

## Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today has two pages of news plus a full page from Monash University.

## Footy tipping winners

**CONGRATULATIONS** to this week's winners of the *Pharmacy Daily* footy tipping competition. Con Barbayannis from Star Pharmacy took out top spot in AFL Round 7, while David Carter from Karen Carter Chemist was winner of the Round 8 NRL contest. Overall winners in each code this season will take home a \$1,000 voucher courtesy of Guild Digital. For details visit [pharmacydaily.com.au/footy-tipping](http://pharmacydaily.com.au/footy-tipping).

## Standards consult

**THE** Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care has released the draft *NSQHS Standards User Guide for Medication Management in Cancer Care* for public consultation. The aim of the User Guide is to help health services support patients receiving medicine treatments for cancer care. This User Guide will be a useful aid to hospital pharmacists and community pharmacists as well as other health professionals such as medical oncologists, haematologists, hospital nurses, general practitioners and community nurses. The Commission said the consultation is open until 24 May and invites stakeholders to view the guide and have their say. **CLICK HERE** for details and links.

## Public back penalty rates

**PHARMACY** staff deserve more for working on Sundays, data from ABC's Vote Compass reveals. The poll found two-thirds of Australians support Labor's plan to reintroduce penalty rates within 100 days, should they be elected on 18 May. Labor voters were the most likely to call for the reintroduction of Sunday rates (83%), followed by Green Party supporters (70%) and One Nation (61%), while Coalition voters were divided on the idea (39% supporting Sunday rates, with 40% wanting to retain the status quo). The broadcaster reported that constituencies with higher proportions of professionals and

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## Vit C cuts ICU stays

**VITAMIN C** may help to reduce the length of stays in intensive care units (ICU), according to a new meta-analysis published in the journal *Nutrients*. The study included 18 trials, involving a total of 1835 patients, with vitamin C administered orally in seven trials and intravenously in 11 trials. Doses ranging from 0.5 to 110 g/day reduced the length of an ICU stay on average by 7.8%, while doses of 1–3 g/day reduced the length of ICU stay by 8.6%. "Given that vitamin C has diverse effects on medical conditions it is possible that these effects may also lead to practical benefits," researchers wrote. "A previous meta-analysis of 11 trials on patients undergoing elective cardiac surgery found that vitamin C shortened hospital stay on average by 10%." Access the Sydney-Helsinki study at [mdpi.com](http://mdpi.com).

## Eggs-ellent for vit D

**NEW** nutritional analyses of a representative sample of eggs from across Australia reveals an average serve (2 x 60g eggs) provides 82% of the recommended dietary intake (RDI) of vitamin D. The 2018 Nutritional Review into Eggs found that the nutritional profile of eggs has remained relatively stable between 2007-2018, continuing to provide 11 different vitamins and minerals in amounts greater than 10% of the recommended dietary intake (RDI) per serve. The analyses were conducted by Food & Nutrition Australia. See more at [foodnut.com.au](http://foodnut.com.au).



managers, were more likely to support retaining the cuts, while inner city electorates were the keenest supporters of bringing Sunday penalty rates back.

In addition to the call for the reintroduction of penalty rates, 71% of voters felt the minimum wage should be increased, with support from across the political spectrum.

More than 80% of Labor and Greens supporters believe the minimum wages should be raised by the next Government, while 61% of One Nation voters have backed an increase, with 49% of those who intend voting for the Coalition support boosting the minimum wage.

The survey also found the perception of trade union power has declined since 2016, with 36% of voters now claiming unions have too much power in the workplace, down from 41%.

**KLOXEMA**  
clobetasone butyrate 0.05%  
**NEW**

**DermAid**  
hydrocortisone 1.0%, 0.5%

**Zatamil**  
mometasone furoate 0.1%

Moderate strength topical corticosteroid

Mild strength topical corticosteroid

Potent strength topical corticosteroid<sup>1,2</sup>

**GO FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH**

Topical corticosteroid options for eczema, dermatitis and other steroid responsive skin conditions.<sup>3,4,5</sup>

**DermAid:** Use for the temporary relief of minor skin irritations, itching and rashes due to eczema, dermatitis, cosmetics, jewellery, itching genital and anal areas and sunburn. DermAid 1% cream: Apply a thin layer to affected skin 1-2 times daily as required.

**Kloxema:** Short term (up to 7 days) treatment of milder forms of eczema, dermatitis and other steroid responsive skin conditions. Dosage: For 12 years and over. Apply a thin film and gently rub in, using only enough to cover the affected area twice daily for up to 7 days. Contraindications: Kloxema cream should not be used in patients with a history of hypersensitivity to clobetasone butyrate or to any of the excipients in the product. Rosacea, acne, pruritis without rash, perioral dermatitis; Untreated bacterial infections such as cellulitis, folliculitis, furunculosis or impetigo; Fungal infections such as those associated with tinea (eg athlete's foot, jock itch); Viral infections including cold sores (herpes simplex), chicken pox or shingles (Varicella zoster) or vaccinia; Parasitic infestations such as scabies. Do not use on broken or infected skin or on inflamed skin near chronic ulcers. Topical corticosteroids inhibit wound healing processes and are contraindicated in skin ulcers, cuts and abrasions.

Before prescribing/recommending please refer to the full Product Information. Full Product Information is available on request from Ego Pharmaceuticals Pty Ltd. [Click here](#) for Zatamil Approved Product Information.

**PBS Information:** Zatamil Lotion and Zatamil Ointment 15g: Restricted benefits. Treatment of corticosteroid-responsive dermatoses. Zatamil Lotion and Zatamil Ointment 15g: Authority Required (Streamlined) for increased quantities. Refer to PBS Schedule for full authority information. Zatamil Hydrogel and Zatamil Ointment 45g: These products are not listed on the PBS.

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## Dispensary Corner

**FEELING** community-minded? Here's a way to express it, if you are in England anyway. Across England, 3,683 of the country's iconic red telephone boxes are up for grabs as part of the Adopt A Kiosk scheme - and hundreds more are available in Wales and Scotland.

And they only cost £1. Another victim of the ubiquitous mobile phone, the established mini-structures dotted all over the landscape will remain in place, will continue to have free power supplied for lighting but serve new functions.

Some uses already in place include mini-libraries, defibrillator stations, tiny art museums, info centres and even cake shops.

One payphone in Devon was even turned into the "world's smallest nightclub".

No sign of a mini-pharmacy yet...



**"YOU** had just one job..."

History is littered with examples of failings by the person who had only a single matter to attend to.

Here are some more; the road-sign writer who transposed the arrow directions, creating havoc, the window sign-writer who painted huge colourful letters advertising a SLAE, and this Airliner livery so neatly executed.



## Pharmacists collaborate

**SHARING** prescribing data in a standardised format to improve communications between healthcare professionals should result in better patient safety, according to the UK Professional Record Standards Body (PRSB), part of NHS England.

Published at the end of Apr, the PRSB guidance aims to improve patient safety by having up to date and accurate medication information available whenever and wherever it is needed.

The main audience for the guidance document is the front-line healthcare professional, who will be implementing and using prescribing and pharmacy systems which will incorporate a new standard way of expressing medicines information and dosage instructions.

The benefits and purpose of sharing these data along with the need for agreed standards are included along with definitions of what the standards cover and what they will not.

Importantly, the guidance is

published in two forms - technical for IT administrators and non-technical for health professionals.

Using compatible systems will enable relevant information about patient medications, including detailed dosage instructions to be accurately communicated when a patient moves from one care setting to another.

"For healthcare systems to communicate this information reliably and accurately there is a need for a standard for medication, its dosage, timings and directions information," the PRSB says.

The intention of computer-computer communication is to reduce manual translation and re-entering of medications information, areas which the PRSB says are prone to errors.

"This should provide safer care for patients, and more efficient and reliable and unambiguous information for professionals."

Access the non-technical guidance at [theprsb.org](http://theprsb.org) and the technical version at [developer.nhs.uk](http://developer.nhs.uk).



## Guild Update

### Most Outstanding Community Pharmacist award

A **NEW** award for the Most Outstanding Community Pharmacist has been announced by the Australian Patients Association (APA).

The award will recognise the contribution of community pharmacists in improving patient health outcomes.

Guild National President George Tambassis said it was important that community pharmacists are recognised for the service they provide to patients beyond filling scripts and selling healthcare and retail products.

"We are keen for patients and the community to understand the important role and level of service and advice provided by community pharmacists that are members of Pharmacy Guild of Australia," Mr Tambassis said.

"The Pharmacy Guild is delighted to sponsor this new award and encourages patients and the community to vote for the community pharmacist they recognise as providing a level of service and care that epitomises their role."

You can vote here: [www.patients.org.au/about-us/register-to-vote/](http://www.patients.org.au/about-us/register-to-vote/).

## Win with PURE Papaya

Everyday this week Pharmacy Daily and PURE Papaya are giving away the NEW PURE Papaya Glow valued at \$24.99.

PURE Papaya Glow is face oil for overnight skin renewal that will revitalise & nourish your skin while you sleep. This light oil is made with Papaya Oil and Jojoba Oil. Papaya Oil is derived from the seeds of the Papaya Fruit. The seeds are rich in enzymes, omega fatty acids and vitamins to help nourish and gently renew your skin. This product contains NO petroleum, preservatives, castor oil or palm oil and is made using a vegan friendly formula. Visit [Purepapayacare.com.au](http://Purepapayacare.com.au) to find out more.

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



**What are the 2 key ingredients in Papaya Glow?**

*Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Tony Soffer.*

# CHANGE THE FUTURE OF HEALTHCARE WITH US

The Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences is offering pharmacists the opportunity to change healthcare through transformative research.

The Faculty's Centre for Medicine Use and Safety (CMUS) is working to better understand and optimise medicine use through innovative and challenging research projects in Australia and around the world.

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Places are limited and scholarships will be awarded on a competitive basis. Applicants with a First Class Honours degree or prior research experience will be preferred. Please contact Professor Simon Bell at [Simon.Bell2@monash.edu](mailto:Simon.Bell2@monash.edu) by Friday May 10 to express an interest and arrange a discussion.



## Contact Us

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