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## Today's issue of PD

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

- Dispense Assist
- Glucojel

## Low-cost solution

SEE p3 to learn how Dispense Assist can save pharmacy owners time and money at rates as low as \$6.37 per hour.

## Get more profits

GLUCOJEL jelly beans is running a large giveaway which will help pharmacy owners attract more profit - see p4.

## PDL reminder

PHARMACEUTICAL Defence Limited (PDL) has sent an alert to its members to raise awareness of TGA-approved RSV vaccine options, midazolam & Wegovy strengths.

# Pharmacy services expand in the NT

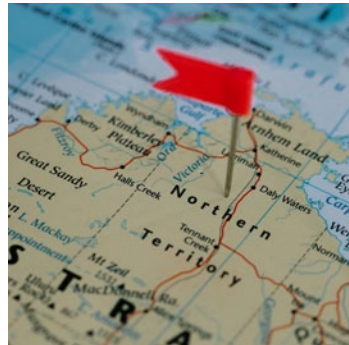
COMMUNITY pharmacists in the Northern Territory can now provide a wider range of health services, following the state government's decision to expand scope of practice.

Starting from today, a new Scheduled Substance Treatment Protocol means pharmacists across the state can diagnose and treat uncomplicated UTIs after completing approved training.

Announced on Fri by the NT's new Minister of Health, Steve Edgington, the expanded scope of practice includes the ability to provide a range of treatments, including Schedule 4 medicines such as antibiotics.

Pharmacy Guild of Australia NT branch President Peter Hatswell welcomed the announcement, as pharmacists are ready to provide the treatment.

"We thank the Chief Minister and her Government for prioritising the health of Territorians by empowering community pharmacists to do more for their



patients, so soon after taking office.

"The NT Government's commitment to empower pharmacies to do more for patients positions the Territory as a leading Australian jurisdiction in the delivery of primary health care."

The widened scope will allow pharmacists to treat a range of health conditions, including gastro-oesophageal reflux, eczema, and mild wound management, as well as manage cardiovascular disease risk reduction, asthma and obstructive pulmonary disease.

Pharmacists in the Northern

Territory can also now offer wellbeing services, including support for smoking cessation, and weight and obesity management.

Edgington, who was appointed last month (PD 12 Sep), said the measures will ease pressure on primary care services and hospital emergency departments, as well as reduce time and costs for patients.

"Community pharmacists are highly trained and regulated health professionals who have the skills, knowledge and competence to provide additional services.

"These initiatives encourage pharmacists to play an active role in increasing patient access to care while reducing the burden on other health services for conditions that can be safely managed in pharmacies," Edgington said.

As part of the reforms to the health services provided by community pharmacists, 19 other conditions are under consideration to be included in the expanded scope of practice for pharmacies over the next 12 months. JM



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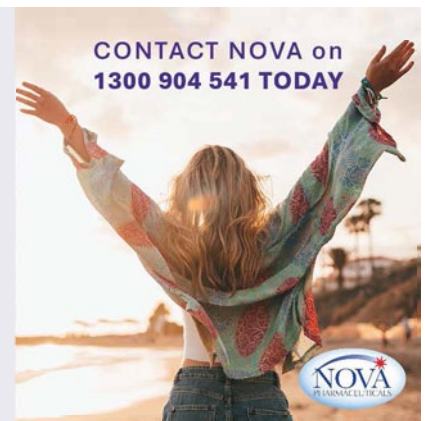
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## Dispensary Corner

**IN A** world where we practically live with our smartphones, charging them overnight feels like second nature.

But according to Khaled Bentoumi, co-founder of anyIP, our habit might be more of a health hazard than we think.

“Practicing safe charging habits is crucial for both the longevity of your devices and your personal safety,” Bentoumi warned.

First off, there’s the risk of “toxic fumes” exposure - yes, charging your phone could mean you’re breathing in traces of chemicals like lithium and cobalt while you sleep.

Lovely, right?

Those substances aren’t exactly a respiratory boost, with experts saying prolonged exposure could lead to everything from mild throat irritation to coughing fits - just what we all need at 3am.

The blue light emitted can also interfere with sleep patterns.

If your phone is charging near your bed, notifications and alerts can disrupt your rest.

Then there’s the fire hazard.

Sure, the odds are slim, but overheating chargers have caused more than a few surprise bedroom bonfires.

And of course, if your battery doesn’t set fire to your nightstand, it might just burn out early with constant overnight charging.

Bentoumi recommends giving our phones a break: charge it in the day, use certified chargers, and let both you and your phone breathe easier at night.

## PSA recognises top talent in Victoria

**THE** Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) celebrated Victoria’s top pharmacists at the 2024 Victorian Excellence Awards in Melbourne over the weekend, honouring six pharmacists for their exceptional contributions to pharmacy and community health.

Brian Meier received the Victorian Pharmacist of the Year award, recognised for his dedication to improving patient outcomes across the state, including rural communities in Horsham.

His work spans Residential and Home Medication Reviews, clinical governance, aged care, and promoting advanced clinical pharmacy



practices in under-served regions.

The Victorian Early Career Pharmacist of the Year award went to Dr Kate Wang, a senior lecturer at RMIT University, who is known for her forward-thinking approach to pharmacy.

As a key investigator on a national

project integrating pharmacists into aged care, Dr Wang is also exploring e-prescriptions and medication adherence.

Her collaborative research extends internationally, focusing on the role of pharmacists in supporting older adults’ health in New Zealand, Korea, and China.

The Victorian Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Prof Colin Chapman, former Dean of Monash University’s Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences.

With a background as a veterinary surgeon, Prof Chapman has mentored many students and pharmacists.

Even in retirement, he remains active in professional education and medicine reviews, as well as drug detection in horse racing.

The PSA Victorian Gold Medal recognised Michael Khoo and Kimberly Tran, a husband-and-wife team from Belgrave South Community Pharmacy.

Their commitment to personalised, high-quality care in their community set them apart.

Despite Tran’s health challenges due to a rare lung condition, she continues to work full-time alongside Khoo, making a profound impact on patients’ lives.

PSA Victoria President Dr Amy Page praised the winners, stating, “each awardee exemplifies passion and professionalism, elevating pharmacy practice and patient health alike”.

“We are incredibly proud and grateful for their achievements and the difference they make daily.”

These awards highlight the critical role pharmacists play in Australia’s healthcare system, demonstrating the impact of personalised care, professional innovation, and enduring dedication. JG

## AdPha celebrates as ANZCAP turns one



**ADVANCED** Pharmacy Australia (AdPha) has announced that over 2,500 pharmacists have gained recognition through the Australian and New Zealand College of Advanced Pharmacy (ANZCAP) program in its first year, with training expanded to over 60 hospitals and health sites.

Ramsay Pharmacy recently also opened the first Primary Care Resident Training Program, marking a new milestone by extending advanced training into community pharmacy.

In addition, ANZCAP has

honoured Monash University student Thaddeus Chai as its inaugural Pharmacy Student of the Year, acknowledging his engagement with ANZCAP’s portfolio platform, which helps students and early-career pharmacists track their professional development.

**Pictured:** AdPha’s first Primary Care Resident in training at Ramsay Pharmacy Mt Pleasant, Qld, Tyron Hochmuth, with AdPha Chief Executive Kristin Michaels and Ramsay’s Medication Safety and Quality Manager Ella Raguz.



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