

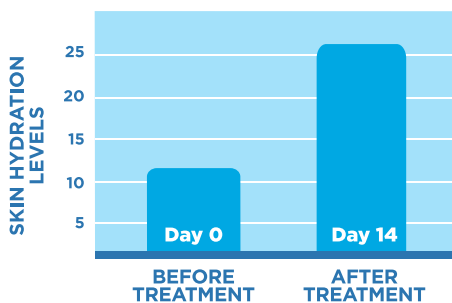
# Dermal Therapy Heel Balm:

## Is clinically proven to hydrate dry, cracked heels and feet.

- ✓ Contains **25% Urea**
- ✓ Visible results in **3 days**
- ✓ Suitable for people living with **diabetic anhidrosis**



EFFECTIVENESS OF HEEL BALM ON SKIN HYDRATION



*Dermal Therapy Heel Balm showed significant increase in the mean moisturisation value when compared time 0 and time 14.<sup>1</sup>*

### Diabetic anhidrosis

Diabetic anhidrosis is characterised by dry feet and the development of fissures, calluses and ulcers on the foot. If left untreated, it can become serious and may result in diabetic foot ulceration.

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## Today's issue of PD

*Pharmacy Daily* today features two pages of the latest news, a cover wrap from **Dermal Therapy**, plus full pages from:

- **Pointirs**
- **Willach**
- **Glucojel**

## Hydrating heels

**DERMAL** Therapy is clinically proven to hydrate and restore cracked heels and feet, with results able to be seen in as little as three days - more details on today's **cover page**.

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# Prescription bridge built to Tasmania

**PHARMACISTS** in Tasmania will soon be able to dispense prescriptions issued by doctors and qualified healthcare professionals on the Australian mainland.

Announced late last week by Tasmanian Deputy Premier and Minister for Health, Mental Health and Wellbeing, Guy Barnett, the *Poisons Act 1971* will be amended to improve access to medication for Tasmanian residents, with ADHD singled out as a particular issue.

Consultation on the changes to the legislation will begin soon, with the amended bill to go before State Parliament in early 2025.

Prior to that, Tasmanian GPs can apply for authority to prescribe certain medicines and have them dispensed by local pharmacists.

"We have heard feedback from those frustrated with the current regulations around interstate prescribing, and we are taking action to rectify it and ensure Tasmanians can access the medications they need.



"These positive changes will, with appropriate safeguards, mean that Tasmanians can access medicines that have been legitimately prescribed by an appropriately qualified health professional interstate," Minister Barnett said.

"The Department will also undertake a comprehensive review of the *Poisons Act 1971*, which will ensure we have contemporary and user-friendly legislation that continues to ensure the right balance between access and controls to high-risk prescription medicines," he added.

The news has been welcomed by the Pharmacy Guild of Australia's Tasmanian branch, with President Joe O'Malley saying an inquiry into how ADHD is assessed and treated,

along with support services, made a strong case for the reform.

"We have been advocating for change in this area for years now, and we welcome the announcement of this common sense reform from the Tasmanian Government.

"Tasmanians who receive medical care from interstate practitioners, as well as visitors and recent arrivals who need access to medications, have been left frustrated and shaking their heads while trying to get their scripts filled," O'Malley commented.

Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) Tasmania President Mark Kirschbaum FPS echoed the comments, saying the changes to the Act will have a major impact.

"PSA has a long history of advocating for harmonisation of regulations and legislation across the country," Kirschbaum said.

"We're glad to see Tasmania take action to ensure medicines are accessible and safe when and where they're needed." *ML*



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## Dispensary Corner

**AFTER** a four-year legal battle, a couple in India have welcomed a decision ordering a hospital to relinquish a frozen sperm sample of their deceased son so they can have a grandchild through a surrogate.

According to *BBC News*, the couple's 30-year-old son died from Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma in 2020 but asked for his semen to be frozen before he began chemotherapy.

In her ruling, Justice Prathiba Singh of the Delhi High Court said "under Indian law, there was no prohibition against posthumous reproduction" if the sperm owner had consented.

The couple have said they would raise any child born using their son's frozen sperm and in the event of their death, their two daughters would assume custody and responsibility.

While commercial surrogacy is illegal in India, another relative of the deceased man had agreed to be the surrogate.

## Telix seek US list

**MELBOURNE-BASED** Telix Pharmaceuticals has filed a registration statement with the US Securities and Exchange Commission with a view to list on the Nasdaq Stock Market.

The company said a listing would facilitate further growth among US and global investors but that it was not planning to issue any new shares.

Telix said its US operation was expanding through organic growth and acquisitions, with most employees now US-based.

## GPs slam Priceline screen scheme



**WESFARMERS** Health is drawing criticism from GP ranks over its proposal to allow women in select stores to self-test for HPV or cervical cancer, with claims patient safety may be at risk from ineffective follow-up.

As revealed in *Pharmacy Daily* earlier this month (*PD* 03 Oct), women will be able to walk into participating Priceline pharmacies and swab in a pharmacy's consultation room from Nov.

Samples would be analysed by Wesfarmers Health wholly-owned brand InstantScripts, with results delivered directly to the patient.

The Department of Health and Aged Care said an official had made contact with Priceline to find out if the proposal met the guidelines of the National Cervical Screening Program (NCSP) Quality Framework, including support and follow-up for those tested.

However, NCSP's Self-Collection Implementation Committee member, GP and Chair of the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Dr Lara Roeske, said women will be at risk

of poor follow-up and potentially hit with high pathology bills.

"How would Priceline's systems allow for the timely notification, recall, retesting or referral of people who self-collect with its service?," Dr Roeske said.

"In general practice, we have tried-and-true systems of follow-up where women fail to attend, and those systems are part of why we are accredited."

Dr Roeske also said women not eligible for the National Cervical Screening Program but who tested at a pharmacy could be hit with a significant screening bill.

"At this stage, what I have seen will increase the risk of inadequate follow-up; it will actually miss opportunities for appropriate investigation of people with symptoms, and it will result in unintended charges for those who are not eligible."

Women who receive abnormal results from a Priceline test will also be presented with a serious follow-up risk, Dr Roeske said.

*Pharmacy Daily* reached out to Priceline for a response but did not hear back by deadline. *ML*

## mRNA to excess

**THE** Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has shot down reports that mRNA-based COVID-19 vaccinations are contaminated with excessive levels of DNA.

The government body said it constantly reviews the latest scientific information about vaccine safety and that the claim failed to apply the required scientific rigour in pharmaceutical testing, leaving the results unreliable and creating concern regarding the safety of the vaccine.

**MEANWHILE**, a study to improve the safety and efficiency of mRNA vaccines has been carried out by RMIT and the Doherty Institute.

Using 156 blood samples from 19 people over 28 days after receiving a Moderna Spikevax mRNA booster, the study showed how mRNA and its nanoparticle shell peaked in the bloodstream two days after the jab, and in some cases remained for a month.

RMIT University School of Science Fellow, Dr David Ju, said the study was aimed at understanding the behaviour of anti-PEG antibodies and developing safer vaccines with fewer side effects such as headache, fever and fatigue.

"Understanding the causal relationship between the amount of vaccine circulating in the blood and these side effects will be an important area for future research," Ju said.

"To be clear, the amounts of the vaccine entering the bloodstream are very small, so people can be confident that mRNA vaccines are safe and effective," he added.

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