

Today's issue of PD

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

- Dispense Assist
- Guild Insurance

Low-cost solution

DISPENSE Assist can help pharmacy owners deal with staffing and cost challenges with its fully qualified technicians, available 24/7.

See more on **page four**.

Reducing AMR

THERAPEUTIC Guidelines Limited has released an updated summary for managing common infections in primary care, replacing the 2023 version.

The latest update aims to improve antibiotic use in primary care, ensuring effective treatment and reducing antimicrobial resistance (AMR).

To download the Antibiotic Prescribing in Primary Care: Therapeutic Guidelines Summary Table, **CLICK HERE**.

Fresh face elected at Qld Guild branch

THE Pharmacy Guild of Australia, Queensland, has elected Jess Burrey (pictured left) as a new member of its branch committee, following the completion of its stage one elections.

Guild's Qld branch President Chris Owen (pictured) congratulated Burrey for her election as a Member Elect for the Central Queensland District.

"I welcome Jess who has dedicated 15 years to community pharmacy in Emerald, and has been a pharmacy owner for eight years," Owen said.

Burrey, a community pharmacist for 18 years, graduated from the University of Queensland in 2005 and holds a Graduate Certificate in Business from the University of Southern Queensland.

She is also part of the Queensland Community Pharmacy Scope of Practice Pilot.

Burrey is involved in several non-profit organisations and is committed to enhancing rural health services.

She is particularly interested in mentoring and developing early career pharmacists.

Owen also acknowledged the efforts of Andy Hawken, the



outgoing committee member for Central Queensland, who chose not to seek re-election.

"Andy, proprietor of Dysart Pharmacy, has served with distinction since his election in 2020," said Owen.

"We wish him the best as he continues his work in rural town of Dysart," he added.

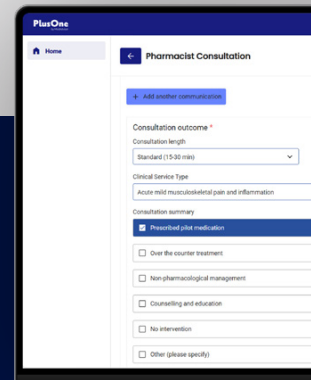
Re-elected committee members include Owen, Kos Sclavos, Rick Xynias, Amanda Seeto, and Fiona Watson for the Brisbane region.

Additionally, Cate Whalan (North Queensland), Lucy Walker (South West Queensland), James Lester (Sunshine Coast), and Chris Constantinou (Gold Coast) were re-elected for their regions.

The committee members will nominate for leadership positions between today until 01 Jul, with official roles commencing after the Annual General Meeting in Oct. *JG*

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Cover certainty

GUILD Insurance will cover various scope-of-practice pilots so pharmacists can expand their services with confidence, knowing their needs are met. Learn more on the **back page**.

LTR wins IPO of the Year

LTR Pharma, an ASX-listed company focused on men's health, has won the prestigious IPO of the Year Award, underscoring its entry into the public market.

The accolade presented by the Australian Stockbrokers Foundation in Sydney last week, highlighted Alpine Capital's role as lead manager for LTR Pharma's IPO, as instrumental in this achievement.

Since its IPO, LTR Pharma's stock surged 300% above its listing price of 20 cents, spurred by the news of positive initial Spontan results, with full trial outcomes expected in the coming months (PD 26 Mar).

LTR Pharma is dedicated to enhancing men's physical and mental health through the commercialisation of its nasal spray treatment for Erectile Dysfunction (ED) (PD 20 Feb).

ED affects millions of men worldwide, often leading to reduced self-esteem and strained personal relationships.

LTR Pharma's lead product,



Spontan, offers a unique solution with its intranasal delivery of a PDE5 inhibitor.

The method facilitates rapid absorption allowing the drug to take effect within 10 minutes.

Phil Cawood, co-founder of Alpine Capital, said, "working with LTR Pharma on its IPO has been a rewarding experience".

"The company's commitment to innovation in men's health is truly inspiring, and we are proud to have played a role in their successful market entry.

"This recognition is well-deserved, and we anticipate a bright future for the company," said Cawood. JG

Mirena use extended to lift LARC rates

THE TGA has approved an update to the label of Bayer's Mirena, extending its contraceptive lifespan from five to eight years.

Prof Deborah Bateson, from the Faculty of Medicine and Health at the University of Sydney, highlighted the importance of this development.

She noted that the extension could boost the use of long-acting reversible contraceptives (LARC) in Australia, where their adoption rate is relatively low.

"Mirena with up to eight years is now the longest-acting hormonal contraceptive, and this extension may encourage more women to consider LARC," commented Bateson.

The update is based on the phase III Mirena extension trial, which confirmed the device's contraceptive efficacy of over 99% and its consistent safety profile through years six to eight.

"GPs, nurse practitioners and



pharmacists across Australia, all have a role to play in facilitating informed contraceptive choice," Bateson added.

"We know that currently, only 7% of contraceptive consultations in general practice involve discussion of LARC.

"It is essential that women of reproductive age are informed of the pros and cons of the full range of contraceptive options; not just the various forms of the pill," she explained.

Prof Bateson called for expanded training and increased funding for LARC procedures to address these barriers.



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Dispensary Corner

IN A surprising twist, a five-year study by the Menzies School of Health Research has found that the Northern Territory's First Nations children have access to a vaccine that can effectively prevent hearing loss.

The discovery emerged from a comparison between two pneumococcal conjugate vaccines, +P (PCV13) and +S (PH1D-CV10), aimed at reducing hearing loss caused by otitis media or middle ear infection.

Despite initial expectations favouring +S, the +P vaccine emerged as the hero.

Children who received the +P vaccine had better hearing, with a 20% improvement over the +S vaccinated group.

This was a pleasant surprise to researchers who had anticipated the opposite due to the bacterial composition of otitis media.

Lead researcher, Prof Amanda Leach, highlighted the importance of these findings for future research and policy.

"We all thought +S would outperform, but +P stole the show," she remarked.

The study, funded by the National Health and Medical Research Council, involved two randomised control trials.

Leach, known for her dedication to tackling otitis media, was delighted with the trial's results.

"This is a big win for our efforts to reduce hearing loss in First Nations children," she said.

So, here's to science making unexpected breakthroughs, so kids can hear all those dad jokes.

Living longer, but inequalities persist

A **NEW** study published in the *BMJ* has revealed that people with type 1 diabetes are living longer, though significant global inequalities remain in diabetes care.

The number of individuals aged 65 and older with type 1 diabetes increased from 1.3 million in 1990 to 3.7 million in 2019.

During the same period, death rates fell by 25%, from 4.7 to 3.5 per 100,000 population.

While the overall results indicate improved longevity, the decline in death rates was much more pronounced in high-income countries compared to low and middle-income countries.

Death rates decreased 13 times faster in wealthier nations, highlighting substantial disparities in diabetes care worldwide.

Type 1 diabetes is traditionally



considered a disease that can severely shorten life expectancy, yet recent studies have reported an increasing number of elderly individuals with type 1 diabetes, likely due to improved treatments and care.

The study, led by researchers in China, utilised data from the *Global Burden of Disease and Risk Factors Study 2019* to estimate prevalence, deaths, and disability-adjusted

life years (DALYs) due to type 1 diabetes among those aged 65 and older from 204 countries between 1990 and 2019.

The age-standardised DALYs due to type 1 diabetes decreased by only 8.9%, indicating that while more people are living longer, the quality of life improvements are not as significant.

The highest prevalence of type 1 diabetes was found in high-income regions such as North America, Australasia, and Western Europe.

In contrast, the highest DALY rates were in Southern Sub-Saharan Africa, Oceania, and the Caribbean.

Researchers are calling for better health resource allocation, targeted guidelines, and further study to address these inequalities and improve diabetes care for ageing populations globally. *JG*

FIP's cessation talk

THE role of pharmacists in managing the burden of tobacco use in Southeast Asia, including cessation, will be explored in a webinar by the International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) on 27 Jun.

FIP stated that it is important that the role of pharmacists in Southeast Asia is expanded and consolidated, as 26.5% of people aged 15 years and over are current tobacco users.

The event will include insights from the World Health Organization, country examples of pharmacist services and the presentation of FIP resources to advance tobacco cessation practices through the profession.

To learn more about the webinar, **CLICK HERE**.

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For over 60 years, Guild Insurance has supported Australia's pharmacy profession through everything you do. Together with the PGA and PDL, we've worked hard to ensure our policies protect and reflect pharmacists' real-life needs.

Now that the PGA-driven scope of practice changes are live, we understand that, yet again, the real-life needs of pharmacists have changed, but our support hasn't. All Guild customers who participate in an approved scope of practice pilot can do so with confidence, knowing their insurance policy will still protect them.

What's a scope of practice pilot?

Scope of practice pilots will continue to evolve as state and federal governments and their agencies continue to work with our profession. In Queensland right now, community pharmacists who have undertaken 12 months of additional training can offer additional services to patients for a number of conditions, including school sores, shingles, mild psoriasis, wound management, swimmer's ear, weight loss management and hypertension, among others. It is these types of programs that Guild has committed to support through the addition of an additional benefit.

An additional benefit for Guild customers.

To provide cover certainty, the policy wording we apply to all Guild Pharmacy Business policies includes an additional benefit for 'Scope of Practice Pilots'. If you're already insured with Guild, this benefit is automatically applied. If you are not with Guild, you should ask your insurer if they can say the same.

If you'd like to find out more about Guild's exclusive support of pharmacy's scope of practice pilots, visit guildinsurance.com.au/pilot or if you'd like to be protected by a policy that is tailor made for Australian pharmacists, call a Guild insurance specialist on **1800 810 213**.

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