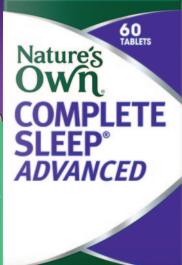
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IOC sport cert

THE International Olympic Committee (IOC) is welcoming applications from pharmacists wanting to qualify for an IOC Certificate in Drugs in Sport.

The six-month postgraduate program starts in Sep, focusing on safe medicines use and doping prevention - for more details see sportsoracle.com.

PSA names 11 new Fellows

THE Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) has recognised 11 new Fellows for their "outstanding and sustained contribution to PSA and the pharmacy profession".

The new PSA Fellows named during the recent PSA23 conference include **Brad Butt** who established Men's Health Down Under in his ACT pharmacy - now the largest men's health pharmacy clinic in Australia; **Arthur Christopoulous**, Monash University Dean of the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences; and **Jeni Diekman** who is a leading member of the PSA Contemporary Community Pharmacy Community of Specialty Interest.

Also on the list of new Fellows is former PSA NSW President Chelsea Felkai who led the organisation through COVID-19; renowned consultant pharmacist Sarah Gillespie; former PSA/NT Branch President Robyn Johns who was instrumental in the SA implementation of Real Time

Prescription Monitoring; and allergy and Western Australian anaphylaxis researcher **Sandra Salter**.

They're joined by Faye McMillan, Australia's first registered Aboriginal pharmacist; compounding software developer and inventor Andrew Sluggett; aged care clinical pharmacy leader Natalie Soulsby from Ward MM; and senior WA pharmacist Andrew Stafford who was the first pharmacist director of Dementia Training Australia and a contributor to the Australian Pharmaceutical Formulary and several key PSA Guidelines.

PSA National President, Dr Fei Sim, congratulated the Fellows for their "significant advancement and achievement in the practice of pharmacy" over the years.

"Each of these pharmacists has made significant contributions to pharmacy, exemplifying the passion of our profession," she said, thanking them for their ongoing service and dedication to improving pharmacy practice and patient care.

Aged care alarm

AGED care residents in Australia may be faced with new costs of at least \$800 per year for medication packing and delivery as a result of the impact on community pharmacies on the proposed 60 day dispensing measures set to start on 01 Sep.

The Pharmacy Guild of Australia issued the grim warning this morning, as part of its ongoing push for a pause to the drastic measures which will have multiple unintended policy consequences.

Almost 190,000 aged care residents nationally currently receive their medications in free Dose Administration Aids which cost pharmacies about \$15 per week per patient.

Aged care facilities will now have to charge patients for the services as a result of the 50% cut in pharmacy dispensing funding, warned Guild National President Trent Twomey.



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¹Koetter U, et al., *Phytopher Res.* 2007;21:847-851. ² Fussel A, et al., *Eur J Med Res.* 2000;5:385-390.

³ Lataster MJ, et al., *Notabene Medici.* 1996;4:182-185.





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Dispensary Corner

AN UNFORTUNATELY timed sewage outflow is being blamed for the sudden illness of almost 60 elite athletes competing in a triathlon in the UK last month.

The swimming event was part of the World Triathlon Championship Series in Sunderland, with the UK Health Security Agency confirming it will be testing samples from those who fell ill with gastric symptoms after taking part.

Sampling conducted three days before the event showed 3,900 E.Coli colonies per 100ml of water collected at Roker Beach near where the competitors swam - almost 40 times readings the prior month.

British Triathlon, which ran the event, said the testing results weren't published until after the competition, and insisted its own testing showed it was safe.

However that was contrary to social media posts by many of the swimmers, one of whom said "that now explains why I spent Monday night with my head in the toilet after racing".

WA says yes to UTI care

WESTERN Australian women suffering from urinary tract infection (UTI) symptoms can now be treated by their local pharmacy, a move which has been welcomed by both the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) and the Pharmacy Guild of Australia.

The state's Health Minister, Health Minister Amber-Jade Sanderson, announced at last week's Pharmacy WA Forum 2023 that registered pharmacists working in community pharmacy, who have completed approved training, are authorised to supply antibiotics for the treatment of uncomplicated UTIs.

Patients must be between the ages of 18 and 65 with anatomical female urinary tract, with symptoms indicative of uncomplicated UTI and meeting all clinical inclusion criteria, in order to be eligible for pharmacy treatment.

The Guild WA Branch President Andrew Ngeow praised the decision, saying "almost three quarters of a million Western Australian women are able to benefit from increased access to primary health care through community pharmacies".

The announcement means Western Australian women won't have to face lengthy waiting times for treatment at their GP, the Guild pointed out.

"Pharmacist Initiated Treatment of Urinary Tract Infection through a community pharmacy will give eligible women across Western Australia access to convenient, safe, and timely treatment options," Ngeow said.

PSA WA President Kristian Ray voiced a similiar sentiment, sharing "pharmacists are well positioned to play a greater role in primary health care and will make UTI treatments more accessible for more West Australians"

"There are hundreds of thousands of women living in Western Australia that will benefit from this policy, particularly in rural and remote WA where there are significant barriers to accessing timely care.

"This program is about improving access to care where it is clinically appropriate, and working with the rest of the primary care team to promote a collaborative care model for Western Australians," she explained.

PSA's Managing Uncomplicated Cystitis (Urinary Tract Infection) training program is now available to all WA pharmacists - more HERE.

AHPRA review

PHARMACISTS are being

invited to have their say on a

review of the national standard

which "sets the bar for criminal

history" for registered health

practitioners in Australia.

The Australian Health

Agency (AHPRA) and the

Pharmacy Board of Australia is

looking at the standard, with

at pharmacyboard.gov.au.

submissions open until 14 Sep

Practitioner Regulation

Weekly Comment

Welcome to Pharmacy Daily's weekly comment feature. This week's contributor is Amit Saha, M-Pharm, MBA,



MPS Group Technical Manager, LaCorium Health.

A better outcome for cramping

"IT IS unlikely that magnesium supplementation provides clinically meaningful cramp prophylaxis to older adults experiencing skeletal muscle cramps".

This is taken directly from the author's conclusion section of a Cochrane review on Magnesium for skeletal muscle cramp (Garrison et al, Sept 2020).

Yet in the pharmacy setting magnesium supplements are frequently recommended for the relief and prophylaxis of muscle cramp which is unlikely to have any clinical significance. While magnesium is an essential element for human functioning, its use for cramping is purely due to unavailability of a pharmaceutical treatment for skeletal muscle cramping.

The exact cause of skeletal muscle cramp is hard to ascertain, as such a multicombination therapy as opposed to a singular ingredient approach is likely to be more successful.

A treatment plan which combines magnesium with an antispasmodic such as viburnum opulus, a circulation booster such as Ginko Biloba and few essential B vitamins has more likelihood of achieving better clinical outcome in the treatment and prophylaxis of skeletal muscle cramping.

EFFECTIVE MULTI-COMBINATION SOLUTION VS. MAGNESIUM ALONE FOR CRAMP RELIEF



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