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## Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today has two pages of news including our **Weekly Comment** feature, as well as a full page from Sigma Healthcare.

## Diabetes-cancer link

A GLOBAL review involving almost 20 million people has shown that having diabetes significantly raises the risk of developing cancer, and for women the risk is even higher.

Researchers from The George Institute for Global Health found diabetes conferred an additional risk for women, compared to men, for leukaemia and cancers of the stomach, mouth and kidney, but less risk for liver cancer.

The findings published in the *Diabetologia* journal highlight the need for more research, the authors wrote - [CLICK HERE](#).

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## Collaboration consensus

THE Australian Consensus Framework for Ethical Collaboration in the Healthcare Sector was launched in Tokyo last week, with 50 signatories including Pharmacy Guild of Australia, SHPA, ASMI, CMA, CHF, Medicines Australia and NPS Medicinewise.

The framework is also endorsed by state, territory and federal health ministers, with the launch including addresses by Health Minister Greg Hunt and Richard Court, Australian Ambassador to Japan, during the 2018 APEC Business Ethics for SMEs Forum.

Ethical issues addressed included full transparency for patients around treatment options, financial charging structures, complaints and feedback mechanisms.

Workplaces are to be respectful of health employees and ensure transparency around commercial relationships and any "real or perceived" conflicts of interest.

"As the fifth largest contributor to national growth and in employing



over 1.5 million Australians, it is important that the healthcare sector exhibits and practises high levels of trust to the standards expected by the community," said ACF Leadership Team member and Medical Technology Association of Australia ceo, Ian Burgess.

"The Australian Consensus Framework for ethical collaboration provides a platform for this engagement," he added.

The consensus body commenced in Dec last year with a group of five organisations representing medical professional groups, industry associations and hospital and health services, and has now grown to more than 60 bodies spanning the entire Australian health system, the Statement explained.

[CLICK HERE](#) for the statement.

## PSA backs NSW Labor vax push

THE Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) has welcomed a plan announced on Sat by the NSW Opposition to increase the range of vaccinations available for administration by pharmacists in the state.

PSA NSW president Professor Peter Carroll, who's pictured right at the announcement with NSW Labor leader Luke Foley, told *PD* he believes such a move will "significantly increase the immunisation rate, and by increasing herd immunity it will have a very positive effect on the health of people in NSW".

He noted that pharmacist administered immunisation should not be seen as a competition with GPs, but rather a complement, increasing vaccination rates in the community by targetting those who don't regularly visit their doctor.

Under the Labor plan, from 01 Sep 2019 NSW, pharmacies would be able to provide the MMR vaccine for measles, mumps



and rubella as well as the dTpa vaccine for diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough, bringing NSW into line with SA, Qld and the NT.

NSW Guild President David Heffernan was also present at the announcement.

Flu vaccination in NSW has been a success, with an analysis finding 15% of people seeking pharmacy jabs had never received one before.

The age limit for pharmacy vaccinations would remain at 18.

The next NSW state election is scheduled for Mar 2019.

## Dispensary Corner

'LOVE Your Loo' is to be the catchcry of the Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati in an effort to stem the tide of weird objects people flush down their toilets.

Workers in the metropolitan drainage service in Ohio have amassed a surprising collection of toys, eyeglasses and other objects that made their way through the city's plumbing.

A filtering system ensures solid items are stopped by bar screens and transferred to a conveyer belt, but some items such as "flushable" wipes can clog the system costing many hours and hence dollars for maintenance.



**A BABY** born in a fast-food restaurant in the USA this week has been guaranteed a lifetime supply of takeaway - and a job when she turns 14.

The adventure took place in San Antonio, Texas, when the expectant couple stopped at a Chick-Fil-A outlet to use the bathroom while the mother was having contractions.

The restaurant was closed but the manager let them in, grabbed some towels and helped the husband deliver baby Gracelyn.

According to local TV station KSAT mother and baby are doing fine despite the emergency birth.

The couple said the outlet was their favourite eatery, and that they had already bought Gracelyn a Chick-Fil-A onesie.

## CHF urges MHR

**THE** Consumers Health Forum (CHF) says the current debate about opting out of the My Health Record (MHR) system should not overshadow the potential benefits of the platform.

Last week a three month opt-out period began (PD 16 Jul), sparking concerns about privacy amid reports that thousands of people will not participate in the scheme.

CHF ceo Leanne Wells said issues about the privacy of MHR must be resolved, "however it is vital that we recognise the substantial benefits that an effective electronic health records system holds out for health care in Australia".

She noted that unlike many other parts of modern life, health information concerning medical treatment, medicines, tests, scans and hospital care "still often remains widely scattered and not immediately available in the way we take for granted in other spheres, such as banking & travel".

Wells said the CHF would host a series of public webinars on the MHR, noting that patchy uptake by clinicians and consumers risks the system being a "white elephant".

## Corum Clear update

**CORUM** Group has announced that its new Corum Clear Dispense platform will be ready for approval by the Department of Human Services next month.

The company has developed the system over the past 18 months in consultation with numerous pharmacies across Australia, with the company saying a series of trade events and private workshops had resulted in "consistently positive" feedback.

Corum Clear Dispense targets optimal workflow, allowing community pharmacists to focus their skills on the health and well-being of their patients.

The platform is built for seamless integration of third party solutions and services within the dispense workflow, the company said, as well as being able to be "easily and continually adapted to the evolving needs of community pharmacy".

Corum said the Clear suite of products would also include an updated point-of-sale system, cloud-based reporting and an expanded toolset of head office store management features to support pharmacy networks.

"In parallel with Corum Clear, the company remains committed to supporting their existing pharmacy software products, including Corum LOTS and Amfac AWS," Corum said in an ASX update on Fri.

A significant upgrade to the Corum LOTS and RPM products is scheduled for a progressive release in the next three months.



Welcome to Pharmacy Daily's weekly comment feature. This week's contributor is **Amy Filicetti, Recruitment Consultant at Raven's Recruitment.**



## A cover letter is just as important as your CV!

**WHILE** we all know that a CV is a necessary part of the job search process, it should not be the only document you use to ensure your application progresses to an interview.

We have all been taught the importance of making a good first impression and I believe a strategically targetted cover letter is the most important weapon you can use.

A cover letter allows you to target that particular job and that particular employer in a very specific way, leaving the CV to market your background and experience as a part of the bigger picture.

A cover letter is where you can add those unique skills and the qualities you will bring to the role.

Your cover letter also gives you a chance to reveal your work ethic and attention to detail.

It provides glimpses into your personality that a list of achievements can't.

In saying this you must always be sure that you communicate this clearly and that the skills and experiences you discuss are relevant to the job.

A great cover letter does not just repeat your CV in a shorter form, you need to personalise it and tell the employer what it is about the job that is attractive to you and why you want to work for that specific employer.

Just ask yourself why are you choosing this job and why should they choose you?

## Win with HANDSOME

Everyday this week Pharmacy Daily and Handsome are giving away a **Handsome Men's Skincare Shower Pack** valued at \$29.95. This bespoke HANDSOME Shower Pack contains the popular 2-in-1 Shampoo and Body Wash. Presented in a smart custom gift box, it makes a perfect gift for any handsome man. The package contains:

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To win, be the first from NSW or ACT to send the correct answer to the question to [comp@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:comp@pharmacydaily.com.au)



What are some of the Australian botanicals that feature in Handsome Body Wash?

Check back tomorrow for today's winner!



# Sigma celebrates supplier partnerships

Sigma has announced its 2018 supplier awards in a ceremony at the Sigma Supplier Gala Dinner and Awards night held in Melbourne Thursday night.

The awards are designed to recognise and reward the critical role which business partners play in the effective running of the pharmacy supply chain.

In front of a crowd of industry leaders and special guests, the overall winner Novartis picked up two key awards, Supplier of the Year and Wholesale Ethical Supplier of the Year. While the National Retail Supplier of the year was awarded to Proctor & Gamble.

For more details visit: <http://sigmahealthcare.com.au/novartis-wins-prestigious-supplier-awards/>

Our retail pharmacy brands:



## Other award winners on the night

**FMCG Supplier of the year**  
Proctor & Gamble

**Health and Wellbeing Supplier of the Year**  
Blackmores

**Cosmetics and Skincare Supplier of the Year**  
Natio

**Medicinal Supplier of the Year**  
Bayer

**Services Supplier of the Year**  
ProQuest

**Wholesale OTC Supplier of the Year**  
Ego

**Health Services Supplier of the Year**  
Australian Pharmacy Sleep Services

