



Today's issue of PD

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

- **Dispense Assist**
- **Glucogel**

Low-cost solution

DISPENSE Assist is a low-cost staffing solution with dispensary technicians available 24/7 at rates as low as \$6.37 per hour, for services that include compounding and DAAs, among others.

Learn more on **page five**.

Spread the joy

GLUCOJEL is running a major campaign for a \$10k giveaway, so stock your shelves well with the popular product to attract more customers in-store.

See more on the **back page**.

PM's top prize for cancer drug success

SYNTHESIS BioVentures' founder, Prof Andrew Wilks, has been awarded the 2024 Prime Minister's Prize for Innovation in Science for his work in drug development, particularly the invention of momelotinib.

Along with co-inventor Dr Chris Burns, Prof Wilks created the JAK inhibitor that treats myelofibrosis, a form of bone marrow cancer.

Wilks' colleague and SYNthesis Managing Director Dr Fabio Turatti praised the award as a testament to Prof Wilks' contributions to Australia's biotech industry.

"Andrew's experience and expertise uniquely position him to guide the fund's investments.

"His success with momelotinib demonstrates his ability to identify and support promising medical research," Turatti said.

Momelotinib was acquired by GSK for US\$1.9 billion (A\$2.82 billion) in May and was recently approved by the US FDA.

This recognition highlights Prof Wilks' ongoing efforts to streamline



the path from medical research to marketable treatments.

His own experience with momelotinib, which took over 20 years to reach patients, underscores the need for more efficient drug development processes.

Today, he leads SYNthesis BioVentures, a venture capital firm focused on accelerating early-stage medical research.

The firm is currently raising \$75 million to invest in innovative healthcare projects.

Since its founding last year, SYNthesis BioVentures has raised nearly \$25 million and invested up to \$10 million in three more Australian companies.

One of these, Aculeus Therapeutics, is working on a treatment for paediatric cancers.

With over \$30 million in total funding, including \$3.25 million from SYNthesis BioVentures, Aculeus is preparing for human clinical trials and plans to list on the ASX within 12 to 18 months.

The company's other two investments are also progressing toward clinical trials.

Anaxis Pharma is developing a novel treatment for inflammatory diseases, with human trials expected in 2025.

Meanwhile, Skin2Neuron is working on a treatment for Alzheimer's and other neurodegenerative diseases, with clinical data expected within the next two to three years. **JG**

Pictured: Burns and Wilks.

There's now a smarter way.

Medview

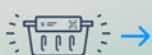
Digital Basket Technology



Patient orders script with pharmacy



Digital basket receives



Patient collects with SMS QR code



Think outside the basket.



APP2025 highlight

THE theme for the 2025 Australian Pharmacy Professional Conference and Trade Exhibition (APP2025) has been announced as 'Unlocking Your Opportunities'.

This theme highlights the potential for community pharmacy professionals to capitalise on new circumstances emerging from several recent industry changes.

Conference Chairman Kos Sclavos emphasised the importance of seizing these occasions, and said, "APP2025 will provide the perfect platform to explore these opportunities and help steer the future of our industry".

Earlybird registration is now open, offering savings of up to \$120 on the full conference.

The first 200 registrants using the code 'FIRST200' will receive an additional 10% discount.

APP2025 will be held on the Gold Coast from 20-22 Mar next year.



Call for sarcoma funding



THE Australian and New Zealand Sarcoma Association (ANZSA) is urging the government to increase funding for sarcoma research, particularly for early detection and better treatment options.

At a Sarcoma Community Connection event in Brisbane today, ANZSA highlighted the challenges faced by those diagnosed with this rare cancer, which affects both soft tissue and bones.

Sarcoma impacts around 600 Australians and 150 New Zealanders annually, with a five-year survival rate of just 50-70%.

Prof Peter Steadman is an orthopaedic surgeon, and incoming President of the international sarcoma group hosting the conference, ISOLS, at the Brisbane Convention Centre with ANZSA.

He noted that sarcoma is especially concerning for young people, being the third most common cancer in children and adolescents.

"Early detection is crucial, yet it's incredibly difficult to diagnose,"

Steadman commented.

"We desperately need breakthroughs, and that starts with greater investment in research."

Despite sarcoma's significant impact, it remains one of the least funded cancers, with little progress in treatment over the past 40 years.

Sarah Cheung, Chairperson of ANZSA's Consumer Advisory Panel and a sarcoma survivor, emphasised, "it's shocking that sarcoma has not seen a breakthrough in decades".

"As a sarcoma survivor, I know how difficult the journey is."

Without increased resources and research, patients will continue to face poor outcomes, she stressed.

"We need to amplify awareness of sarcoma and ensure people understand the gravity of this disease," Cheung added.

"Early detection can save lives, but without proper funding, advancements will remain out of reach," she concluded. *JG*

NSW vape audit

FROM the start of this month, certain nicotine vaping and e-cigarette products have been down-scheduled to Schedule 3 (S3), allowing pharmacists to supply them without a prescription.

In response, insurer Pharmaceutical Defence Limited has issued guidance titled 'Schedule 3 Supply of Therapeutic Vaping Products' to help pharmacists navigate this change.

The Pharmaceutical Services Unit (PSU) in NSW has also launched the e-cigarette Compliance Program to support regulatory compliance among pharmacists and medical practitioners involved in supplying vaping products.

The program aims to foster best practices, ensure compliance with legislation, and mitigate risks in the supply chain.

A key part of the initiative is the Pharmacy Inspection Program, which also began on 01 Oct.

Compliance officers will conduct routine inspections of pharmacies across NSW to ensure proper storage, sale, and compliance with regulations for Schedule 3 and Schedule 4 vaping products.

Pharmacists are encouraged to review PSU's audit tool to ensure they meet all regulatory requirements.

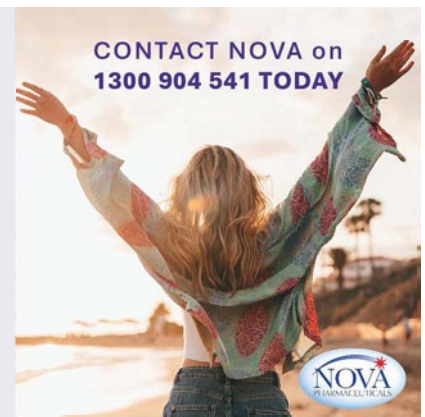
For more information on the audit tool, [CLICK HERE](#), and for the gov't's fact sheet, [CLICK HERE](#).



NOVELLA -1

"YOUR CHOICE" FOR EMERGENCY CONTRACEPTION

Ask your pharmacist about this product. Always read the label and follow the directions for use. If symptoms persist talk to your health professional. Novella-1 contains levonorgestrel 1.5mg per tablet. For emergency contraception within 72 hours of unprotected intercourse. Do not take this medicine: • if you are allergic to levonorgestrel • if you are already pregnant • if you previously had unprotected intercourse more than 72 hours earlier in the same menstrual cycle, as you may already be pregnant • if you have unexplained vaginal bleeding • if you have breast cancer. Tell your pharmacist or doctor before use if you: • are taking other medications • have any medical conditions. Read the pack insert before use. Contains lactose as monohydrate. Also contains pregelatinized starch, maize starch, povidone, magnesium stearate, and colloidal anhydrous silica. N260924+S31.0



CONTACT NOVA on 1300 904 541 TODAY



Editor's Choice: A day at the beach bottled in the Aqua scent

SILVER Scent has just added a new men's fragrance to its line-up, Aqua, which embodies the freshness of the ocean.

Launched at Sydney's iconic Bondi Icebergs on Tue by Chemist Warehouse and distributor Essentials Brands, the scent is a 'captivating duality of solar heat and the enchanting aroma of white flowers and marine accords with a mineral touch'.

Silver Scent Aqua by Jacques Bogart (RRP: \$29.99) is in the fragrance category of an aromatic aquatic, developed by perfumer Leonardo Lucheze.

The scent's top notes include marine notes, violet leaf and grapefruit; middle notes are orange blossom, melon and

lavender; base notes are suede, amber and patchouli.

"Celebrating 50 years next year, Silver Scent is in the top 10 fragrances in Chemist Warehouse, and across the whole gamut, sells around 500,000 units a year," the Essentials Brands MD Harv Kler told *Pharmacy Daily*.

"With Chemist Warehouse now a fragrance destination with its 500 stores, the exclusive launch of our latest scent Aqua into its pharmacies was a natural fit," he added.

"No other retailer also has the market penetration that Chemist Warehouse has, and it has captured the Australian market so well," Kler concluded.



DB's diversity models



THE six winners of the Icon Management x DB Cosmetics Unsigned Model Search were announced yesterday reflecting a wide range of backgrounds, identities, and experiences.

The winners include business owner Alicia Herlily (pictured), transgender flight attendant and nurse Alley Williams, endometriosis advocate Mikaela Talarico, law student Meghna Mitra, chef Rochelle Kao, and author Ebba Hasselstrand.

Each will receive a portfolio shoot, a modelling contract with ICON Management, and star in DB Cosmetics' 2025 'I Design Me' campaign with extensive promos.

ICON Management CEO Chelsea Bonner said the winners "embody the rich diversity and vibrant spirit of Australia".

"We're thrilled to welcome this year's winners as the new faces of the 'I Design Me' campaign for 2025," said Amanda Connors, CMO of Total Beauty Network.

"Their stories, strength, and individuality align with our core mission at DB Cosmetics: to empower and celebrate beauty in all its forms.

Stephanie Rupa and Eden Grace Pickering, the inaugural winners of the NZ equivalent of the search, will join the winners in the campaign.

Silvery look revived

CLOUD Nine has launched the Starlight Collection, featuring its most popular tools in a matte silver finish with chrome accents.

Along with the new look, the tools include upgraded technology. Frictionless Revive Mode is now available at all temperature settings on the new straighteners.

Additionally, the collection offers an 11-setting temperature control to help choose the best heat level.

Full range upgrades are expected next year.



Food that builds health backed by experts



BE FIT Food is a healthy food company offering Australians nutrient-rich meals and snacks to help them eat better, featuring recipes created by a team of dietitians and chefs.

The business was first launched by award-winning entrepreneur Kate Save, an accredited practicing dietitian and exercise physiologist who worked with clients struggling with weight loss and management for more than 20 years.

Delicious breakfasts include super crush smoothie; super green protein smoothie, baked bean & feta bowl; mixed berry protein bircher and French eggs.

Meanwhile, main meals include yellow vegetable curry; cauliflower fried rice & chicken; chilli & ginger baked fish; wholemeal beef lasagne; Italian beef meatballs; Thai green chicken curry; naked burrito bowl and plenty more.

BeFit Food is stocked at Chemist Warehouse, TerryWhite Chemmart, Priceline and more.



Introducing the first complete sebum control range for oily scalp & hair!

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

NEW!

Visible results in 7 days

Extends hair wash cycle

Sweet peach fragrance

No white cast

AUSTRALIAN MADE & OWNED

Dispensary Corner

MICHAEL Straight, a former jockey who regained his ability to walk after a riding accident thanks to a US\$100,000 ReWalk Personal exoskeleton, found himself grounded once more - not by a horse this time, but by a dead battery, according to *404 media*.

When the exoskeleton stopped working, he contacted the manufacturer, Lifeward, for a fix.

Their response was "sorry, it's too old".

After 371,091 steps, Straight's high-tech legs were benched by a \$20 wristwatch battery.

"Really, a \$100,000 machine, but a very cheap battery is why I can't walk," Straight fumed on *Facebook*.

Determined, he launched a huge social media campaign, went on TV, and rallied the horse industry about medical mobility devices that are not easily repairable.

Lifeward finally caved, fixing the exoskeleton.

But for a while, it seemed a dead battery had beaten a man who had once been bested by a horse.

Breast self-check a must

REGULAR self-examinations are critical for the early detection and treatment of breast cancer, and one breast surgeon, Associate Professor Sanjar Warriar (**pictured**), has developed a method to help women during the process.

Dubbed the 'look, lift, feel' method, women are required to stand in front of a mirror, shoulders straight and arms on hips, to look for any changes in size, shape or symmetry of their breasts.

Look for dimpling, puckering or any changes in skin texture.

"Then lay flat and lift your arm up over your head and with two fingers together, using the pads of each finger, place gentle pressure on the breast, moving your fingers around in a circular motion.

"Cover the entire breast from top to bottom and side to side," suggested Warriar.

"Also feel up under the armpit, change sides and repeat."

Women should also look for any changes or unusual lumps, thickening or hardened knots, or nipple discharge.

While most issues are benign, it is always important to see a doctor.

Colour change usually occurs due to general ageing and/or



pregnancy, although it's often overlooked as a symptom of the presence of breast cancer.

It is especially abnormal if it occurs only in one nipple.

"A woman's risk of developing breast cancer increases with age.

"Over 75% of breast cancers fall into the 50 to 74 years age group.

"Regular breast screens are the best way to find cancer early," Warriar said.

Self-examinations should take place once a month.

Women aged 50-74 are invited to a free two-yearly mammogram through BreastScreen.

Those aged 40-49 and over 74 are eligible to receive a free mammogram, but do not receive an invitation. *JHM*

Mental strain up

A **MENTAL** health leader is calling on the government to address the rental crisis on the Sunshine Coast.

"Affordable housing is a cornerstone of recovery for those with mental health challenges," said Carmel Crouch, MD at STEPS, provider of mental health services.

"We need urgent action from all levels of government and the community to address this crisis, not just for the general population but especially for those with mental health issues who are being disproportionately affected."

According to figures from the Everybody's Home campaign, low-income renters are spending up to 58% of their income on rent.

A 2023 report from Mental Health Australia found that for 20% of individuals, financial barriers stop them from accessing support.

"Many are already dealing with complex mental health issues, and the added strain of trying to find secure, affordable housing is pushing them to breaking point," explained Crouch.

Time to rethink your dispensary set-up?

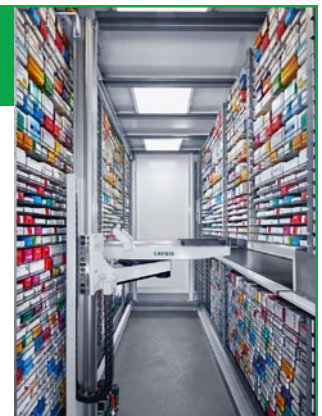
CONSIS.C The latest in pharmacy robotic automation

No matter the size of your pharmacy, contact us for a confidential discussion to explore the options available.

www.willach.com.au
Tel: (03) 9429 8222
info@willach.com.au

find out more

 Willach | Pharmacy Solutions





**STAFF SHORTAGES?
OVER-WORKED?
WAGES INCREASING?**



GIVE YOUR DISPENSARY THE HELP IT NEEDS

Dispense Assist is a revolutionary way of dispensing prescriptions in your pharmacy for a fraction of your normal cost.

Utilising the latest technology, software and security, Dispense Assist technicians work on your workstation to dispense prescriptions and perform any other task you require.



We are available 24/7/365 at a moment's notice whenever needed for sessions of 30mins to 24hrs.

Rates as low as \$6.37 per hour with the same rates for days, nights, weekends and public holidays.

Perfect for solving your DAA staffing issues and significantly boosting your DAA profits.

💬 Dispense Assist has been a game-changer for my pharmacy. We no longer stress about finding staff and save an incredible amount of money. Without doubt it's the future of dispensing. 💬



Curious to see if it's a fit for your pharmacy?

Sign up for a FREE Trial Now:



www.dispenseassist.com.au



Scan qr code



GLUCOJEL™

The Original Pharmacy Jelly Bean

**GLUCO
JOY!**

**WIN
\$10K***

10,000 REASONS TO SMILE

We're giving your customers a chance to **WIN \$10K*** when they purchase Glucojel. Make sure your shelves are fully stocked!

OUR PROFIT IS YOUR PROFIT.

Go to goldx.com.au/glucojel for more information.

*Terms and conditions apply

