

Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features two pages of news, plus full pages from:

- Willach
- Neat Feat

Class action

A GROUP of US pharmacies have filed a proposed class action lawsuit accusing Cigna Group's pharmacy benefit manager unit, Express Scripts, of conspiring with another company to charge higher fees and reimburse pharmacies at lower rates.

In a complaint filed last Thu in federal court in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, four retail pharmacies said that a three-year collaboration agreement announced in 2019 between Express Scripts and Prime Therapeutics was in fact a pretext for fixing reimbursement rates and fees, with no benefit for customers.

HMRs in "jeopardy" - CoPA

THERE are growing concerns that funding for the Home Medicines Review (HMR) program is in "jeopardy", with current payments ending under the 7CPA in Feb 2024, according to the Consultant Pharmacists Australia (CoPA), who is calling for funding outside the 8CPA.

With 2,150 plus signatures, CoPA's new petition is marshalling support and urging people to sign it, HERE.

CoPA supporter and Tas-based pharmacist, Angus Thompson said, "each review is funded at \$222 which is modest given a HMR takes several hours".

Further, there is no funding for travel, other than for round trips of 200km, which potentially "adds to the inequity between services in urban and rural areas," he added.

Remuneration has been fixed since Jul 2019, "so with increasing costs, credentialed pharmacists have effectively taken a pay cut since 2019," Thompson explained.

Qld-based Credentialed Pharmacist, Karalyn Huxhagen, who has advocated for HMRs

Kiss cold sores goodbye with Oraplex.

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COLD SORE RELIEF

HIGH POTENCY FORMULA WITH ADDED BIOFLAVONOIDS

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CVS pulls OTC med

US PHARMACY chain CVS Health said last week that it is pulling some of the most common decongestants with phenylephrine as the only active ingredient from its shelves and will no longer sell them to customers.

The move comes after a panel of advisers to US health regulators raised doubts over the efficacy of the ingredient.

Last month, the regulators refused to back the effectiveness of oral OTC medicines made with phenylephrine, adding that no more safety trials were required to prove otherwise, Reuters has reported.

CVS said, "other oral cough and cold products will continue to be offered to meet consumer needs".

Phenylephrine is a major component used in some of US' popular products like Benadryl, GSK's Advil and Kenvue's Tylenol.

#CyberSecurityAwarenessMonth2023

What are the current & emerging threats facing your pharmacy?

FRED



Closer check on off label use of baclofen

CORONIAL inquiries into two recent deaths have highlighted the need for health professionals to be more alert to the well documented risk of overdose with baclofen, stated the TGA.

This risk relates to intentional and unintentional overdose and is particularly pronounced when baclofen is used off label at higher doses for alcohol-use disorder, the TGA added.

The regulator recommends

close supervision of patients being treated with baclofen who have depression or a history of previous suicide attempts.

The optimum dosage listed ranges from 30 to 75mg daily, although higher dosages may be recommended for off-label use.

Patients and carers should be alerted to the need to monitor for clinical worsening, suicidal behaviour or thoughts, or unusual changes in behaviour.

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Dispensary Corner

A 50-YEAR-OLD man from Lithuania has taken chucking a sickie to the next level by allegedly faking heart attacks at several restaurants to avoid paying the bill, according to Spanish local news reports.

The man, who was identified only as Aidas J. but has become known locally as the "gastrojeta," has tried the scam at least 20 times over the past year at different restaurants near Alicante, reported FOX5.

Most recently, the man ordered a seafood paella and two whiskeys at the El Buen Comer in late Sep which came to a bill of 34.85 euros (A\$61.88).

The man attempted to leave without paying, but restaurant staff stopped him and noted that he needed to pay the bill, according to El Buen Comer manager Moisés Doménech.

The scammer became visibly upset and said he would get the money from his hotel room.

When staff refused to let him leave without paying, the man dramatically threw himself on the ground and pretended to have a heart attack, according to the news outlet.

Not fooled, the staff called the police instead of an ambulance, and the man was recognised by local authorities.

The Alicante National Police did not respond to a request for comment, but a spokesperson said that the man was, indeed, a repeat offender.

"He was arrested multiple times in the city of Alicante, and his *modus operandi* was the same," he added.

Slade wins UCQ tender

SLADE Pharmacy has won a five-year contract for the provision of comprehensive pharmacy services for UnitingCare Queensland (UCQ) hospitals (*PD* Fri Breaking News).

The Icon Group supports both the current incumbent of UCQ's pharmacy services, Epic, and Slade which should see the transition of service and management of these pharmacies underpinned by the same team, system and processes, for a "seamless transition for hospital staff, doctors and patients".

The service will transition to Slade Pharmacy on 01 Dec for The Wesley Hospital, Buderim Private Hospital, & St Andrew's War Memorial Hospital, and St Stephen's Hospital.

Icon Group Global Director, Pharmacy and Compounding, David Slade said the awarding of this contract reflects the exceptional patient care that this team has and will continue to deliver under the Slade Pharmacy brand.

"With nearly 60 years' experience in medicine management and hospital and oncology pharmacy, Slade provides an exceptional service to ensure best practice medicines management for patients in our care," he added.

"The awarding of this contract is



a testament to the hard work and expertise of our UCQ pharmacy teams currently operating under the Epic brand, as well as Slade's proven capability as a trusted healthcare partner," he explained.

UCQ's Group Executive Michael Krieg said one of the standouts for his team was Slade's "commitment to innovation, with proposed digital and ehealth solutions, coupled with their proven knowledge of hospital services that ultimately made them our preferred provider".

Icon Group CEO Mark Middleton added that UCQ is a great example of what strong partnerships can achieve, as "we've been providing day oncology services at the Wesley Hospital campus for 35 years, and now are excited to continue delivering pharmacy management services under the Slade brand". *JG*



Weekly Comment

Welcome to **Pharmacy Daily's** weekly comment feature. This week's contributor is **Amit Saha, Head of Technical & Innovation, LaCorium Health.**



The right wash to manage your acne

CLEANSING your face with an appropriate cleanser is a very important step in acne management, perhaps the most important one!

A typical acne management regime has three simple steps - cleanse, treat and moisturise.

Using the right cleanser can influence the overall outcome of the treatment quite significantly.

Unfortunately, most acne cleansers found in the market are either acid or peroxide based.

They surely can kill the acne causing bacteria and unclog the pores, but are they doing more damage than good?

Acid or peroxide based cleansers can be very harsh on your delicate facial skin.

It can cause unintended peeling and drying of skin, killing of all good bacteria to disrupt the microbiome balance of the skin and even increase your sensitivity towards sun.

Dermal Therapy's Acne Control Wash is a next generation cleanser that offers acne control benefit like sebum control and unclogging of pores, yet free of acids or peroxides to maintain the delicate microbiome balance of your skin.

It does tick all the boxes for acne management, why don't you give it a go?



DERMAL THERAPY'S LATEST INNOVATION IN ACNE TREATMENT!

- **Free from** salicylic acid, peroxides, bleach, soap, SLS and oil
- **Ultra gentle** foaming cleanser
- **Sensitive skin friendly**

Find out more about Dermal Therapy's latest innovation.

[CLICK HERE](#)



A solution for every dispensary

We understand your patients always come first. We feel that's the same level of care you deserve. We're not just a supplier, we're a trusted partner, so we'll always work hard to ensure your needs are met.



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returns and relieves some of the stress and pressure on owners and staff.

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WHERE THERE'S A WILLACH THERE'S A WAY

Don't sweat it!

Australia and New Zealand's #1
selling preventive cream for chafing.
Developed by well-respected New Zealand Doctors



① Neat 3B Action Cream 75g & 100g

Use in skin folds and between the legs, breasts, and buttocks, perfect for people who carry extra weight, powerful in-built antiperspirant, may also help prevent fungal infections & keeps painful chafing at bay.

This cream is popular amongst sportspeople and workers on-the-go. It's easy to incorporate into your daily routine, and you can use it AM and PM for best results. Apply a small amount to your problem areas, and enjoy a soothing feeling almost immediately. Whether you jog every morning or simply live in an area with a warm climate, this emollient, lubricating lotion prevents the skin's surfaces from rubbing together and becoming painfully inflamed. No more chafing. No more friction. No more embarrassing itchiness at the most inopportune of moments! 3B is safe for the whole family, rewarding you with the fresh, itch-free skin you deserve.

② Neat 3B Extra Strength Sweat Rash & Chafing Cream

Sweat rashes and chafing aren't anything to be ashamed of. They happen to almost everyone at some point in our lives. But accepting that these issues are only natural doesn't take away from the stinging discomfort that comes with it. For some of us, standard sweat rash & chafing creams aren't strong enough to soothe or solve our sweat-related issues. That's why Neat 3B has come up with an extra strength action cream to power-up anti-perspiration and sweat rash prevention.

1. Perfect for active individuals
2. Prevents painful chafing and keeps sweat rash at bay
3. May also help prevent fungal infections

③ Neat 3B Body Powder 125g

The Neat Feat 3B Body Powder has been formulated to use in areas that rub together and aren't exposed to much fresh air, like between the thighs, breasts, and buttocks. A quick shake of this potent formulation on your skin, and the powder will immediately get to work to absorb excess moisture and reduce perspiration throughout the day and night.

1. Absorbs excess perspiration and soothes irritation
2. Formulated by doctors to prevent chafing
3. Perfect to use where the skin's surfaces rub together
4. May also help prevent minor infections
5. A strong alternative to creams or powders



Neat 3B Body Saver Cream

This is an extremely unique product, with an inbuilt skin protectant to aid in the healing process and solves the problem of Sweat Rash and Chafing. A problem that causes a lot of pain to the sufferer and can lead to nasty infections.

This product can be used as an all over the body antiperspirant due to the unique formulation. Can be used on sensitive skin.



Neat 3B Hand Saver Lotion

Neat 3B Hand Saver Lotion helps to prevent excessive hand perspiration.

Neat 3B hand Saver is the only hand antiperspirant on the market with Moisturising properties.

**PROTECTS
MOISTURISES
PROMOTES HAND HYGIENE**



Neat 3B Face Saver Gel

Warm, humid weather, physical exertion and situations of emotional stress, menopause may all trigger an excess of facial perspiration - Ideal for sports-active people - suitable for men & women.

Neat 3B Face Saver Gel is a lightweight gel formulation that acts as both a Primer and an antiperspirant for sunscreen and makeup to remain fresher for longer.



Neat 3B Foot Saver Roll-On

Get to the root of the problem with the world's first roll-on antiperspirant deodorant - for your feet! This doctor-developed roll-on deodorant prevents excess foot perspiration and embarrassing odours through the power of science.

Infused with powerful antiperspirant, antibacterial, and antifungal properties, this easy roll-on deodorant is formulated using potent yet gentle.