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## CWH would welcome "Colesworth"

**DISCOUNT** Pharmacy group, Chemist Warehouse (CWH), claims the Pharmacy Location Rules are stymieing competition and it would welcome the entry of supermarket giants Coles and Woolworth's into the market.

The discounter's Chief Operating Officer, Mario Tascone, told *The Age*, the current Pharmacy Location Rules were outdated and put "handcuffs" on the group's ability to compete.

"It's the only protected industry in Australia and in the year 2019, these rules make no sense," he said.

"We'd like the Government to allow pharmacies to discount the [Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS)] co-payment to whatever level they want."

Tascone voiced his support for deregulating the community

pharmacy sector, allowing supermarkets and overseas groups to establish pharmacies in Australia.

"It will be highly competitive [if this happened], like any other industry, and the customer wins," he said.

A Pharmacy Guild of Australia spokesperson dismissed Tascone's push to dismantle the rules.

"Chemist Warehouse claims to be wearing handcuffs, and yet they appear to have flourished under the current regulations," the spokesperson said.

Guild National President, George Tambassis, added the rules allowed for new pharmacies to be established "where there is a community need".

"Modern community pharmacies in Australia are part of the health system – the things they do



for patients across medication management and health advice and screening do not belong in Aisle 8 of a supermarket, or next to the alcohol or cigarettes that they sell," he said.

"Where prices are not fixed under the PBS, there is strong competition and consumers are able to take advantage of this – and they do.

"Pharmacy regulation has also not prevented the proliferation of discount model pharmacies – Chemist Warehouse is proof of that."

### Today's issue of PD

*Pharmacy Daily* today has two pages of news plus regular features and a full page from discount pharmacy franchise group, **Pharmacy 4 Less**.

## MedAdvisor automates 6CPA claiming

**MEDADVISOR** has integrated with the Pharmacy Programs Administrator (PPA) Claiming Portal to automate claiming for 6CPA programs through the PlusOne Platform.

The platform removes the need to manually submit via the PPA Portal.

Once pharmacists have completed the one-off registration process, the system will do the remainder of the work.

Automatic claiming for

MedsChecks and Diabetes MedsChecks services will be progressively activated across all MedAdvisor network pharmacies over the next few weeks, with other 6CPA programs and Health Outcomes Data entry will be enabled for automatic claiming as soon as they become available.

Robert Read, MedAdvisor Chief Executive Officer, said "we are proud to be the first provider to enable this for our network...our goal is to make medication more manageable for patients."

## Minfos-MIMS integration

**MINFOS** has collaborated with the Monthly Index of Medical Specialities (MIMS) to incorporate their drug-to-drug and drug-allergy interaction alert modules into the Minfos dispense workflow.

This allows access to MIMS' clinical information, which can help pharmacists to deliver better patient care.

The feature is now available to all Minfos pharmacies.



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**Jobs of the Week**

- **Pharmacist** - Mandurah, WA (Job# 200031140)  
Modern pharmacy with professional services and collaborative team vibe.
- **Retail Manager** - Northern suburb of Melbourne, VIC (Job# 200032944)  
Vibrant team; Tues to Sat roster; Well-established Pharmacy; \$\$\$.
- **Pharmacist in Charge** - Mid-north coast, NSW (Job# 200032692)  
\$40-\$45/hour + super, accom & relocation assistance. New reg'd welcome!

Your Pharmacy Recruitment Experts

## Find out which river cruise suite suits you

Read the Winter edition of *Travel & Cruise Weekly*

Travel & Cruise Weekly



## Dispensary Corner

**ANY** customer-facing role can have a bad day - here's one to let you know you are not alone.

The scene is a pharmacy in suburban London, UK.

The pharmacist (Ph) was at the counter:

Ph: "Is there anything you need help with?"

Customer: "Yes, actually. Could you help me get this box open?"

Ph: "I'm afraid not. If you open it you will have to buy it."

Customer: "But I don't want to buy it until I know what's inside."

Ph: "I'm afraid there's no other way around it. Once the box is open I am not allowed to sell it to anyone else."

Customer: "I just want to know what colour the pills are."

Ph: "There's an example on the box."

Customer: "Yes, but they always try to trick you."

She manages to get the box open and takes a strip out.

Customer: "See! They're blue."

Ph: "That's the packaging."

She then pops one pill out and inspects it.

Customer: "Well, would you look at that? It's pink. That's exactly what I want!"

She puts the box and pill on the shelf and picks up an unopened box.

Ph: "Actually, if you could give me the box you opened, I'll just sell you that one."

Customer: "You can't do that! It's been opened. You have no idea what happened to it!"

Have you a funny pharmacy story to share with us and your colleagues? Send to us [HERE](#).

## Pharmacist triage success

A PHARMACIST-LED triage pilot at a British general practice clinic is freeing up 34 hours of GP-time each week, and slashing waiting times.

Three months into the year-long trial, the clinic is considering expanding it to provide triage services for its out-of-hours service on Sat mornings, *The Pharmaceutical Journal* reports.

As part of the program, patients at the St John's Way Medical Centre in Islington, North London, have been advised to contact the clinic by phone to make an appointment, when they call the GP pharmacist assesses their needs and directs them to an alternative service if they do not need to be seen by a GP.

Prior to the start of the trial the clinic employed two GPs to triage walk-in patients, however, with the pharmacist one GP has been freed up to provide clinical care.

"A three-month review of the project has shown positive results," a spokesperson for the clinic said.



"We have managed to reduce the waiting time for patients to see a GP on the same day and have also reduced the total number of same-day face-to-face contacts with a GP."

Islington GP Federation Lead Pharmacist, Soumia Gillam, said the trial's initial success had prompted consideration of extending the service to the I:HUB out-of-hours GP clinic, noting that more than one-in-five calls to the service related to medication queries, while a further 13% related to minor injuries or suspected urinary tract infections.

"About 40% of those [I:HUB] patients could be managed by a clinical pharmacist," Gillam said.

"They do not necessarily need to see a GP."

## Win with ULTRASENSITIVE

This week Pharmacy Daily and ecostore are giving readers the chance to win a prize pack of products from ecostore's ULTRASENSITIVE home and body range, valued at over \$90.

Be in to win a shelf-ready pack of ecostore's key ULTRASENSITIVE products and supporting collateral, to offer your customers an asthma and allergy-aware solution for home and body care. Approved by Sensitive Choice for Australians with sensitivities. [CLICK HERE](#) for more.

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

Which consumers are the ecostore ULTRASENSITIVE home and body care ranges safer for?

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Anna Phan.



## CSL HQ in Melb

**GLOBAL** biotechnology leader CSL Limited today announced it has entered into an agreement with property developer PDG to build world-class laboratories and offices to house the company's global corporate headquarters in the Parkville biomedical precinct.

The new development will accommodate more than 800 CSL employees including early stage research and product development teams, commercial operations, corporate functions and support services.



## Events Calendar

**WELCOME** to *Pharmacy Daily's* events calendar, opportunities to earn CPE and CPD points.

If you have an upcoming event you'd like us to feature, email [info@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:info@pharmacydaily.com.au).

**05 - 07 Sep:** Pharmacy Connect; Hilton Hotel, Sydney; for details and to register visit: [www.pharmacy-connect.com.au](http://www.pharmacy-connect.com.au)

**11 - 13 Oct:** Pharmacy Assistant National Conference; Sofitel Brisbane Central; for more info and to register see: [www.pharmacyassistants.com](http://www.pharmacyassistants.com)

**14 - 16 Nov:** SHPA Medicines Management 2019 (MM2019); GCCEC, Gold Coast; early bird registrations close 16 Sep: [www.mm2019shpa.com](http://www.mm2019shpa.com)

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