

Cal-600[®]
Helps build strong bones

Available from API, Symbion, Sigma & CH2

Petrus PHARMACEUTICALS
Calcium 600mg
120 tablets

Use only as directed. Consult your healthcare professional if symptoms persist.

Today's issue of PD

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

- Dispense Assist
- Glucojel

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.

Learn more on **page three**.

Spread the joy

GLUCOJEL is running a major campaign for a \$10k giveaway, so stock your shelves well with the popular jelly beans to attract more customers instore.

See more on the **back page**.

Cloud migration for StrongER platform

STRONGROOM AI has announced the transition of its StrongER platform to a cloud-based system, marking a major step forward in its improvement of healthcare delivery.

The upgrade aims to enhance the experience for both current and new clients, strengthening the connection between healthcare providers and their communities.

Key benefits of the migration include streamlined employee management, real-time data access, and simplified admin.

Healthcare providers will benefit from centralised access control, improved onboarding, and the ability to securely share information across multiple sites.

Billing and subscription management will be consolidated, and automatic

Rural heart screening

OVER 3,000 people in rural Victoria and New South Wales took part in a recent heart screening program led by the Shane Warne Legacy in partnership with Novartis Australia, SiSu Health, and Wesfarmers.

The screenings (**pictured**) were offered at community hubs, including shopping centres and Priceline pharmacies in the Mallee and Gilmore regions.

Of those screened, 1,951 opted for a full cholesterol test.

The program, which focused on remote areas where cardiovascular disease deaths are significantly higher, revealed that 85% of participants had at least one risk factor, such as high blood pressure, cholesterol or a BMI over 30.

There were 12% who had all three major risk factors, underscoring the urgent need for better heart health



awareness in these areas.

Shane Warne Legacy CEO Helen Nolan said, "we know Shane would be proud of the impact we're having in these communities".

Novartis Australia's Cardiovascular Therapeutic Area head Marco Muscardo emphasised the importance of access to health screenings for rural populations, noting that better detection and prevention are critical to improving outcomes for heart disease, which affects millions across Australia.

This initiative follows the launch of the *CVD Impact Report*, which outlined how the WHO's Test, Treat, Track model could save over 4,000 lives and \$3 billion by focusing on prevention, early intervention, and community-based heart health testing by pharmacists. *JG*

Dementia tops list

NEW figures from the Australian Bureau of Statistics reveal that dementia is on track to become Australia's leading cause of death.

In 2023, dementia accounted for 9.1% of all deaths, just behind ischaemic heart disease at 9.2%.

For women, dementia remains the top cause, contributing to 12.2% of female deaths compared to 6.4% for men.

The data also shows dementia is the leading cause of death in South Australia, the Australian Capital Territory, and, for the first time, New South Wales.

Dementia Australia CEO Prof Tanya Buchanan emphasised the need for public health strategies to address dementia risk, referencing the 2024 Lancet Commission, which stated that nearly half of dementia cases could be prevented or delayed.

Currently, an estimated 421,000 Australians are living with dementia, and this number is expected to double to 812,500 by 2054.



software updates will ensure up-to-date features.

The cloud platform will also enhance security, offering encryption, automatic backups, and disaster recovery to safeguard sensitive information while ensuring regulatory compliance.

Additionally, StrongER's scalability will allow it to grow with providers of any size.

StrongRoom AI stated it will also provide customers with detailed documentation and updates throughout the migration process, supported by a back office team.

MedAdvisor for Pharmacy

Helping pharmacies transform for the future

Delivering:

- ☑ Anytime/anywhere access
- ☑ Optimized workflows
- ☑ Secure pharmacy operations

➔ Learn more.

MedAdvisor Solutions™

Relieves infant tummy discomfort caused by wind



Contains main ingredient:
Simethicone 40mg/ml

Always read the label and follow the directions for use.

teva

Make the switch to Symbion

At Symbion we provide the tools, experience and solutions to help you reach your goals.

Find out why we are the leading choice for pharmacies.



Dispensary Corner

LA TROBE researchers have discovered that nearly half the population has 'creaky knees' - and no, it's not a sign you're turning into the Tin Man.

Knee crepitus, that crackling noise when you move, may sound alarming, but it's not always a sign of trouble.

La Trobe's lead researcher and physiotherapist, Jamon Couch, found that while 41% of people have noisy knees, it doesn't necessarily mean their limbs are falling apart.

"People hear the creaks and assume arthritis is lurking," Couch said.

The research, which involved 36,000 folks, suggests that knee crepitus is also common in those without knee injuries.

However, those with creaky knees were more than three times as likely to be diagnosed with osteoarthritis and twice as likely to exhibit knee joint changes linked to osteoarthritis on MRI scans.

Couch's advice is not be fearful and to keep moving.

"If it's not painful, it's likely not doing any damage."

Qld pilots risky: RACGP

THE Royal Australian College of GPs (RACGP) has raised its concerns about the Queensland Government's decision to make its pharmacy pilots permanent, warning of significant risks to public health.

The Labor Government announced last week that, if re-elected, it would permanently adopt the Community Pharmacy Scope of Practice Pilot and the Pharmacy Hormonal Contraception Pilot (**PD 11 Oct**).

However, RACGP Queensland spokesperson Dr Bruce Willett criticised the move, calling it dangerous and politically motivated.

"The Miles Government is putting politics ahead of Queenslanders' health and wellbeing, and I strongly urge other parties not to follow suit," Dr Willett said.

"We've already seen numerous cases of misdiagnosis and incorrect treatment from these pharmacy experiments, including serious conditions like chlamydia, herpes, and even pregnancy misdiagnosed as urinary tract infections."

Dr Willett stressed that diagnosing medical conditions requires specialised training.

"What this shows is what the Miles Government doesn't



understand - patients come with symptoms, not a diagnosis.

"Diagnosis is complex and requires years of training - specialist GPs train for over 10 years to understand the difference between a minor ailment and something more serious," he said.

"None of these experimental pilots have been properly evaluated for health outcomes, and the Government has done nothing to ensure Queenslanders do not suffer poor health outcomes as a result."

Dr Willett also pointed out that the pilots "bypass Australia's national regulations for prescription medicines", which are overseen by the TGA to ensure patient safety. *JG*

No-gap eye checks

BUPA is offering no out-of-pocket AI-enabled eye assessments for its members.

These tests can detect broader health risks, including cardiovascular disease and diabetes, helping ease financial strain while promoting preventive healthcare.

Bupa stated that a recent study, published in *Public Health Research & Practice*, has revealed that 18% of Australians are skipping optical prescriptions or treatments due to cost concerns.

Additionally, 21% of respondents reported avoiding eye tests, despite them being fully covered by Medicare for cardholders.

Adrian Kemp, Director of Bupa Optical & Hearing, expressed concern that many Australians may be living with vision impairments that could affect their work, driving, or learning capabilities.

"Over 13 million Australians have chronic eye conditions, and that number could be higher with many people skipping appointments or leaving their prescriptions unfilled," Kemp noted.



NOVELLA -1

"YOUR CHOICE" FOR EMERGENCY CONTRACEPTION



CONTACT NOVA on
1300 904 541 TODAY



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. N260924S31.0

Pharmacy Daily
www.pharmacydaily.com.au

Pharmacy Daily is part of the Business Publishing Group family of publications.

Pharmacy Daily is Australia's favourite pharmacy industry publication.

EDITORIAL
 Editor - Jayamala Gupte
 Deputy Editor - Matt Lennon
 Journalists - Adam Bishop, Myles Stedman, Janie Medbury
 Editor-at-large - Bruce Piper
 Publisher - Damian Francis
 Associate Publisher - Jo-Anne Hui-Miller

ADVERTISING AND MARKETING
 Head of Sales & Marketing - Sean Harrigan
 Advertising - Laura Aghajanian & Dante Muranty
 advertising@pharmacydaily.com.au

Head of Operations & Contributing Editor - Anna Piper

ACCOUNTS
 accounts@traveldaily.com.au

Suite 1, Level 2, 64 Talavera Rd
 Macquarie Park NSW 2113 Australia
 Tel: 1300 799 220 (+61 2 8007 6760)

info@pharmacydaily.com.au

Travel Daily
 CRUISE WEEKLY
 Travel & Cruise Weekly
 travelBulletin
 business events news

Pharmacy Daily is a publication of Pharmacy Daily Pty Ltd ABN 97 124 094 604. All content fully protected by copyright. Please obtain written permission to reproduce any material. While every care has been taken in the preparation of the newsletter no liability can be accepted for errors or omissions. Information is published in good faith to stimulate independent investigation of the matters canvassed. Responsibility for editorial comment is taken by Damian Francis.

**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 DISPENSING AND OTHER TASKS FOR:



DAA



Compounding



Cannabis



Private Hospitals



Online Sales

and much more

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

Sign up for a FREE Trial Now:





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

