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Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features five pages of news, including our new **Beauty & Wellness** feature, plus a full page from **Molnlycke**.

HCP education

MOLNLYCKE Healthcare has released its schedule of education modules on wound care and skin tears care for healthcare professionals (HCP).

Click or scan the QR code to sign up for the complimentary training.

See more on the **back page**.

Beauty & wellness

WE HAVE launched our dedicated beauty and wellness **page** for all pharmacy staff.

We'd love to hear your feedback, and to submit news for the page **CLICK HERE**.

TGA urges not to stockpile warfarin

THE TGA has advised of shortages of warfarin medicines and, to ensure that access to the limited stock is maintained as widely as possible, it is urging pharmacists and consumers not to stockpile brands Coumadin or Marevan.

The supplier, Viatris, advised the TGA of shortages of several of its warfarin products due to manufacturing issues recently.

The shortages currently affect Coumadin (warfarin sodium) 2mg and 5mg tablets.

Warfarin is an anticoagulant used to prevent blood from excessive clotting or forming harmful clots for patients at risk of heart attack and stroke.

While the two brands of warfarin marketed in Australia (Coumadin and Marevan) are both available in various strengths, due to the narrow therapeutic index of warfarin and the lack of data on bioequivalence between Coumadin and Marevan, these products are not considered interchangeable, the TGA explained.



The shortage of Coumadin 5mg tablets is expected to continue until 31 Jul, while the shortage of Coumadin 2mg tablets is expected to continue until 20 Mar.

To minimise disruption to patients, Viatris is working to increase the supply of Coumadin 1mg and 2mg tablets to allow patients to maintain their prescribed dose using a combination of the lower strengths available, in consultation with a healthcare professional.

The TGA says it's working closely with Viatris and other stakeholders to minimise the shortage impact.

The TGA is seeking advice from

relevant stakeholders on details to include in a proposed Serious Scarcity Substitution Instrument.

The instrument, if made, will allow pharmacists to dispense an alternative strength of the same warfarin brand if the prescribed strength is unavailable.

If substituting or switching is unavoidable, close monitoring with frequent International Normalised Ratio testing is recommended, the TGA stated.

The TGA is also aware of concerns raised about the new packaging of the warfarin product range (blue bottle presentation) and is working closely with Viatris to further differentiate the different strengths of each product label without disrupting supply.

Viatris holds limited emergency stock of Coumadin that can be shipped directly to pharmacies in urgent cases.

Pharmacists can call Viatris on 1800 314 527 to enquire about access to these medicines.



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Embed flexibility

THE Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia (SHPA) Vice President Dr Kate O'Hara says career disruption remains the key issue for women in hospital pharmacy, and across healthcare.

"Pharmacy is a fantastic career that supports women at different stages of their lives, but this is contingent on truly embedded cultures of flexibility in the workplace."

Over the month of March, SHPA is celebrating the experiences and innovations of its members through:

- 'IWD 2023 - Embracing Equity in Pharmacy' webinar, free for SHPA members;
- The IWD Member Profile series, a weekly platform for unique stories about gender and equity in the workplace;
- 'This International Women's Day instead of having it all, it's time to share it all', a feature article by Kate Woods.

IWD event sets a record

THE Pharmacy Guild of Australia's International Women's Day (IWD) breakfast event was held at the Crowne Plaza, Darling Harbour in Sydney, yesterday.

It had a record attendance, with nearly 100 guests.

Attendees heard from Danielle, Dobson (**pictured** top) author of 'Breaking the Gender Code', along with a panel discussion with several women in the industry.

Further, the Guild's Queensland Branch hosted its third annual IWD Women in Pharmacy Breakfast with guest speaker Attorney-General Hon Shannon Fentiman.

The minister addressed more than 200 community pharmacists, pharmacy assistants and pharmacy industry representatives at Victoria Park Ballroom highlighting this year's campaign theme #EmbraceEquity.

Qld Branch Vice President Amanda Seeto said: "Minister Fentiman left us with a poignant reminder that, 'You can't be who you can't see...'



"As a leader in community pharmacy I'm aware of the important role I play for other generations of women in pharmacy, particularly for interns and pharmacy assistants, by demonstrating pathways for career progression and continuing to progress the pharmacy profession to their full scope of practice."

Pictured inset: Amanda Seeto, Shannon Fentiman, Fiona Watson (Brisbane branch member).

Glucojel deals

GOLDCROSS has a March deal for the original pharmacy jelly bean, Glucojel.

Pharmacies that order 12 or more cartons of Glucojel Jelly Beans and/or Glucojel Bears could receive 7.5% off.

Six or more cartons of the products could receive 5% off. The offer ends at the end of the month.

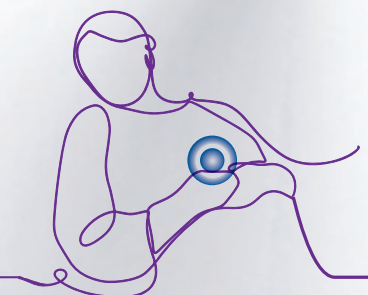
Check out the [website](#) and access the order form [HERE](#).

Purple Pen vlog

HEART disease kills more than two times as many Australian women than breast cancer.

In a special International Women's Day podcast on the Purple Pen site, A/Prof Monique Watts, a cardiologist with special interest in women and heart health, speaks on this topic - listen to it [HERE](#).

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GBMA's board positions

THE peak body for affordable medicines has welcomed two new board members at a pivotal time for the health budget and medicine policy reforms.

The Generic and Biosimilar Medicines Association's (GBMA) Independent Chair, Prof Jane Halton AO PSM, and CEO, Marnie Peterson, have welcomed Clint Holland and Hayley Tamborini, noting that the board additions came at a time when the industry is experiencing significant policy shift, alongside the changing landscape of medicines.

Halton said the two board members have joined at a dynamic time in medicine policy, and as patients and their families face the rising cost of living.

"The mission critical aim of the GBMA board, is shared with the Government and that is to provide fiscal relief to a stretched health budget and ensure all Australians have access to the affordable medicines they need, when they

need them," Halton said.

Holland is the new Country Head of Sandoz ANZ and Tamborini is the Executive General Manager, Pharmaceuticals at Arrotex.

A former pharmacist, Tamborini leads the strategic direction of the Arrotex prescription business, specialty brands portfolio and biologics division.

Recently, this has expanded to include a new Medical Division of 50 sales professionals collaborating with prescribers, in both primary and secondary care settings.

Tamborini said she was committed to working with her GBMA board colleagues to ensure the focus continues to remain on policies that support the accelerated and continued uptake of generics and biosimilars.

"We need to drive further investment in the development of generic and biosimilar medicines.

"Timely access to medicines is critically important to the health of all Australians," said Tamborini.

Pharmacy Rental Report a 'must' read

THE Pharmacy Guild of Australia's Rental Report is considered a 'must' for any pharmacist entering lease negotiations and strategic lease management.

This year's report has been updated to reflect the information needed to do so.

The report is to be used when a pharmacist is preparing to enter negotiating leases and may be a vital tool in helping users understand key regulations and avoid potential pitfalls.

The report is written in three parts to provide context to the current retail leasing environment, examine key benchmarks and indicators, and provide detailed strategic and practical considerations for negotiating leases.

Guild National President Trent Twomey says the Rental Report is the best way for pharmacists to stay on top of managing the



cost of doing business, especially occupancy costs.

"It is of vital importance that pharmacy owners have sound commercial leasing arrangements.

"The Guild also understands not just the importance of occupancy costs, including rent, but the significant costs and disruptions associated with relocations as well," he said.

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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Editor's Choice: MJ's personal mantra puts Perfect in a bottle

INTRODUCING Perfect Eau de Toilette, the new fragrance from Marc Jacobs.

A companion to Perfect Eau de Parfum and Perfect Intense, the floral scent celebrates the power of being true to yourself.

Like the original fragrance that launched globally in Jul 2020, Perfect Eau de Toilette is inspired by Marc Jacobs' personal mantra: "I am perfect as I am", which is symbolised by a tattoo of the word 'perfect' on his wrist.

The new print and digital campaign aims to be a powerful celebration of individuality, personal truth, and authenticity featuring an inclusive range of talent speaking about their own

belief in true self-love.

The weighted glass base is feminine, with domed shoulders and a gilded collar.

At the top, the crystal-cut cap is crowned with an eclectic assortment of mismatched charms, with cool green and blue hues combined with metallic silver and pale gold accents.

Inside, the liquid is presented in a soft green shade, aiming to reflect the fresh, clean, and uplifting new fragrance offering.

The perfume has top notes of pink peppercorn and polygonum, heart notes of white daffodil, and base notes of cedarwood.

The perfume retails for \$205 for 100ml and \$150 for 50ml.



Priceline partners

TBH Skincare has partnered with former Miss Universe Australia Olivia Molly Rogers (pictured below) to launch its clinically formulated products into Priceline stores around the country.

Just days into trialling tbh Skincare's cult-favourite Acne Hack Cream, Rogers was hooked.

And, two years on, her breakouts and acne scars are a thing of the past she enthused.

tbh Skincare's cofounder Rachael Wilde (pictured below) is equally excited to be working with Rogers as the brand rolls out in 400 Priceline stores.



Brighter blondes

GROW'S Brighter Blonder Miracle Hair Mask banishes brassy and yellow undertones in blonde and highlighted hair.

The mask contains a dose of violet pigment and hyaluronic acid, which results in soft and shiny hair.

The Miracle Mask strengthens to prevent future damage and restores hair and scalp health.

On the market this month the 250ml tub retails at a budget-pleasing price point of \$18.99.



Three-step nutrition for a healthy gut

MELUKA Australia has launched a new gut health range.

The three-step functional gut nutrition products are called CLEAN+, SEAL+ and CARE+.

These triple-action gut nutrition powders are formulated with Meluka Australia's *Lactobacillus rhamnosus Beebiotic MAPO1* probiotic strain, combined with a blend of prebiotics, probiotics, postbiotic strains, and selected functional superfood ingredients to serve its purpose for targeted gut wellbeing.

These 100% natural gut health products provide a total of 21b CFUs per serve and are available now from melukaaustralia.com.au and retail for \$65 each or \$158

as a complete 3-step system.

Meluka Australia CEO Ben Rohr, says, "consumer awareness of gut health and its importance for overall wellbeing is at an all-time high in Australia, and around the world right now.

"Our scientists developed this unique range based on the top reported gut health concerns our consumers were experiencing."



Climate neutral

WELEDA has taken another big step on the path to climate neutrality: all products of the Weleda Group are now climate-neutral certified, after working for years to achieve energy efficiency.

With this achievement, the company enables its customers to contribute to climate protection and the 1.5°C target of the Paris Climate Agreement.

Customers can help protect the climate when they purchase Weleda products such as shower gels, lotions and facial care, as well as all Weleda medicines.



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- Help with overflowing design departments

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Dispensary Corner

WHEN people are experiencing homelessness, they are at greater risk of trauma, which makes it harder to maintain good mental health.

An artist has solved his housing situation by building a home in a rubbish skip in London and plans to live in it for a year, seeking to draw attention to the “crazy” price of renting a room in Britain’s capital during a cost-of-living crisis.

Harrison Marshall, 28, moved into the specially-adapted skip on a patch of grass in Bermondsey, south London a month ago, explaining that it was the only way he could afford to live in the central area near where he works.

Marshall’s creative solution to the problem was to spend 4,000 pounds (A\$7,180) building a wooden hood with a curved roof and fixing it onto a skip.

Inside, he has a small kitchen and a mezzanine bed space.

‘Skip House’ is emblazoned in black across the classic yellow container normally used for builder’s waste.

He has a garden path leading up to an entrance ladder and a portable lavatory in the corner of the site.

He showers at work, or the gym, and has access to water from a neighbour’s hose pipe.



In a sea of plastic waste

AS MILLIONS of tonnes a year of microplastic waste mounts in marine environments, Flinders University scientists warn the ramifications to wildlife, food webs and human health are still little understood.

An Environmental Pollution review of how plastic waste and its associated chemicals impact marine food webs warns the impact of this “omnipresent contamination” of marine environments is “not well understood”.

It can take hundreds of years for plastics to degrade, with synthetic by-products breaking into ever smaller particles through the hydrolysis of hydrocarbons by microbes and exposure to environmental conditions.

These plastics of various sizes pose a substantial risk to life forms right down the food web, says Flinders University College of Science and Engineering PhD candidate Elise Tuuri, from the Plankton and Marine Microbiology Lab at Flinders.

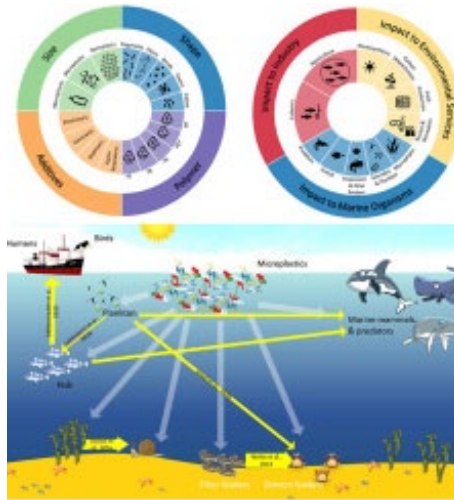
“This study highlights the complexity of microplastics as a pollutant and how this can lead to difficulties in determining accurate impacts on human health

and local marine environments.

“There is a direct impact of plastic pollution on bacterial growth, protein production, the acquisition mechanisms of phosphorous, N2-fixation rates, genome-wide transcriptional changes, and photosynthesis,” said Tuuri.

“So we need to understand what chemical additives do in the sea to macrophytes, phytoplankton, zooplankton, and microbes.”

The researchers are calling for more research into plastic contamination and synthetic additives to understand and prevent further potential environmental and biological health problems.



Seven weeks of free labour by women

IT HAS been revealed that women work almost seven weeks for free each year.

The Australian College of Nursing calls for Australian employers to continue to strive towards pay equity.

Despite the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) reporting that the gender pay gap fell to 13.3%

in Nov 2022, this means that women, on average, are working 48 days, or almost seven weeks, for free each year.

The ABS data is calculated on base salary for full-time workers, and it doesn’t factor in the wages of part-time or casual staff, bonuses, overtime payments or superannuation gaps.

MSIR to stay open

THE Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) has welcomed the Victorian Government’s decision to make the Medically Supervised Injecting Room (MSIR) in North Richmond an ongoing fixture.

It comes following the Government yesterday introducing legislation to establish the health service as an ongoing service.

Immediate measures will also be taken to further boost safety and amenity in the local precinct and boost support for people using the facility.

The RACGP has previously spoken out on the importance of approaching alcohol and other drugs policy from a health-based perspective and ending the pointless “war on drugs”.

RACGP President Dr Nicole Higgins said: “In Victoria, the trial has successfully managed almost 6,000 overdoses and saved 63 lives.

“It is also taking pressure off already over-burdened hospitals and reducing ambulance call-outs.

“It’s the same story in Sydney.

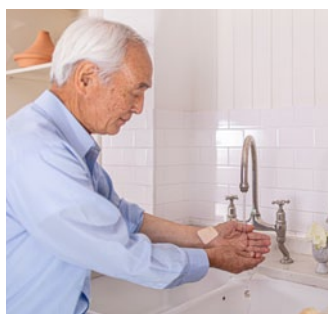
“Experts examining the Kings Cross site found that from the time the facility started until the end of Apr last year, it recorded a total of 1,232,951 injections without any fatalities.

“Almost 11,000 overdoses have been managed successfully, and more than 20,000 referrals to health and social services made.

“Each of those referrals is an opportunity to turn someone’s life around,” Higgins said.

Click or scan the QR code to sign up for complimentary wound care training

Wound Care Education Schedule for Pharmacists and GP's in 2023



Basic Wound Care and Dressing Selection for the Elderly

Date	Time
15th March	10.30 - 11.00am
15th March	2.30 - 3.00pm
14th June	10.30 - 11.00am
14th June	2.30 - 3.00pm
13th September	10.30 - 11.00am
13th September	2.30 - 3.00pm



SCAN TO ENROL



Skin Care and Skin Tear Prevention

Date	Time
12th April	10.30 - 11.00am
12th April	2.30 - 3.00pm
12th July	10.30 - 11.00am
12th July	2.30 - 3.00pm
11th October	10.30 - 11.00am
11th October	2.30 - 3.00pm



SCAN TO ENROL



Skin Tear Treatment in the Community

Date	Time
10th May	10.30 - 11.00am
10th May	2.30 - 3.00pm
9th August	10.30 - 11.00am
9th August	2.30 - 3.00pm
15th November	10.30 - 11.00am
15th November	2.30 - 3.00pm



SCAN TO ENROL