

Tuesday 27 Nov 2018



Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today has two pages of news plus our latest **Summer Spotlight.**

Vic pharmacy push

THE Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) has called upon the newly re-elected Andrews Government to consider improving Victorians' access to healthcare by better utilising pharmacists across the state.

PSA Victorian President Benjamin Marchant said pharmacists were often Victorians' first port of call for healthcare, but their skills were not being put to full use.

"PSA welcomes the election of the Labor Party and urges them to take full advantage of the pharmacist workforce by providing seed funding for a pilot of the shared care model, and removal of patient pharmacy co-payment for Medication Assisted Treatment for Opioid Dependence (MATOD) services in Victoria."

Marchant said the PSA was also calling for the appointment of a Victorian Chief Pharmacist to provide a "crucial link between regulation, programs, funding and infrastructure... a long overdue reform for a healthier Victoria".

AHPRA to act on privacy

THE Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) has announced a review of its policies and procedures in relation to safeguarding the confidentiality of people who make notifications about health professionals.

The move follows the conviction of a South Australian GP this month (*PD* 19 Nov) after he attempted to murder a pharmacist who reported his misconduct to AHPRA.

The case has "shocked and appalled" the Medical and Pharmacy Boards of Australia, with AHPRA saying while the tragic event is exceptionally rare, "it is clearly very serious".

Sun Pharma purchase

INDIAN pharmaceutical firm Sun Pharma has announced the acquisition of Tokyo-based Pola Pharma with the aim of helping Sun build its dermatology business.

Pola Pharma has R&D facilities and two manufacturing plants for topical products and injectables, with annual revenue of about US\$108m and a net loss of US\$7m for the year to 31 Dec 2017.

Sun Pharmaceuticals is paying about \$1m for the 100% stake.

The Agency noted it is legislated to receive and investigate notifications, and has a legal obligation to ensure processes are fair and transparent to both the person making the complaint and the registered health practitioner about whom concerns are raised.

AHPRA said it preferred that complainants be identified so the affected person could respond, supporting an open and fair process.

However in light of this incident AHPRA has asked the National Health Practitioner Ombudsman and Privacy Commissioner Richelle McCausland to advise on further steps required to protect notifiers.

The findings of the review will be published, with AHPRA saying "we want it to be safe for people to report their concerns".

Guild dinner tonight

AUSTRALIA'S pharmacy leaders will gather at Parliament House in Canberra tonight for the annual Pharmacy Guild Parliamentary Dinner 2018, with speakers including Prime Minister Scott Morrison and Opposition Leader Bill Shorten - see tomorrow's PD for all the details of the night.

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Dispensary Corner

COULD this be the next item on your pharmacy shelves?

A product which would make an ideal companion-sale has launched in Japan - but while practical, it bears an unfortunate likeness to a gigantic condom.

The new Teburagasa (translated as "Hands-Free Umbrella") from online retailer Dospara is claimed to be the ideal solution for commuters caught short in a sudden rainstorm.

Folding up into a convenient hand-bag or suitcase-sized pack, users can simply whip it out to keep the rain away, with the gadget (pictured) worn over the

head with an expanded disc which keeps shoulders - and your shopping - perfectly dry.



Britain have warned cat owners they could be breaking the law if they force their beloved pets to become vegans.

The RSPCA was responding to moves by a number of pet food suppliers which have expanded their ranges to offer vegan or vegetarian meals for animals.

The move aims to capitalise on the growing trend of ethical concerns about meat diets, but the RSPCA noted that as strict carnivores, cats need to eat meat and can become seriously ill if they are fed a vegan diet.

PSA honours Vic pharmacists



THE Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) recognised the contributions of pharmacists in a ceremony at the 2018 Victorian Pharmacists' Dinner last week.

Robyn Saunders, a pharmacist who has worked tirelessly in aged care and mentored hundreds of young pharmacists, was awarded the Victorian Pharmacist Medal.

Also recognised at the dinner were pharmacists Angela Lawrence, Dimitra Tsucalas and Christine Bellamy for their significant contributions in rural hospital pharmacy, community pharmacy and primary healthcare networks.
PSA past Victorian President
David Newgreen received a

Lifetime Service Award to celebrate his recent retirement from the Victorian Pharmacy Authority.

PSA National President Dr Shane Jackson joined State President Benjamin Marchant in recognising PSA Life Members Ann Howe, Tom Shen, Warren Ritchie, Russell McPhee, Joe Sztar and David Meller, as well as Student of the Year Rhiannon Froude from Monash University and RMIT gold medalist Sarah Hassan.

#GivingTuesday

TODAY is being hash-tagged #GivingTuesday by the Pharmacists' Support Service (PSS) to launch its Christmas appeal for donations to support its work.

John Coppock announced the launch of the appeal saying "PSS is a charity supporting pharmacists, interns and pharmacy students all around Australia through our telephone support line" - visit supportforpharmacists.org.au.



Framework for Change

THE Pharmacy Guild has launched its Framework for Change document – a practical guide to innovation for its members which has been developed as part of the Guild's strategic research project Community Pharmacy 2025.

This important publication can be viewed at CP2025 Framework for Change.

The Guild recommends its members download the publication, read through it and start to identify what steps they can take now towards making changes in their pharmacy which will help them to secure the future for their business and their workforce.

A printed copy of the Framework for Change can be obtained by emailing CP2025@ guild.org.au with postal details.

The Guild has produced a video message that explains a bit more about it.

Win with Plunkett's



Is Plunkett's Aloe Vera certified organic? Everyday this week Pharmacy Daily and Plunkett's are giving away an Aloe Vera prize pack valued at over \$50 each including Plunkett's Pure Aloe Vera gel 240ml, Plunkett's Pure Aloe Vera gel 75g, Plunkett's Pure Aloe Vera Spray 125ml, Plunkett's Pure Aloe Vera Moisturiser 200ml and one Plunkett's Pure Aloe Vera facial mask.

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To win, be the first from QLD to send the correct answer to the question to comp@pharmacydaily.com.au

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Jun Teoh.

Pharmacy Pailu

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SVMMER SPOTLIGHT



Pharmacy Daily's Summer Spotlight is your guide to all the essential products for summer 2018/19.

To feature here email advertising@pharmacydaily.com.au.

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Aero Snake Bite Bandage \$9.99 RRP

Aero Healthcare has released a new tension indicator bandage for the first aid treatment of snake bites. This bandage is longer (10.5m stretched) for sufficient length to bandage an entire adult leg. The unique stitching ensures the correct pressure is evenly applied over the entire limb by stretching the continuous indicators to form squares. Enquire for our current buying deal with your preferred wholesaler.

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