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Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features four pages of news, including our **Beauty & Wellness** feature, plus full pages from:

- Dispense Assist
- Minfos

All-in-one solution

MINFOS is an all-in-one pharmacy management software trusted by over 900 community pharmacies across the country.

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For more information to book a full demonstration, see **p6**.

Wegovy available



NOVO Nordisk has a new brand of semaglutide to target weight loss, Wegovy, available in Australia from this month.

Semaglutide is the same active ingredient found in Ozempic, a type 2 diabetes treatment, which has been subject to intermittent shortages since 2022.

The TGA has published a web statement about the availability of Wegovy, which includes updated advice for prescribing for the drugs Ozempic and Wegovy.

To learn more, **CLICK HERE**.

GP shortage worsening

THE Department of Health and Aged Care's GP workforce report has revealed a significant shortage of 2,460 full time equivalent GPs in Australia, projected to grow to 5,560 by 2033 and 8,900 by 2048.

Released this week, the report confirms pharmacy organisations' long-held fears around a nationwide GP shortage.

The report has led to four peak doctor groups calling for immediate government action to address the issue, stressing the importance of comprehensive policy measures, improved training conditions, and targeted support for rural and remote areas.

Australian Medical Association President Prof Steve Robson emphasised the necessity of expanding GP training and improving conditions for trainees.

"We need comprehensive policies to train more GPs and support them in areas of need, starting with medical school and extending to clinical placements and career support," Robson said.

The call for more training was

supported by Dr Nicole Higgins, President of the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, who said, "we need to remove barriers such as loss of work entitlements and pay cuts when transitioning from hospital to private practice".

The Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Association CEO Kylie Woolcock commented, "despite having more doctors per capita than many countries, too many Australians struggle to see a GP".

"This issue is particularly acute in rural and remote areas and is now spreading to regional centres and outer suburbs," said Woolcock.

The Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine President Dr Dan Halliday said, "the implications of the GP shortage are severe in areas of need".

"We need targeted training and workforce opportunities to address these unmet needs and ensure continuous and integrated healthcare for rural, remote, and First Nations communities," concluded Halliday. *JG*

\$150 million site upgrade to fight AMR

PFIZER has invested \$150 million to enhance pharmaceutical production in Australia, focusing on new antimicrobial treatments to combat rising antimicrobial resistance (AMR).

Victorian Minister for Jobs and Industry, Natalie Hutchins, visited the site to mark the installation of key technology, including lyophilisers, and advanced robotics.

Anne Harris, Pfizer Australia & New Zealand Managing Director said, "we are thrilled to support the development of new

antimicrobials at our Melbourne site, and invest in advanced manufacturing capabilities".

The site upgrades, for completion by mid-2025 with commercial manufacture to start in 2026, include AI tech trials.

The facility produces medicines for cancer, antimicrobials, and more, exporting to over 60 countries and treating up to 15 million patients annually.

Described by the World Health Organization as a top 10 public health concern, AMR could result in 10,000 deaths by 2050 without intervention in Australia.

24/7 assistance

DISPENSE Assist is a low-cost staffing solution that can help with dispensing for dose administration aids, compounding, medicinal cannabis, e-scripts, and more.

Dispensary technicians are also available 24/7 at rates as low as \$6.37 per hour.

The company is offering a free trial of Dispense Assist for your pharmacy business.

Learn more on **page five**.



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mm2024.shpa.org.au/register



Stan Grant
KEYNOTE

Lanyon's sleep solutions



TWO in three adults (66%) are living with at least one sleep-related problem, hugely affecting their daily lives and overall health.

Poor sleep is a known cause that exacerbates chronic conditions like heart disease, diabetes, and mental health issues.

During Sleep Health Week (05-09 Aug), Lanyon Pharmacy is urging Canberra residents to prioritise their sleep for better health.

Pharmacist and Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP) facilitator Farzana Yousaf (pictured) highlighted the overlooked issue of sleep apnoea, a condition that can cause high blood pressure, weight gain, depression, and anxiety.

"It's crucial to diagnose and treat sleep apnoea early to improve these conditions," Yousaf told

Pharmacy Daily.

Yousaf encourages anyone with sleep concerns to visit their pharmacy for advice.

"The immediate results of sleep diagnosis and treatment are rewarding, not just for patients but for their families as well," she said.

Lanyon Pharmacy offers home sleep studies, patient coordination,

communication, reporting, and access to CPAP equipment, explained Yousaf.

She also noted that many couples sleep in separate rooms due to one partner's sleep issues, with snoring being a primary target of their sleep apnoea program.

"Sleeping through the night helps patients focus more on work and daily activities, providing them with sustained energy for an active life," she added.

Canberra father John Wilson struggled with severe sleep apnoea for 24 years before seeking treatment at Lanyon Pharmacy.

"The results have been progressively good for me - the immediate elimination of my horrific snoring was a big plus," remarked Wilson.

"I've noticed I'm not as fatigued during the day, and I feel more functional," he added.

The Sleep Health Week's theme, 'Pathways to Better Sleep', emphasises the impact of sleep health on overall wellbeing, and is raising awareness that while more men suffer from sleep apnoea, women are prone to insomnia. *JG*

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Healthlife moves to expedite scripts

HEALTHYLIFE Pharmacy Adelaide has reopened with a new look, featuring a dedicated consultation room where customers can seek advice from a pharmacist or a telehealth GP, and receive a prescription with a short wait time.

Healthlife Pharmacy banner group is the result of a partnership between Woolworths Group's health subsidiary Healthlife and SuperPharmacy.

Warren Turner, the owner and pharmacist of Healthlife Pharmacy, noted the significance of the new consultation room.

"Patrons visit Healthlife Pharmacies daily for advice on various conditions," Turner said.

"Some customers can be treated by pharmacists within their new scope of practice, while others may need further advice from a doctor.

"The consultation room for telehealth services allows

customers to seek advice from a doctor in under 15 minutes and get appropriate care without leaving the pharmacy," commented Turner.

Healthlife introduced a telehealth service in 2023, giving customers access to health advice from Australian doctors via the Healthlife website.

A standard 15-minute GP consultation costs \$39.

Healthlife Managing Director Ananth Sarathy added, "offering telehealth services in Healthlife Pharmacies will enable more customers to get fast and convenient access to a doctor".

Dying to Know Day foster connections

TODAY marks Dying to Know Day, an annual campaign aimed at helping Australians navigate living, grieving, and dying.

In 2024, the focus is on the community's role in fostering conversations about death and encouraging individuals to discuss their end-of-life wishes.

Despite 87% of Australians recognising the importance of end-of-life planning, only 35% have taken action.

Barriers persist due to stigma and a lack of accessible tools and resources for people.

This often leads to end-of-life experiences being misaligned with an individual's values, preferences or wishes.

Over 100 Dying to Know Day events occur each year, with the number of in-person and online events growing year on year, with the aim to foster open dialogue about this inevitable time in life.

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Editor's Choice: New Botani TGA-listed cream targets acne

In partnership with Botani.

CONTRARY to popular belief, it's not just teenagers who suffer from acne.

Unfortunately, it affects people of all ages, but now, Botani has released a multi-purpose herbal cream to bring relief to inflamed pimples and acne lesions.

The new Rescue Acne Cream (RRP: \$26.95) heals acne and blemishes without drying out or aggravating surrounding skin.

In fact, the TGA-listed product is claimed to have a 99.99% kill factor on acne-causing bacteria within just 30 minutes. It can also be used as a spot treatment and a mask on the T-zone area.

Other benefits include treating



blackheads and ingrown hairs and soothing irritations caused by minor shaving cuts.

While many acne treatments include harmful chemicals such as benzoyl peroxide, the cream features golden seal and lemon

scented tea tree oil to provide anti-bacterial, anti-inflammatory and anti-septic properties, supported by gotu kola and echinacea and green clay.

To order products, [CLICK HERE](#), and for more info, [CLICK HERE](#).

Body odour no more



MALE body odour and puberty go hand in hand, but strangely, most deodorants are aimed at grown men, not boys.

Now, a new brand called Neon Goat has recently come into the market, offering aluminium-free deodorants specifically for boys.

The brand was created by ex-New York advertising guru Jackie Baron, who was inspired to launch her own products after driving her boys to and from sport each week - and suffering through their stench.

"In an attempt to help my boys, I very quickly realised that the only brands on the shelves were mostly antiperspirants that contained aluminium," Baron recalled.

"I just knew instinctively, this is not what I should be putting on my young son."

"My 10-year-old smelt like a 28-year-old."

The two products in the range are the Shvitz Stick (RRP:\$26.95) and Shvitz Spritz (RRP: \$24.95).

Made in Australia, Neon Goat products are chemical-free and hypoallergenic.

Ingredients include aloe vera, Kakadu plum, quandong, lime pure essential oil, mandarin pure essential oil and bergamot essential oils.

Luxe-for-less butter

A NEW everyday hydrating rich body butter from luxe-for-less brand MCoBeauty has hit pharmacy shelves.

Packed with nourishing ingredients including soybean oil, coconut oil, shea butter, squalene and hyaluronic acid, the butter (RRP:\$34) leaves skin soft and smooth. MCoBeauty is available at Chemist Warehouse stores.



Qiara Everyday is here to improve gut health



AUSTRALIAN probiotic brand, Qiara, has unveiled a brand-new daily probiotic for a healthier gut and immune system.

Qiara Everyday contains the same trusted probiotic found in the entire Qiara range, and is specially formulated for daily use by people aged 12 and over to maintain a healthy microbiome.

The new gut health product is evidence-based, clinically trialed, and gentle yet effective, according to the manufacturer.

"Qiara contains a unique strain originating from good bacteria found in breastmilk, our first food and the foundation for lifelong gut and immune system health - proven to support digestive function, maintain a healthy immune system, and restore gut flora," the brand stated.

The probiotics are contained in convenient sachets, and can be added to water, fruit juice, smoothies, yoghurt or cereal.

Qiara is stocked in pharmacies around the country, including Amcal+, Blooms the Chemist, TerryWhite Chemmart, and Priceline Pharmacy.



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Find out more about Dermal Therapy's latest innovation. [CLICK HERE](#)



Dispensary Corner

IN A twist straight out of a sci-fi movie, researchers at the University of Edinburgh have cooked up a method to 3D print artificial blood vessels, according to *ScienceBlog*.

These gel-like tubes (pictured below) are so vein-like, they might just put the real thing out of business, revolutionising heart bypass surgery, and potentially saving thousands of lives each year.

Using a two-step process, the team first prints tubular grafts from a water-based gel with a 3D printer equipped with a rotating spindle.

Then, they give these tubes a superhero suit through electrospinning, a chemical technique that coats them in ultra-thin nanofibers.

Dr Faraz Fazal, the mastermind behind this plan, said, "our hybrid technique opens up new and exciting possibilities for the fabrication of tubular constructs in human-tissue engineering".

These artificial vessels are not only strong but flexible too.

In a vein-tastic breakthrough, the 3D-printed marvels, ranging from 1 to 40mm in size, are set to replace the old, unreliable synthetic veins, and reduce bypass surgery complications.

Dr Norbert Radacsi, who leads the study, had the last word: "we've basically created the Superman of blood vessels".



Millions for hearing loss



NEXTSENSE, a new \$75 million centre for research innovation, was officially opened this week by Prime Minister Anthony Albanese, at Macquarie University, Sydney.

The centre will support ongoing research, education, and treatment to enhance the lives of people living with hearing and vision loss nationwide.

The centre, supported by a \$12.5 million investment from the Australian Government, aims to deliver useful services that will advance education and research in sensory disabilities.

It will house allied health, disability, and cochlear implant services for children and adults, along with a school, preschool, and a major research and professional education program.

NextSense Chief Executive Chris Rehn said, "this new research centre is an important investment in removing barriers for people who are deaf, hard of hearing, blind, or have low vision".

"It will change lives and create new opportunities for the way education and services are delivered to all people with sensory disabilities in Australia."

Rehn added that NextSense will scale up to meet the growing need for in-person and remote hearing and vision services across Australia,

enhancing awareness and access to adult hearing care and early intervention for children.

MEANWHILE, across town in Western Sydney, The Shepherd Centre's new facility for children with hearing loss was also opened by PM Albanese and Federal Health Minister Mark Butler.

The Government provided \$2.4 million so the centre could address the unmet demand in the rapidly growing South West Sydney area.

The Shepherd Centre is expected to support more than 2,500 children with a hearing loss, and their families.

The centre's team-based, early intervention, wrap-around model has meant 100% of the children can attend their local school. JG

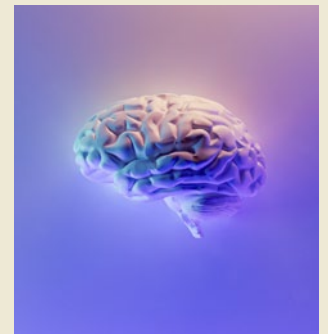
Ketamine study

BLINKLAB Limited has announced a collaboration with Monash University to study the effects of ketamine on human decision-making.

The research aims to explore how ketamine influences cognitive processes, with potential implications for treating psychiatric conditions like depression, schizophrenia, and PTSD.

The study will focus on ketamine's impact on perceptual decision-making and how it affects glutamate pathways in humans.

The results could validate BlinkLab's platform and pave the way for new therapies in psychiatric and neuro-developmental disorders.



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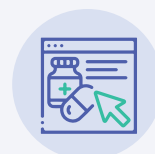
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