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Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features three pages of news.

Men's drug listing

NUBEQA (darolutamide) will be expanded on the PBS to treat patients with metastatic hormone-sensitive prostate cancer, the Govt has announced.

Without subsidy, around 5,000 men might pay more than \$40,000 per year for Bayer's Nubeqa.

The PBS listing will mean that from 01 Dec eligible patients will pay a maximum of \$30 per script, or just \$7.30 if they hold a concession card.

The TGA indication and PBS listing follows results from the Phase III ARASENS trial.



ACT trial expands for pill

CANBERRANS already using an oral contraceptive pill may be able to obtain a re-supply of their contraceptive pill at one of five participating pharmacies as part of a new trial, the ACT Govt has announced yesterday.

The five pharmacies participating include Capital Chemist Charnwood (pictured its pharmacist Rebecca Richardson), Gold Creek Discount Drug Store, The Pharmacy on Petrie (Civic), Erindale Pharmacy and Pharmasave Woden Pharmacy.

Pharmacy Guild of Australia ACT Branch President Simon Blacker said this is a step forward for many women in Canberra.

"It's a good example of community pharmacies partnering with GPs and other healthcare professionals to treat common health conditions with increased accessibility, in a safe and efficient way to unclog the health system," he commented.

"The ACT has now joined NSW, Qld, and Vic in the resupply of the oral contraceptive pill to women by



community pharmacists.

"Community pharmacies in the ACT are ready to do more for patient's health by having community pharmacists working to their full scope of practice, and we look forward to working further with the ACT Govt on this."

This initiative will expand on the current trial of community pharmacists supplying medications to treat uncomplicated urinary tract infections.

The trained pharmacists participating in the trial will be able to have a conversation with eligible Canberrans to determine whether they can provide medications, or refer the person to see a doctor. *JG*

Best of workplaces

SANDOZ is one of the top 50 Aussie companies on the Best Workplaces for Women in Australia 2023 list, said its GM Clint Holland, adding, "this is a testament to our commitment to continue to prioritise diversity and inclusion".

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Guild appointment

THE Pharmacy Guild of Australia Vic Branch has appointed Rachel Obradovic as its new Vic Branch Director.

Obradovic joins the Guild from global consultancy firm CT Group and brings with her 20 years' experience in media, communications, stakeholder engagement and govt affairs.

She will commence her new role on 15 Jan 2024.

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Dispensary Corner

THE Swedish town of Lulea, home to some 80,000 inhabitants, has launched a campaign encouraging residents, who are reputed to be introverts, to start talking to each other.

In a video posted on social networks residents of Lulea, located 150km south of the Arctic Circle, have stern faces which suddenly light up when they meet a passer-by who greets them.

The video is accompanied by a message, "saying hi to your neighbours is a small thing but research shows that it can contribute to social bonds and has a positive impact on health, safety and well-being".

Asa Koski, a social strategist with the municipality who is behind the campaign, told *AFP* that the message has been displayed on buses and buildings in the city since 31 Oct, and the campaign will run for four weeks.

"Swedish people can be a bit inward ...we need to connect with each other and this is a way to create relationships

"Here it's the opposite of Spain, where you are outside a lot, you talk to people, you sit on benches, you have a collective life outside," she said.

In a region where winter means just only three hours of sunshine and the average temperature in Dec hovers around -10°C, there are fewer opportunities for residents to bump into one another on a daily basis, but Koski says its the modern lifestyle that is to blame.

Sainsbury award winners



THREE outstanding pharmacists were recognised at the Emeritus Lloyd Sansom AO Distinguished Lecture Series in Canberra on 13 Nov.

The Australian Pharmacy Council (APC) announced the recipients of the inaugural Dr Erica Sainsbury Awards, which were established to recognise and reward leaders in pharmacy education and practice.

Chiao Xin Lim, a Lecturer in

Pharmacy at RMIT University, was awarded the prestigious Dr Erica Sainsbury Early Career Pharmacy Educator Award.

Cathryn Carlisle from Mount Isa Pharmacy First, Qld, and Gillian Oates from Peninsula Health, Vic, both won the Dr Erica Sainsbury Pharmacist Supervisor Award. *JG*

Pictured (L-R): Carlisle, Oates, Xin Lim, and APC CEO Bronwyn Clark.

Latest CDC opening a highpoint for all

THE Platform Alliance Group's Chemist Discount Centre (CDC) celebrated the opening of its latest location at Highpoint Shopping Centre, Vic, marking the second of three grand openings before Christmas.

Expressing his enthusiasm, Theo Gakelos, General Manager of Chemist Discount Centre, remarked that, "the opening of another store here in Melbourne is truly amazing".

"The community embraces our commitment to providing expert advice at discount prices.

"Sam, Mustafa and his wife Zahra (**pictured**) and the team at CDC Highpoint are thrilled about the eye-catching store, designed to welcome everyone."

Their goal is to build long-



lasting relationships with their customers, guiding them towards improved health outcomes, Gakelos added.

The grand opening festivities featured exclusive in-store discounts, along with entertaining activities like face painting and goodie bags, making it a celebration for the whole local community.

CommBank event

COMMBANK Health is holding a Pharmacy Owners Masterclass on Wed 13 Mar at the APP2024 conference.

CommBank will facilitate the next stage of the masterclass series, featuring both core and additional content surrounding emerging trends and opportunities within the pharmacy industry.

Key topics include obtaining the right support to identify and purchase a pharmacy, and looking at creating efficiency through technology in managing day to day operations and implementing workflow solutions.

Further, utilising operational and financial data from your own pharmacy, to set and manage KPIs, track trends and make better decisions to improve your pharmacy and bottom line.

Lastly, reviewing your pharmacy strategy to ensure pharmacists can unlock the full potential of professional services and alternative revenue streams.

The event is sponsored by the Australasian College of Pharmacy, RSM Australia and Scrypt Ventures who will also provide real-life examples, insights, and strategies to assist pharmacists at all stages of pharmacy ownership.

To book tickets **CLICK HERE**.

