.

He acknowledged the important role community pharmacy plays as a part of the primary healthcare system and the desire for a greater role for community pharmacists across the state.

Guild WA Branch President

Andrew Ngeow shared, "the Premier will work with the Pharmacy Guild of Australia WA Branch with the specific commitment of all community pharmacists working at full scope, including autonomous prescribing".

**Pictured** (L-R): Anthony McNuff, Guild WA Branch Director; Roger Cook, WA Premier; Guild WA Branch President, Andrew Ngeow; and Natalie Willis, Guild WA Branch Senior Vice President.

## Liquid metal way

**A LIQUID** metal combination is shaping up as a potential secret weapon in the global fight against antimicrobial resistance, as shown **HERE**.

Scientists from the US and Australia led by Flinders University have developed a simple metallic coating treatment for bandages, medical devices and other surfaces which are capable of resisting and killing bacteria.

"Gallium in its liquid state (GaLM) is one of the most promising candidates to be used as an antimicrobial agent, and can be used in many ways as a liquid metal," said lead author Dr Vi Khanh Truong.

"The liquid state of GaLM is easily combined or functionalised with other components to create various forms of more efficient antimicrobial metals, and is compatible with human cells."

## 'Get dead set' day

**DYING** to Know Day, a national annual campaign that helps Australians live, grieve, and die better, is calling on the Australian Government to fund community-led approaches for end-of-life care.

A presentation at NSW Parliament House on Dying to Know Day next Tue 8 Aug will bring together experts and politicians to showcase new research that demonstrates community-led public health initiatives for end-of-life care.

Australians of all ages and stages of life are being asked to 'get dead set' around the reality of death and dying, **HERE**.

## Entries open for Erica Sainsbury Awards

**THE** Australian Pharmacy Council (APC) is asking pharmacists to nominate or apply for the Dr Erica Sainsbury Awards in two categories.

The Early Career Pharmacy Educator Award recognises innovation and passion in teaching, and placing students first and foremost, **HERE**.

The Pharmacist Supervisor Award recognises attributes & skills invaluable in the training of pharmacy interns for the period of supervised practice, **HERE**.

Applications are to be submitted by COB 5pm AEST, Fri 29 Sep.

The Dr Erica Sainsbury Awards were established to recognise

and reward leaders in pharmacy education and practice.

Sainsbury taught for over 30 years at the School of Pharmacy, University of Sydney, and passed away in Dec 2021.

She helped develop accreditation standards, complete and publish literature reviews, including for improving Indigenous health, wrote examination questions, and produced intern workplace-based assessment tools.

The presentation of the award will be during the APC's annual Emeritus Professor Lloyd Sansom Distinguished Lecture series held in Canberra in Nov each year.



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See the full programme [here!](#)



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