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Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features two pages of the latest news, a **Fact Sheet** from **Evidence Based Probiotics**, plus full pages from:

- **Pointrs**
- **WholeLife Pharmacy & Healthfoods**

Pointrs free trial

WITH over 5,000+ hotels and flights to explore, Pointrs is offering pharmacists ways to save on travel and 3.5 times more loyalty points than other providers - see **page three** for the free trial offer.

Grow your base

FOR business growth with a difference, consider joining WholeLife Pharmacy & Healthfoods, as it has strategies to increase your store's foot traffic.

See more on **page four**.

Intestinal support

BACTERIAL supplementation has been shown to help manage chronic constipation.

Made in Germany and TGA registered, Mutaflor is a probiotic to treat the condition.

See more on **page five**.

IV fluids supply

THE Australian Medical Association (AMA) yesterday assured clinicians that ongoing government coordination will ensure continued access to IV fluids across the health sector.

AMA President Prof Steve Robson commented that the group's timely steps are addressing the shortage.

EBOS posts strong FY24 earnings

EBOS has reported strong earnings growth for FY24, driven by both organic expansion and strategic acquisitions.

However, according to its ASX statement, FY25 performance is expected to be impacted by the non-renewal of the Chemist Warehouse Australia (CWA) contract, which contributed approximately \$2.2 billion in revenue in FY24.

Despite this, EBOS projects underlying EBITDA for FY25 to range between \$575 million and \$600 million, indicating growth of 5% to 10%, excluding the CWA contract (**PD** 06 Jun 2023).

Commenting on the results, EBOS CEO John Cullity expressed

confidence in the company's growth strategies, citing the group's diversification as a key strength.

The growth drivers include robust performance in both the healthcare and animal care segments, increased community pharmacy revenue, and cost reduction initiatives, Cullity said.

"Our sales revenue exceeded \$13 billion for the first time, reflecting strong performance within our community pharmacy and institutional healthcare divisions," commented Cullity.

EBOS stated that its community pharmacy revenue increased by \$497.4 million (up 6.8%) and the gross operating revenue increased by \$31.8 million (up 4.9%),

driven by retail brands including TerryWhite Chemmart's expansion to 600 stores (**PD** 22 Jul).

Other reasons for the increase include new pharmacy wholesale customers who are supporting segment share growth, and increased volumes for high value specialty medicines.

Excluding revenue from COVID-19 related anti-viral medications, community pharmacy delivered normalised revenue growth of 8.6%, added EBOS.

EBOS also increased its holding in Transmedic to 90% and completed four small bolt-on acquisitions.

A further trading update for the first three months of FY25 will be provided in Oct. *JG*

Misleading children's food claims

A NEW study by The George Institute for Global Health has found widespread misleading health claims on baby and toddler foods in supermarkets.

The research, published in *Maternal and Child Nutrition*, revealed that none of the products marketed for children aged between six and 36 months met international promotion guidelines, with over 75% failing overall nutritional standards due to excessive sugar and calories.

Lead author Dr Elizabeth Dunford highlighted the risks that early consumption of high-calorie, sugar-laden foods can set children on a path to obesity.

"Time-poor parents may be unaware of the deceptive marketing tactics that suggest these products are healthier than they are," she said.

The study assessed 309 products against the WHO's Nutrient and Promotion Profile Model.

Only 22% met all nutrient criteria, and none met the standard for 'no prohibited claims'.

Products often displayed misleading labels such as "organic" or "no added sugar", with pouches, accounting for half of commercial sales, having the most violations.

With one in four Australian children overweight or obese, Dr Daisy Coyle called the situation "concerning", emphasising the need for regulatory action.

In response, food ministers in Australia and New Zealand have launched a public consultation on improving food regulations for children, closing on 13 Sep.

Dr Coyle commented that "the food industry is laying the groundwork for very unhealthy eating habits".

"Immediate regulation is crucial for the long-term health of future generations of Australians," she concluded.

AV CEO resigns



AMBULANCE Victoria (AV) CEO Jane Miller (**pictured**) has resigned after a majority of the members backed a no confidence vote, calling for new leadership to "work towards fixing the service".

The union said the vote was called after members sounded the alarm over "low morale" and an "increasing and unsustainable workload".

The newly appointed CEO, Andrew Crisp, has decades of emergency service experience.

However, the union stated, "there is no time to waste in addressing the concerns that members have been raising for several years and resolving our 18-month dispute".

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Dispensary Corner

IN THE world of forensic science, shedding skin cells is suddenly a hot topic.

A new DNA forensics technique could measure a suspect's individual level of natural shedding of skin and other cells as part of evidence collected at crime scenes.

Researchers at Flinders University are developing a DNA technique that could one day have suspects claiming, "but I'm just a high shedder!"

The study, led by Prof Adrian Linacre, tested 100 people to see how much DNA they naturally leave behind.

The verdict was that men were the messiest, shedding more cells per square millimetre than women.

There was no difference in the deposition of cells between right and left thumbs so it doesn't matter if you are right- or left-handed.

But here's where it gets interesting - Linacre imagines a future where suspects argue that their prolific shedding explains why their DNA was found at a crime scene.

Out of the 100 donors, 98 consistently shed the same amount of cells, proving that once a shedder, always a shedder, explained Linacre.

The findings could help pinpoint exactly how long someone's DNA has lingered at a crime scene, speeding up criminal investigations.

So, if you're planning a heist, you might want to start moisturising - because your skin could soon be tattling on you.

PRODUCT SPOTLIGHT

Suppliers wanting to promote products in this feature should email newproducts@pharmacydaily.com.au

Botani's all-in-one solution for dry and sensitive skin issues

Botani's Olive Repair Cream is an intensive day and night moisturiser ideal for addressing dry, sensitive and damaged skin. Formulated with olive squalane, jojoba oil and olive leaf extract, this cream hydrates, calms, nourishes and strengthens the skin barrier while softening fine lines, reducing redness and combating environmental stressors.

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RRP: \$49.95

Order through: <https://direct.ch2.net.au/>

More information about Olive Repair Cream: <https://botani.com.au/products/olive-repair-cream>

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Supplier: Available via API, Sigma and CH2

RRP: \$29.95 (50g tube)

Website: <https://dermagen.net.au/>

Contact: rebecca@rebles.com.au

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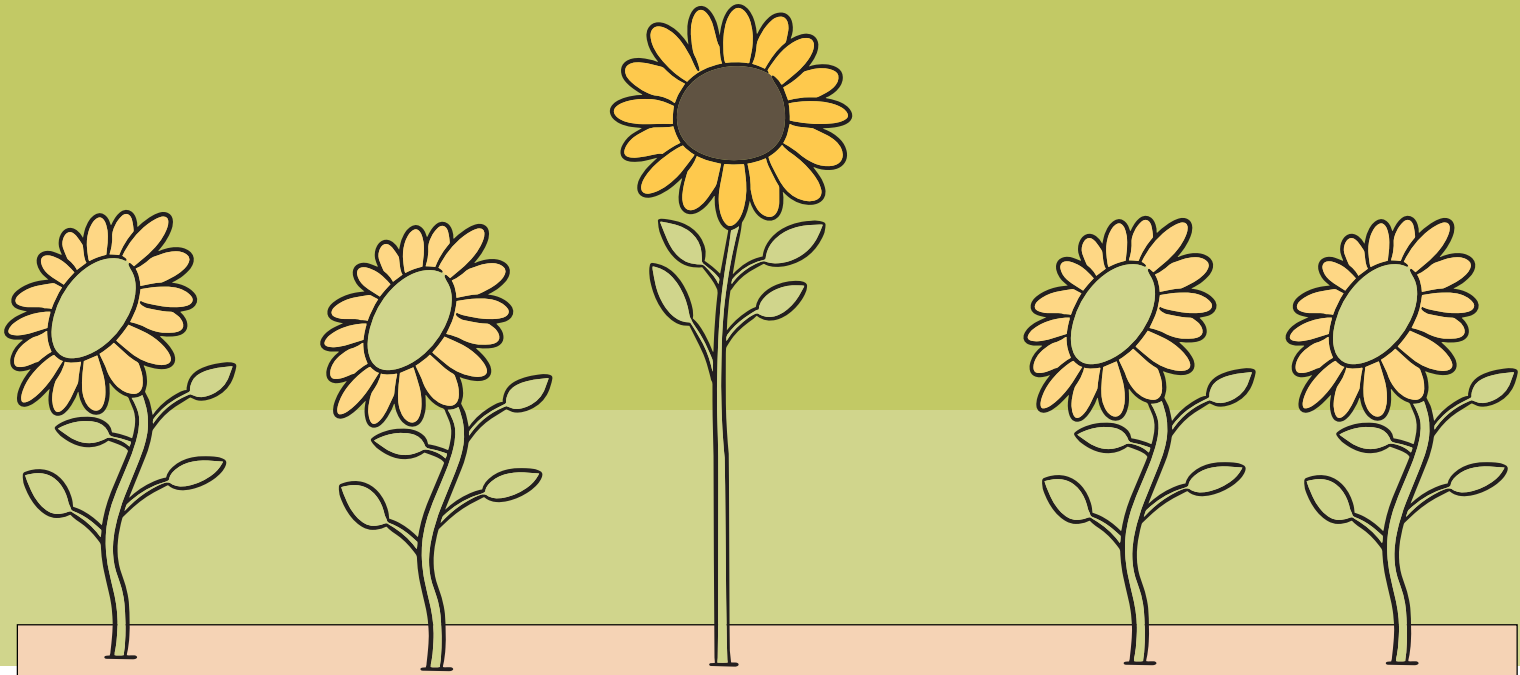


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Increases the number of bowel movements per day and the number of days on which bowel movements occur in patients with chronic constipation.

Chronic constipation is one condition which can benefit from bacterial supplementation.

While many factors can be attributed to constipation, the different composition of intestinal microbiota between constipated patients and healthy controls is part of growing evidence that an altered or disturbed intestinal microbiota plays an intrinsic role.

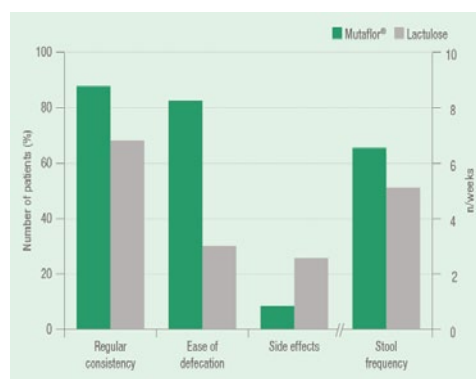
Mutaflor® *Escherichia coli* strain Nissle 1917 can influence constipation symptoms through the production of metabolites, the Short-Chain-Fatty-acids (SCFA) formic, acetic, propionic and butyric acid. SCFA's provide energy to the epithelium and have a stimulating effect on colonic motility.

SCFA's have anti-inflammatory properties which assist to regulate immune response and play a pivotal role in regulating 5-hydroxytryptamine (5-HT) serotonin production via enterochromaffin cells in the digestive tract.

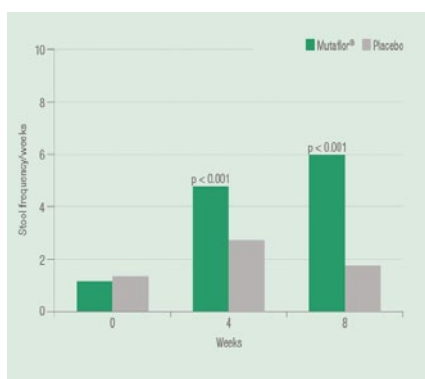
Two controlled clinical studies are available for the indication of chronic constipation.

As a result of an 8-week study, patients having received Mutaflor® had a significantly higher weekly stool frequency than patients who had received the placebo.

A second study proved that the efficacy of Mutaflor® and lactulose was comparable after a treatment period of 12 weeks



Consistency, ease of defecation, side effects, and number of stools per week; Bruckschen & Horosiewicz 1994



No. of stools per week; Mollenbrink & Bruckschen 1994

Patients	Design / Duration	Author / Year
35 Mutaflor® 35 Placebo	randomized, db-blind, placebo-controlled monocenter / 8 weeks	Möllenbrink & Bruckschen 1994
52 Mutaflor® 54 Lactulose	randomized, open, monocenter / 14 weeks	Bruckschen & Horosiewicz 1994



Learn more



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Nzakizwanayo, J., Dedi, C., Standen, G. et al. *Escherichia coli* Nissle 1917 enhances bioavailability of serotonin in gut tissues through modulation of synthesis and clearance. *Sci Rep* 5, 17324 (2015). <https://doi.org/10.1038/srep17324>

Möllenbrink M, Bruckschen E. Treatment of chronic constipation with physiological *Escherichia coli* bacteria. *Med Klin* 1994; 89: 587–593.

Bruckschen E, Horosiewicz H. Chronic constipation, comparison of microbiological therapy and lactulose. *Munch Med Wochenschr* 1994;16:241–245.

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