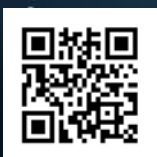




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Available from Symbion, Sigma, API and CH2.

For use when iron deficiency or iron deficiency anaemia has been diagnosed by your doctor and a therapeutic iron supplement is recommended. Always read the label and follow the directions for use. If symptoms persist, worsen or change unexpectedly, talk to your health professional. *Vitamin C has been shown to enhance the absorption of iron when taken together.



Pharmacist disqualified for five years

THE Pharmacy Board of Australia has reprimanded a former registered pharmacist in South Australia and disqualified him for five years, after he was convicted of criminal trespass and failed to notify the Board of the charges.

Andrew Roberts was referred to the South Australian Civil and Administrative Tribunal in May 2022, with the Board alleging he had engaged in professional misconduct, in that he was “convicted of crimes including trespass with intent to commit theft; theft; and dishonestly manipulating a machine for benefit” by creating false computer records.

A Dec 2022 hearing before the Tribunal heard that since mid-2018 the pharmacist had been employed in an Adelaide pharmacy, and just over a month after starting work there he “dishonestly obtained drugs of dependency by creating false records of prescriptions in the pharmacy’s drug dependency computer program,” according to a

Board update.

The pharmacist did this on about 39 occasions, entering almost 70 false prescriptions over an 18-month period.

In addition, having resigned from the pharmacy in Sep 2019, Roberts later returned to the pharmacy on three occasions and repeated the behaviour of accessing the computer program, making false entries and stealing drugs.

The Pharmacy Board said this conduct came to light soon after his resignation, and Roberts was charged with the criminal offences, later pleading guilty and being convicted in the South Australian Magistrates Court.

He did not notify the Board of the criminal charges, and although the pharmacist entered a plea of guilty, he did not participate in any way in the Tribunal proceedings.

“On the information before the Tribunal he has done nothing further to accept professional responsibility for his actions,” the

Tribunal concluded.

In considering the risk that Roberts might pose if he were to practise as a pharmacist in the future, the Tribunal noted that no evidence had been submitted to substantiate his claim to the Magistrate’s Court that he had a substance use disorder, or that he had successfully been through a rehabilitation program.

Without that evidence “a significant period of disqualification and prohibition against providing any health service” was required to protect the public, the Tribunal found, concluding the former pharmacist’s criminal convictions constituted professional misconduct.

He was reprimanded, disqualified from registration and prohibited from providing any health service for five years starting 13 Dec 2022, and ordered to pay the Pharmacy Board’s legal costs.

The Pharmacy Board published a summary of the case on its website on Fri.

GS1 supply chain

GS1 Australia is today showcasing its supply chain expertise, inviting the pharmacy sector to partner with the company on data standards which improve medicines traceability and enhance patient safety.

See the **cover page** for more.

Wizard solution

WIZARD Pharmacy’s Customer Success training program is designed to help pharmacy teams be confident leaders, boosting customer interactions - more on **page 4**.

Today’s issue of PD

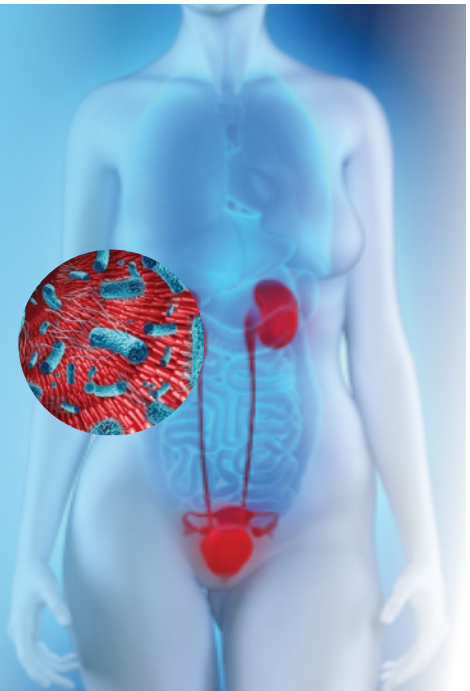
Pharmacy Daily today features three pages of news, plus a cover page from **GS1 Australia**, a full page from **Wizard Pharmacy** and the **Jun MIMS Update**.



Health Professional Live Webinar Treating Genitourinary Syndrome of Menopause

Join us to explore hormonal & microbial influences on this commonly experienced syndrome of menopause.

Presented by
**Sandra Vilella &
Moira Bradfield Strydom**



DATE: Wednesday 21st June 2023 TIME: 6.30 pm AEST

Register Now To Secure Your Place



TWC announces finalists

TERRYWHITE Chemmart (TWC) has unveiled the finalists for its upcoming Pharmacist of the Year, Intern of the Year and Innovative Community Care awards for 2023.

This year's Intern of the Year finalists include Jen Chao from TWC Findon in South Australia; Queensland's Jordan Button from TWC Dallas Parade Compounding; and Micaela Ferrington from TWC Arana Hills, also in Queensland.

The Innovative Community Care finalists include Adnan Guahar from TWC Toowoomba MC in Queensland; Fiona Mann from TWC Mannum Green in SA; Jackie Totman from TWC Balhannah in SA; Paul Drury from TWC Elizabeth South SA; and Therese Lambert from TWC Sarina in Queensland.

Finalists in the 2023 TWC Pharmacist of the Year category include Wai Mun Loh from TWC



Mildura Deakin Ave in Victoria; Peter Fairgray from TWC Arana Hills in Queensland; Victoria's Russell Ingram from TWC Yarrowonga Victoria; Ruthanne Jaja from TWC Macquarie Strett in NSW; and Luke Carroll from TWC Glasshouse Mountains in Queensland.

The winners will be announced during the 2023 TWC Masterclass which will take place in Adelaide from 19-21 Jun.

TGA supports MHRA framework

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has committed to support a new international recognition framework being introduced by Britain's Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) in the wake of the UK's exit from the EU.

The new framework will allow MHRA to utilise the work of, and regulatory decisions made by, seven nominated international regulatory counterparts to assist in its sovereign decision making.

MHRA's arrangements will be in place by the first quarter of 2024, with the TGA noting it works closely with other regulators and international networks to "where possible reduce the regulatory burden on sponsors and bring safe and effective products to patients as quickly as possible".

COO \$8m payday

CORUM Group Limited, publicly listed on the Australian Securities Exchange as COO, this morning confirmed the receipt of a payment of \$8,128,486.63 from Fred IT Group Pty Ltd.

The amount represents the judgement sum in the long-running Victorian Supreme Court proceedings between COO offshoots Corum Systems and PharmX and Fred IT Group (*PD 27 Apr*) with the figure including \$1.6 million in interest and another \$1.5 million in agreed costs.

The proceedings were initiated in May 2021 with COO claiming FredIT had received distributions from PharmX between 2014 and 2019 to which it was not entitled.

Corum also advised that it has now been served with papers confirming Fred IT had launched appeal proceedings in respect of the judgements.

Time to rethink your dispensary set-up?

The latest in pharmacy robotic automation

The CONSIS C uses state-of-the-art technology in all areas of operations, from the user and control software to the mechanical and electronic components. The sophisticated design maximises storage capacity, the dual lane feeder system speeds up loading, whilst inbuilt sensors and cameras offer peace of mind with advanced diagnostic support.

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Dispensary Corner

SENSITIVE teeth can be a curse, but a Canadian man probably tried a little too hard to ease the pain last week when he allegedly stole more than US\$2,000 worth of Sensodyne from a Superstore pharmacy.

The incident occurred in North Vancouver, where members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police spotted the offender running from an emergency exit of the outlet carrying two bags and a store cart loaded with the toothpaste (pictured).

The officers posted photos of the attempted robbery on social media, prompting plenty of online quips such as "at least he'll probably have the best smile ever in his mug shot".

Another commentator suggested the officers deserve some kind of plaque for their efforts, while others expressed hopes that the police had sufficiently braced themselves for their brush with danger.

Someone asked whether the Superstore also had a filling station, while the same person also asked the big question: did the arrest involve a cavity search?



FIP pharmacy tobacco guide

THE International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) has published a new handbook for pharmacists to support tobacco cessation and treat tobacco dependence.

Released last week in coordination with World No Tobacco Day, the resources also include a knowledge and skills guide, developed in collaboration with an international group of experts from a range of groups including the World Health Organization.

FIP said the documents "outline the latest evidence-based practices, techniques and strategies for pharmacists to help people on the often-challenging journey to a tobacco-free life and remaining abstinent".

Dr Ines Nunes da Cunha, who is FIP's Practice Development and Transformation Projects Manager, co-authored the handbooks and said the information is practicable and tailored to pharmacists' needs.

"Using this new resource from FIP, pharmacists can contribute to improving public health and reducing the large burden of tobacco use on our healthcare systems," she said.

Highlighting the global burden of tobacco use and the health impact



of nicotine products, the handbook also discusses tobacco use in special risk population groups such as those with cancer, diabetes, mental illness, pregnancy, older people and adolescents.

Pharmacy-led tobacco cessation interventions include options for those who are ready to quit, as well as those not ready to quit, and include intensive behavioural support/counselling and pharmacological treatments.

The handbook can be accessed **HERE** while the accompanying reference guide is at fip.org.au.

COVID-19 antiviral access equity urged

EARLY access to oral antivirals to treat COVID-19 has become a pillar of Australia's response to the pandemic, with a paper published today in the *Medical Journal of Australia* stressing the important of access to the drugs particularly in vulnerable cohorts.

The report notes the availability of molnupiravir (Lagevrio) and nirmatrelvir plus ritonavir (Paxlovid) which had eligibility

widened in Jul 2022 and again in Nov last year, while varying approaches in different countries included the NZ response which saw antiviral prescribing extended to pharmacists to reduce barriers to access.

In Australia, supply has improved and prescribing has increased, so "equity must now be our top priority", the paper concludes - see mja.com.au.

Weekly Comment

Welcome to Pharmacy Daily's weekly comment feature. This week's contributor is **Lisa Golden** - CEO & Managing Director, Kizmet Capital



Our approach to pharmacy finance

WE'RE passionate about all things pharmacy, but given our expertise in finance, we're particularly passionate about pharmacy ownership, and finding the right finance solution to get you there.

We understand that finance is only one piece of the pie when it comes to buying and managing a successful pharmacy. With 150 years collective experience in pharmacy and pharmacy finance, we pride ourselves on providing expertise in pharmacy ownership, not just pharmacy finance.

Our approach to pharmacy finance is personalised - we get to know you, and your personal and professional goals to source the right solution that suits your needs.

We offer choice - we have an innovative and unique suite of financial products and solutions to help you achieve your goals.

Network - we have access to experts to help you with all your business needs.

Independent - We work for you! We are lender agnostic, wholesaler agnostic and brand agnostic. If you are looking for finance, or just want to understand your options, we can provide you with an independent solution.

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FIND OUT MORE 

New Products

- Deucravacitinib (Sotyktu)** is a small molecule that selectively inhibits the tyrosine kinase 2 (TYK2) enzyme. It binds to the regulatory domain of TYK2, stabilising an inhibitory interaction between the regulatory and the catalytic domains of the enzyme. This results in allosteric inhibition of receptor-mediated activation of TYK2 and its downstream functions in cells. TYK2 is a member of the Janus kinase (JAK) family. JAK kinases, including TYK2, function in pairs to mediate JAK-STAT pathways. TYK2 pairs with JAK1 to mediate multiple cytokine pathways and also pairs with JAK2 to transmit signals. The pairing of TYK2 with either JAK1 or JAK2 mediates signalling of a narrower range of cytokines compared with the pairings of JAKs 1/2/3 with each other. The allosteric mechanism of action of deucravacitinib has been shown to inhibit TYK2 with minimal or no inhibition of JAK 1/2/3. TYK2 mediates signalling of interleukin-23 (IL-23) cytokine, interleukin-12 (IL-12) cytokine, and type I interferons (IFN), which are naturally occurring cytokines involved in inflammatory and immune responses. Deucravacitinib inhibits signalling from IL-23, IL-12 and type I IFN and the downstream release of proinflammatory cytokines and chemokines. *Sotyktu is indicated for the treatment of adult patients with moderate-to-severe plaque psoriasis who are candidates for systemic therapy or phototherapy.* Sotyktu tablets contain deucravacitinib 6 mg and are available in packs of 28.
- Dostarlimab (Jemperli)** is an anti-programmed cell death protein-1 (PD-1) IgG4 humanised mAb derived from a stable Chinese hamster ovary cell line. Binding of the PD-1 ligands, PD-L1 and PD-L2, to the PD-1 receptor found on T cells inhibits T cell proliferation and cytokine production. Upregulation of PD-1 ligands occurs in some tumours and signalling through this pathway can contribute to inhibition of active T cell immune surveillance of tumours. Dostarlimab binds to PD-1, resulting in inhibition of binding to PD-L1 and PD-L2, releasing inhibition of PD-1 pathway-mediated immune response, including the anti-tumour immune response. In syngeneic mouse tumour models, blocking PD-1 activity resulted in decreased tumour growth. *Jemperli is indicated with provisional approval as monotherapy for the treatment of adult patients with recurrent or advanced mismatch repair deficient endometrial cancer that has progressed on or following prior treatment with a platinum-containing regimen.* Jemperli concentrate for infusion contains dostarlimab 500 mg per 10 mL and is available in a pack of 1 vial.
- Ivosidenib (Tibsovo)** is a small molecule inhibitor of R132-mutated isocitrate dehydrogenase 1 (IDH1) enzymes. Through a gain of neomorphic function, the mutant IDH1 converts alpha-ketoglutarate (α -KG) to 2-hydroxyglutarate (2-HG). As 2-HG competitively inhibits α -KG-dependent enzymes, including histone and DNA demethylases, its accumulation leads to widespread epigenetic dysregulation. *Tibsovo is indicated for the treatment of adult patients with locally advanced or metastatic cholangiocarcinoma with an IDH1 R132 mutation after at least one prior line of systemic therapy.* Tibsovo tablets contain ivosidenib 250 mg and are available in bottles of 60 tablets.
- Nivolumab and relatlimab (Opdualag)** is a combination of two human IgG4 monoclonal antibodies. Relatlimab binds to the LAG-3 T cell receptor, blocks interaction with its ligands (including major histocompatibility complex Class II) and reduces LAG-3 pathway-mediated inhibition of the immune response. Antagonism of this pathway promotes T cell proliferation and cytokine secretion. Binding of the PD-1 receptor found on T cells to its ligands (PD-L1 and PD-L2) inhibits T cell proliferation and cytokine production. Upregulation of PD-1 ligands occurs in some tumours and signalling through this pathway can contribute to inhibition of active T cell immune surveillance of tumours. Nivolumab binds to the PD-1 receptor, blocks interaction with PD-L1 and PD-L2 and reduces PD-1 pathway-mediated inhibition of the immune response, including the anti-tumour immune response. Combined inhibition of PD-1 (with nivolumab) and LAG-3 (with relatlimab) results in increased T cell activation compared to the effect of either antibody alone. In murine syngeneic tumour models, LAG-3 blockade potentiates the anti-tumour activity of PD-1 blockade, inhibiting tumour growth and promoting tumour regression. *Opdualag is indicated for the treatment of patients with unresectable or metastatic melanoma who are at least 12 years old.* Opdualag concentrate for infusion contains nivolumab 240 mg and relatlimab 80 mg per 20 mL and is available in a pack of 1 vial.

New Presentation

- Immunoglobulin, normal (human) (Hizentra AU)** is manufactured from human plasma collected in Australia by Australian Red Cross Lifeblood. (Hizentra is manufactured from human plasma collected outside Australia by CSL Plasma.) It is available as a 20% solution for injection in 1 g/5 mL or 4 g/20 mL single vial packs.

New Indications

- Durvalumab (Imfinzi)** is now indicated in combination with gemcitabine and cisplatin for the treatment of patients with locally advanced or metastatic biliary tract cancer.
- Human papillomavirus 9-valent recombinant vaccine (Gardasil 9)** is now indicated in males aged 9-45 years.
- Ibrutinib (Imbruvica)** is now indicated in combination with venetoclax for the treatment of adult patients with previously untreated chronic lymphocytic leukaemia/small lymphocytic lymphoma.
- Obinutuzumab (Gazyva)** is now indicated as a pre-treatment to reduce the risk of cytokine release syndrome induced by glofitamab.

New Contraindications

- Dexamethasone phosphate (DBL Dexamethasone Sodium Phosphate Injection)** is now contraindicated in bacteraemia, unstable joints, and infection at the injection site e.g., septic arthritis resulting from gonorrhoea or tuberculosis.

- **Combined oral contraceptives containing ethinylestradiol or ethinylestradiol (betadex clathrate) AND cyproterone acetate, dienogest, drospirenone or levonorgestrel (Diane-35 ED, Valette, Yaz, Microgynon 20/ 30/ 50 ED, Triquilar ED)** are now contraindicated for concomitant use with glecaprevir, pibrentasvir, sofosbuvir, velpatasvir or voxilaprevir, and combinations of these.
- **Multivitamin for intravenous injection (Cernevit)** is now contraindicated in patients with known peanut protein hypersensitivity.
- **Topiramate (Topamax)** is now contraindicated as migraine prophylaxis in pregnancy and in women of childbearing potential if not using a highly effective method of contraception.

Safety Related Changes

- **Baricitinib (Olmiant), tofacitinib (Xeljanz) and upadacitinib (Rinvoq).** A large post-marketing rheumatoid arthritis safety study of the JAK inhibitor tofacitinib (Oral Surveillance Study) found an increased risk of major cardiovascular problems, such as heart attack and stroke, cancer, blood clots, serious infections and death, as compared with tumour necrosis factor (TNF) inhibitors.

Based on the results of this study, a class-wide boxed warning and strengthened precautions about these risks have been added to the Australian Product Information documents for JAK inhibitors used to treat chronic inflammatory conditions: baricitinib, tofacitinib and upadacitinib.

To minimise the risk of these side effects, JAK inhibitors should not be prescribed for chronic inflammatory conditions in people with a history of cardiovascular disease (e.g., heart attack or stroke), at increased risk of cardiovascular problems (e.g., current or past long-time smokers), at increased risk of cancer, and aged 65 years and over unless there are no suitable alternative treatments.

- **Elasomeran (Spikevax)** now has full approval for active immunisation to prevent coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) caused by SARS-CoV-2 in individuals 6 years of age and older.
- **Ibrutinib (Imbruvica)** is no longer indicated in patients with deletion 17p.

This list is a summary of only some of the changes that have occurred over the last month. Before prescribing, always refer to the full product information.