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Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features three pages of news, plus a front cover wrap from the Pharmacy Careers Summit 2025, and a full page from Dermal Therapy.

Careers Summit

PHARMACY Careers Summit 2025 promises to be bigger and better than ever, providing invaluable insights, networking opportunities and career-defining discussions.

See the cover page for more.

Shrink pores

DERMAL Therapy's latest personal care innovation is an aluminium-free antiperspirant.

The fragrance-free formulation contains 100% natural ingredients to shrink, rather than block, pores.

See more on page four.

Peak bodies call for NSW drug action

PEAK bodies are urging the NSW Government to "act decisively" on alcohol and other drug policy to save lives.

The calls come after yesterday's release of the NSW Drug Summit Report, which put forward 56 recommendations relating to prevention, early intervention, community support, stigma, workforce and reform.

The Summit, which was held last year, heard from over 400 participants, as well as receiving 3,600 submissions.

RACGP NSW and ACT Chair, Dr Rebekah Hoffman, urged the NSW Government to "seize the opportunity for sensible reforms that could save lives".

"This report lays out a roadmap for reform that could transform how the state tackles alcohol and other drug use," she said.

"It states that effective, available and affordable treatment for people with substance use or dependence is crucial, and I

couldn't agree more."

The report notes that needle and syringe programs, with outlets that include pharmacies, received strong support and recommended expanding their reach, particularly in rural, regional and remote parts of the state where these services can be few and far between.

There was also a call to get naloxone, a drug that temporarily reverses an opioid overdose, into the hands of those more likely to experience an overdose or witness one, with pharmacies urged to better promote the availability of take-home naloxone in-store.

"Another of the priority actions is expanding access to opioid substitute therapy, such as methadone and buprenorphine, and increasing the number of GPs and nurse practitioners who can prescribe these medications - both of which we strongly support," Dr Hoffman said.

Another recommendation is legislating for a medical defence for



people using medically prescribed cannabis who are driving.

The Network of Alcohol and other Drugs Agencies (NADA) has also welcomed the report, and urged the Government to respond swiftly.

"The NSW Government now has the mandate they said they needed to make change - now we need to see action," said Dr Robert Stirling, CEO of NADA.

"There are no big surprises in the report which is pleasing to see, and the sector is united on much of what is covered.

"It's time to get on with meaningful reform." KB

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Ozempic, supplements warnings

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) yesterday issued safety advisories relating to Ozempic and Magnum XXL capsules and recalled various multivitamins, including perinatal products.

The TGA has advised that it discovered counterfeit imported Ozempic pens, and stopped them at the border.

While the pens looked identical to genuine Ozempic pens, they bore the batch number MPSD916, which is not real.

The TGA warned that products purchased over the internet may be fake; may contain the wrong or undisclosed and potentially harmful ingredients; and may not meet the same standards of quality, safety and efficacy as those approved for supply in Australia.

The TGA also advised that Magnum XXL capsules pose a serious risk to health and should not be taken.

The imported product contains the undeclared substance

tadalafil, which taken alone or in combination with other medicines can cause serious side effects.

The TGA points out that tadalafil is a prescription-only medicine in Australia and the supply of Magnum XXL capsules containing undisclosed tadalafil is illegal.

Finally, several vitamin and mineral preparations have been recalled due to either excessive or inadequate levels of iodine, and may cause iodine toxicity or iodine deficiency respectively.

The affected products are Orthoplex MagGI Restore 300g (batch 42660); Orthoplex Pure Children's Essentials 250g (batch: 43268); NRC Nutrition Preconception Multi for Women (batch 42469); and Naternal Vitamins EverNatal 60 capsules (batch 43311).

Consumers are instructed to return to place of purchase for a refund, or contact the product sponsor to ask what action to take.

More information is [HERE](#). *KB*

Demystifying the candidate journey

AS A first point of contact, the Australian Pharmacy Council (APC) is uniquely placed in the journey of prospective pharmacists towards general registration in Australia.

APC is the authority that assures quality in education for both domestic and internationally trained pharmacists, and is a constant for candidates from the beginning of their career right through to the end, assessing whether they have the skills, knowledge and competencies to practise safely in an evolving healthcare landscape.

In an intentional effort to transform the candidate experience, APC's 'person-centred approach' to service delivery ensures candidates receive supportive and personalised experiences throughout their journey - one that can at times be complex to navigate.

This is why APC is presenting

'Demystifying the Candidate Journey' at the Pharmacy Careers Summit (PCS25) on Jul 04, exploring the various steps and who is responsible at the different stages.

APC CEO Bronwyn Clark noted that the candidate journey has many milestones that need to be achieved.

"Navigating this process can be challenging given the various organisations, commitments, and responsibilities," Clark said.

"At APC, we aim to eliminate unnecessary difficulty for the candidate, within our limitations and obligations, allowing for a smoother path towards meeting these milestones.

"We have been working to develop helpful resources for local and international pharmacist candidates, migration agents and other stakeholders to use to further understand the complexities of the journey."

Learn more about PCS25 [HERE](#).

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Dispensary Corner

BEHOLD, the most fragrant news you'll read all day.

Gut microbiome expert Dr Maximilienne Allaart has lifted the lid on the science of flatulence, with a veritable treasure trove of fun fart facts.

Writing in *The Conversation*, she notes that the link between what you eat, how much gas you create and how the gas smells is due to the gut microbiome.

It may surprise people - at least those who don't socialise with body builders - to learn that animal protein is one of the biggest, smelliest culprits.

This is down to hydrogen sulphide, which is produced if your food contains sulphur.

"Sulphur is typically found in the amino acids cysteine and methionine, which are part of proteins," wrote Dr Allaart.

These amino acids tend to be higher in animal proteins, such as eggs and red meat, than in plant proteins, and too much is not a good thing.

Vegetable fart smells, on the other hand, are down to volatile fatty acids produced when the body breaks down fibrous food.

Another fascinating learning is that you produce your own signature fart scent.

"Your gut is a complex jungle of interactions between the body, its microbes and your food.

"And just as each person's microbiome is unique, so is the scent of the gas it produces."

The good news is that there are foods that can make your farts less smelly, including rice, corn, potato, quinoa, skinless chicken, turkey and fish.

Med cannabis helps symptoms

AUSTRALIAN patients prescribed medicinal cannabis maintained improvements in overall health-related quality of life, fatigue and sleep disturbance across a one-year period, according to survey findings published this week.

Anxiety, depression, insomnia, and pain also improved over time for patients with these conditions.

The multicentre prospective study recruited adult patients with any chronic health condition newly prescribed medicinal cannabis oil between Nov 2020 and Dec 2021.

The team gathered 12-month follow-up data to see if improvements reported at three months would be maintained long-term.

Of the 2,700 consenting participants who completed the baseline assessments, almost 800 took part at 12 months.

Participants with clinician-diagnosed conditions completed questionnaires covering condition-specific symptoms and health-related quality of life, which encompassed physical, emotional,



social and cognitive function, as well as bodily discomfort.

While the study was large enough to assess patients across a wide range of chronic conditions and socio-demographics in a real-world setting, with no control group, it was not possible to say it was definitely due to medicinal cannabis.

Despite this limitation, the results suggest that prescribing medicinal cannabis to patients with chronic health conditions may improve pain, fatigue, insomnia, anxiety, and depression, as well as overall quality of life.

The findings also suggest that any improvements would be apparent quickly and maintained long-term.

Read the paper [HERE](#). KB

Pharmx launches new, fast supplier portal

PHARMX Technologies has announced the launch of its new supplier portal, a proprietary self-service platform that enables global and local suppliers to trade with the entire Australian and NZ pharmacy market.

Pharmx Gateway, a leading ordering and integration platform used by 99% of pharmacies, connects directly with pharmacy point-of-sale and order management systems.

It promises to streamline the supply chain, reducing the time needed for the integration of new products from 12 weeks to one day.

In addition to onboarding and integration efficiencies, the new portal delivers a suite of advanced business tools designed to support supplier growth and engagement.

The portal will be progressively rolled out to existing suppliers within the Pharmx network, including Pfizer, Revlon, and CH2.

With a significant increase in supplier participation and product listings in recent months, Pharmx now offers access to over 120,000 SKUs across key categories including pharmaceuticals, beauty, wellness, food, and technology.

Sigma PharmacyIQ learning platform

SIGMA'S new PharmacyIQ Learning portal, an innovative online pharmacy training platform, is now live.

With an interactive and enhanced learning platform on offer, Sigma franchise partners and eligible first-line wholesale customers can access the platform on their mobile phone, tablet or desktop at no additional cost.

Most online learning modules are designed to be completed in 10 minutes.

Learning content includes quality Continuing Professional Development (CPD) content, essential Quality Care Pharmacy Program (QCCP) refresher training and other pharmacy educational resources.

Content categories include fundamental pharmacy skills, skin and beauty, healthy living and medicines.

Jana Pittman keynote speaker at MM2025

FORMER summer and winter Olympian Dr Jana Pittman is set to deliver a keynote address on her journey of pursuing a medical career beyond sport while also being a healthcare advocate and mother of six.

After gaining her MB BS, she completed a Masters of Reproductive Medicine and has started a PhD in obstetrics.

Among other roles, Pittman also became an ambassador for the Australian Cervical Cancer Foundation after experiencing her own personal scare with cervical dysplasia.

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