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We're proud to announce our partnership with Australia's largest not-for-profit health fund, HCF.



HCF members can receive 5% off<sup>^</sup> selected purchases at Ramsay Pharmacy, when signed up to the better rewards program. We look forward to building our partnership with HCF.

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<sup>^</sup>Excludes pharmacist only medicine (Schedule 3 medicines) and prescription only medicine. Discount applicable off current in store price. Must show HCF membership card to staff and scan better rewards card upon checkout to claim discount. Terms and conditions apply, visit [www.ramsaypharmacy.com.au/rewards](http://www.ramsaypharmacy.com.au/rewards) for more information.



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## Today's issue of PD

**Pharmacy Daily** today features three pages of news, plus a cover wrap from **Ramsay Pharmacy**, and a full page from **Guild APP**.

## Savings instore

**RAMSAY** Pharmacy has announced that it is in partnership with HCF. Ramsay Pharmacy is offering HCF customers a 5% discount on selected purchases. See **cover page**.

## APP registrations

**EARLY** bird registrations to the Guild's APP2023 are closing soon. Delegates can still save over \$100 on the conference, the sold-out trade exhibition and various networking events. See **page four**.

# NAPSA raises funds in support of PSS

**THE** Pharmacists' Support Service (PSS) has received \$2,594 raised by pharmacy students during the National Australian Pharmacy Students' Association (NAPSA) Congress 2023 in Canberra.

Funds were raised by the students through various activities including auctions and raffles.

The gigantic novelty cheque (**pictured**) was presented to the PSS Executive Officer, Kay Dunkley, at the Congress Gala Dinner.

John Coppock, PSS President, said: "This support from NAPSA is very much appreciated.

"The initiative, energy and enthusiasm of the students to support PSS so early in their career is inspiring.

"We intend to use these funds to increase our outreach activities to students to ensure that they know that PSS is available to support them at all stages of their career.

"We plan to engage with as many students as possible.

"We also really value having a



NAPSA representative on our Board to bring forward the viewpoint of these future pharmacists.

"I can see that pharmacy will be in good hands into the future as NAPSA members will be the future leaders of pharmacy," Coppock concluded.

Flynn Swift, NAPSA President, explained that "as students prepare to enter the pharmacy profession it is reassuring to know that the PSS is

there to support us.

"As soon-to-be pharmacists it is important to be proactive and look after our own mental health and wellbeing within our day-to-day practice.

"We are very pleased to be able to support PSS through this donation and by taking the PSS message back to our fellow students at each of our universities," Swift said.



**“** The Wizard Pharmacy Services team looked after all aspects of our conversion, which allowed me and my team to do what we do best and focus on our customers. I am excited for this next chapter and the enhanced experience our customers will receive through the Wizard Rewards program, inventory solutions and additional health services. **”**

Roger van der Kroon  
WIZARD PHARMACY OCEAN KEYS

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## Last Seen artwork

**EYESIGHT** is one of life's treasures that is taken for granted.

But how much would you value the last thing you saw, if you started to lose your sight?

Could you describe one of your last scenes to an artist and a composer, to recreate it?

In the most emotional exhibition and performance to be experienced in 2023, 10 vision-impaired Australians have done just that - shared their most cherished memory before their sight deteriorated - for the 2023 Last Seen exhibition, supporting the Queensland Eye Institute Foundation to open in Apr in Brisbane.

This extraordinary multi-sensory exhibition and performance, presented by Griffith University, sees awarded artists and acclaimed composers unite with famous Australians.

In the only known project of its kind in the world, their work will form an art exhibition and performance.

Learn more [HERE](#).

## APP23 early bird closing

**PHARMACISTS**, pharmacy owners, pharmacy staff, students and interns are being reminded that early bird registration to attend the 2023 Australian Pharmacy Professional Conference and Trade Exhibition, 23-26 Mar, Gold Coast, closes on Tue 31 Jan.

By registering at the early bird rate, attendees can save up to \$120 on the full conference registration, which includes access to all APP conference sessions and recordings, the trade exhibition, Welcome Reception, and the highly anticipated APP Street Party.

Conference Convenor, Kos Sclavos AM, is starting the countdown to 23 Mar when the four-day event kicks off with the theme of 'Evolve, Engage, Explore'.

"The educational sessions provide delegates the opportunity to grow, evolve and continue the journey of professional education within the sector," Sclavos said.

One such session is 'Decoding the Science of Advocacy', by customer experience expert, Amanda Stevens, who will explore why your existing customer base is possibly the greatest hidden asset in any business.

Stevens will outline a plan to create a brand that customers willingly and enthusiastically rave about; present a customised approach for harnessing brand advocacy in a post-digital age; and explore why the combination of high-tech and high-touch is the next frontier in brand disruption.

Sponsored by API, Stevens' session is on Fri 24 Mar from 11-11.50am.

"The APP conference also offers the opportunity to engage with long-time networks as well as meeting new connections during the much talked about social program, which includes the Welcome Reception and the legendary APP Street Party.

"This year, delegates will experience an expansive lineup of suppliers in the trade exhibition, as well as highly regarded national and international speakers offering presentations on new, different and unique concepts within the pharmacy sector," Sclavos concluded.

For further information and to register for pharmacy's biggest educational and trade exhibition event [CLICK HERE](#).

## JE vax expanded

**NSW Health** is further expanding free access to the Japanese encephalitis (JE) vaccine to ensure residents living in high-risk regional areas are protected this mosquito season.

The change in eligibility criteria removes the need for people living in high-risk areas to spend at least four hours per day outdoors and clarifies other criteria to help people assess if they can access the free vaccine.

This change in eligibility criteria is being made in NSW and Victoria.

In addition to the current group of people who work with pigs or mosquitoes or in specialised laboratories, Communicable Diseases Network Australia's national priority groups, and some international travellers, the JE vaccine is now also recommended for people aged two months or older who live or routinely work in any of the high-risk Local Government Areas.

Learn more [HERE](#).

## Grants to help innovate women's health

**THE** Australian government is investing over \$24m in health and medical research focusing on women to develop targeted treatments and improve health outcomes.

Breast and ovarian cancer, endometriosis and the mental health impacts of infertility treatment are among 23 projects funded in the National Health and Medical Research Council's 2022 Ideas Grant funding.

Among the recipients is Associate Professor Stacey Edwards who, with her group at QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute, will explore how DNA variation contributes to ovarian cancer.

Recent studies have identified human DNA markers linked to an increased risk of ovarian cancer

but the critical genes that drive this risk are not yet known.

With around 1,800 new cases of ovarian cancer diagnosed in Australia each year and a five-year survival rate below 50%, there is an urgent need to improve treatment options for women with this disease.

A grant of \$1.4m was awarded to Baker Heart and Diabetes Institute to allow Associate Professor Anna Calkin to investigate the differences between men's and women's heart responses to exercise.

Another example is of a \$1.1m grant to Monash University for a project led by Fiona Cousins to investigate immunomodulators as a treatment for endometriosis, a chronic and debilitating disease that affects one in nine women.



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## Dispensary Corner

**ONE** 9-year-old from the US state of Maryland went searching for shark teeth on a beach and made her largest discovery to date - a 15 million-year-old megalodon tooth.

Molly Sampson was out searching for shark teeth on Calvert County Cliffs on Christmas Day when she found a megalodon tooth the size of her hand.

"I couldn't believe it, it was so exciting," Sampson told WJLA-TV.

"I usually find little ones, I never thought I would find a big one like that."

Sampson took her discovery to the Calvert Marine Museum in Solomon's Island, where experts confirmed it was an ancient megalodon tooth.

"Based on where she found it on Calvert cliff, we estimate that it's about 15 million-years-old," said Stephen Godfrey, the museum's curator.

## Shopper data a gold mine

**NEW** research shows tracking what shoppers buy, via loyalty-card data, can help spot those with early signs of cancer, researchers who ran a study said.

Frequent purchases of OTC painkillers and indigestion tablets revealed a higher risk of ovarian cancer, they found, *BBC* reported.

Ovarian cancer is often diagnosed late as there is no reliable screening test and the symptoms, such as bloating, can be vague and confused with other common, harmless conditions.

Other symptoms include indigestion, pelvic or abdominal pain, loss of appetite or feeling full quickly after eating and needing to urinate more often.

Dr James Flanagan, the lead author of the Cancer Research UK-funded work, said: "The cancer symptoms we are looking for are very common - but for some women, they could be the first signs of something more serious.

"Using shopping data, our study found a noticeable increase in purchases of pain and indigestion medications among women with



ovarian cancer, up to eight months before diagnosis, compared with women without ovarian cancer.

"This suggests that long before women have recognised their symptoms as alarming enough to go to the GP, they may be treating them at home."

The researchers worked with two big high street retailers and 283 females, who agreed to share their shopping data over six years.

Most had been diagnosed with ovarian cancer.

More research is needed to confirm the findings, the researchers said.

The team now plans to test if shopping data can help spot other cancers too.

Learn more [HERE](#).



## Weekly Comment

Welcome to *Pharmacy Daily's* weekly comment feature. This week's contributor is **Aaron D'Souza**, Strategic Account Manager – Government Programs, MedAdvisor



## Supporting pharmacies with flu vax program

**THE** pandemic and years of flu vaccinations have strongly positioned your pharmacy as a frontline vaccination provider. This is backed by MedAdvisor's data which has seen an 82% increase in flu shots from 2021 to 2022.

Australian Government [data](#) also shows that almost a quarter of all flu vaccinations in Australia are now performed in pharmacies.

The challenges for the everyday pharmacy include how to:

- Book patients with ease; and
- Record vaccinations legally.

With MedAdvisor's booking system pharmacies are effectively managing stock and workload.

Because MedAdvisor's vaccination module has a real-time connection with the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR), pharmacists can focus on their patient care safely knowing they can read from and write-to the AIR.

As Governments scale back on costly COVID-19 hubs and the demand on GPs is maintained, customers will continue to rely on community pharmacies for vaccination services. Unlock your potential as a front-line health service by using MedAdvisor's fit for purpose features. I recommend [booking a training session](#) today.

## Guild reception

**GUILD** members on the Central Coast, NSW, are invited to join their fellow members for a relaxed social networking reception.

Invited guests include Hon Emma McBride MP, Assistant Minister for Rural and Regional Health and Member for Dobell; and Dr Gordon Reid MP, Member for Robertson.

The reception will be held at the Central Coast Leagues Club at 6:30pm on Wed 22 Feb. Registrations are essential.

Learn more [HERE](#).

## Domestic violence leave starts 01 Feb

**ALL** employees under the Fair Work system (including part-time and casual employees) will be entitled to 10 days of paid family and domestic violence leave in a 12-month period from 01 Feb for non-small business owners.

This new entitlement will replace the existing entitlement of five days of unpaid family and domestic violence leave under the National Employment Standards.

Employees will be entitled to the full 10 days upfront, meaning

they won't have to accumulate it over time.

The leave won't accumulate from year to year if it isn't used.

Pharmacists can note that the new leave entitlement will be available from 01 Aug, for employees of small businesses.

In this case, employees can still access five days of unpaid family and domestic violence leave until the new paid leave entitlement becomes available to them.

Read more on how this leave will work [HERE](#).

# Early bird registration closes tomorrow

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