

Step by step to ePrescription ready

MedView | Powered by eRx> script exchange



VIEW OUR GUIDE

erx.com.au

Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today has three pages news, plus a full page from the **Pharmacy Guild of Australia**.

Vincent assumes NPSA Chair

AUSTRALIAN Pharmaceutical Industries CEO, Richard Vincent, has been appointed Chair of the National Pharmaceutical Services Association (NPSA) Board, which represents pharmacy wholesalers.

The announcement sees Sigma Healthcare CEO, Mark Hooper, step down from the role, in line with NPSA Board's rotation policy, with Symbion CEO, Brett Barrons taking the Deputy Chair position.

"The Board extends sincere thanks to Mark Hooper for his excellent leadership of our industry association which most recently has seen the successful completion of the important Seventh Community Pharmacy Agreement (7CPA) negotiations with government," Vincent said.

COVID test trial 'dangerous' - PPA

PLANS to launch pharmacy-based COVID-19 testing in Queensland are "extremely dangerous", Professional Pharmacists Australia (PPA), warns.

PPA President, Geoff March, told *Pharmacy Daily* that the Queensland Government should pull the pin on the pilot, which was announced last week (*PD* 12 Aug).

"PPA is strongly opposed to the introduction of COVID-19 testing into Queensland pharmacies, and is seeking an urgent meeting with the Queensland Government to stop the proposal," he said.

"The proposal to introduce COVID-19 testing into Queensland pharmacies is extremely dangerous and risks plunging Queensland into a catastrophic outbreak similar to that being currently experienced in Victoria.

"Pharmacies are primarily retail spaces that are not designed to be infectious disease testing centres and our grave concern is that the proposal to allow pharmacies to conduct COVID-19 testing will compel potentially infected people to enter an environment where they will interact with pharmacy staff and customers, many of whom are elderly, sick or



immunocompromised.

"While the Queensland Government may assert that pharmacy staff will be provided with adequate training and personal protective equipment, we've seen that even with highly trained medical staff adhering to strict infectious disease protocols, COVID-19 has successfully infected large numbers of health workers.

"This is a health disaster waiting to happen and we urge the Queensland Government to immediately abandon this proposal."

March also reiterated calls for pharmacy staff who have used up sick leave entitlements to be awarded paid pandemic leave, if they are required to isolate as a result of the virus.

"Pharmacy workers expose themselves daily to health risks serving the public during the pandemic in order to carry out their vitally important work," he said.

"Now, these workers are being asked to take further serious health risks by testing patients potentially infected by COVID-19 and they are still being denied paid pandemic leave if they become sick or are required to self-isolate as a result of being tested for COVID-19.

"As the Victorian example has demonstrated, supporting workers who've been infected or are awaiting test results to stay home is a key weapon in our fight against COVID-19 and we will continue advocating for the introduction of paid pandemic leave for nation's pharmacy workers."



Sue Raven
Pharmacy Business Sales



Want to know what your pharmacy is worth on the market?

Click to complete the submission form and Sue will be in touch to assist with your Pharmacy Brokering needs and **FREE** Assessment

Or call Sue Raven 0407 759 736 or email sue.raven@srbps.com.au

"Our Pharmacy Business Profile was prepared after a series of professionally choreographed questions to produce the most in-depth report to potential buyers. It wasn't long before Sue and I were talking about the offers presented. I would gladly recommend Sue to anyone considering a sale of their Pharmacy" Neel

[Click here to complete submission form](#)

INFLAMAX®

Freedom to move

NEW

INFLAMAX LIQUID CAPS 25
Diclofenac Potassium 25mg

Diclofenac potassium 25mg
30 soft capsules

PROMOTIONAL OFFER AVAILABLE NOW VIA ALL MAJOR WHOLESALERS
To order or find out more, contact your Arrow or Apotex Sales Representative directly or call 1300 927 769
www.inflamax.com.au

INFLAMAX SPRAY: ALWAYS READ THE LABEL. FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS FOR USE. IF SYMPTOMS PERSIST, TALK TO YOUR HEALTH PROFESSIONAL. INFLAMAX LIQUID CAPS 25: ASK YOUR PHARMACIST - THEY MUST DECIDE IF THIS PRODUCT IS RIGHT FOR YOU. INCORRECT USE COULD BE HARMFUL. Arrow Pharmaceuticals Pty Ltd, 15-17 Chapel Street Cremorne Victoria 3121. Ph 1300 927 769. ABN 53 605 909 911. Copyright © 2020. All rights reserved. www.arrowpharma.com.au



With fully integrated e-Prescriptions, dispensing has never been easier.

Contact us today to find out how to start dispensing with Dispense Works.
www.posworks.com.au | enquiries@posworks.com.au | 07 3277 9488

DISPENSE WORKS
PHARMACY SOFTWARE

AGED CARE COMPANION 2020 BOOK OR ONLINE OUT NOW

To find out more go to www.amh.net.au

AMH AUSTRALIAN MEDICINE HANDSBOOK

ADHA plans Melb e-script rollout

MOVES to accelerate the rollout of electronic prescriptions to the Greater Melbourne area in response to the COVID-19 crisis, are being welcomed by the Pharmacy Guild of Australia.

The Australian Digital Health Agency (ADHA) announced the decisions to extend access to the token-based e-script system beyond the current Communities of Interest (COIs) to "support those people most at risk from COVID-19".

In a communique issued by the ADHA this morning the agency said the rollout would "support a safer and more convenient supply of medicines for patients".

Guild Victorian Branch President, Anthony Tassone, told **Pharmacy Daily** organisation was working with the ADHA, Royal Australian College of General Practitioners and the Federal Government to support the rollout.

"With recent updates to prescriber software systems, there has been an increased capability of the

generation of e-tokens as well as patients presenting at pharmacies for them to be dispensed.

"More and more pharmacies have expressed a willingness to become enabled to dispense these prescriptions and assist their patients.

"It is essential as part of this next step of the rollout that there is collaboration between local general practices and pharmacies to establish each other's readiness and capabilities for e-scripts.

"There is more work involved from a pharmacy perspective compared to general practice - and it is important for this to be acknowledged.

"Dispensary software vendors have been assisting pharmacies in becoming activated and ready to dispense e-scripts including those from outside an existing community of interest who have been presented a token.

"Whilst there can be some uncertainties in adapting to



anything new - the current state of affairs with the volume of email and fax prescriptions and requests for emergency supply of drugs of dependence including Schedule 8's has been very challenging for pharmacies to address.

"Hopefully e-scripts can help assist with the evolving environment of patients being consulted by doctors via telehealth.

"It is essential that the Active Script List (ASL) as a form of e-prescriptions remains a high priority for roll out as whilst the token system has some benefits, the ASL has far greater overall advantages for delivery of patient care."

Weekly Comment

Welcome to Pharmacy Daily's weekly comment feature. This week's contributor is **Zoltan Toskov, TerryWhite**



Chemmart Network Partner Parkdale and Clyde (Victoria) and Advisory Group Member.

Creating a unified approach to a pandemic

THE TerryWhite Chemmart Advisory Group (TAG) meet regularly with the TWC leadership team to be the voice for the wider network - we are not only heard, but also respected and considered in everything we do as a brand.

No more has this been evident than in the last few months with the Covid-19 pandemic playing out across our industry. As a TAG member, our insights played a crucial role to helping our fellow network partners navigate the turbulent times ahead.

From the onset in early March, communication and actions were clear and timely ensuring we were well equipped to deliver for our communities. Critical services such as delivery and Click & Collect were immediately activated on a national scale. With the second wave hitting my state of Victoria, we now have a new e-commerce solution to allow us to continue to serve our customers under strict stage 4 restrictions.

The Covid-19 response has been nothing short of exemplary. I'm proud of the work that our pharmacists have done and I'm proud to have played a role in it.

To find out more about how TWC can help you drive your pharmacy business, visit www.realchemistry.com.au.

Amazon Pharmacy launched in India

ONLINE retailer, Amazon, is continuing its push into the pharmacy sector, launching an online store in India.

The company started taking orders for over-the-counter (OTC) and prescription medicines on Fri, *Yahoo News* reported.

The launch of the new pharmacy e-commerce plans follows Amazon's applications to trademark the 'Amazon Pharmacy' brand in Australia earlier this year (*PD* 15 Jan), and its 'Basic Care' OTC range (*PD* 02 Jun).

The Pharmacy Guild of



Australia has suggested that regulatory issues around ownership and medication pricing combined with the convenience of accessing medications immediately would limit Amazon's ability to compete with traditional pharmacies in Australia.

Double checking not working

DOUBLE checking of medications before it is administered is deeply embedded in nursing practice, but research suggests it is not cutting errors.

Researchers from the Macquarie University found no association between mandatory double checking as it is currently performed and reduced medication errors, or the severity of errors.

The study found nurses were highly compliant with double checking practices.



BuyBetter drives more gross profit for your pharmacy through intelligent ordering and ranging decisions - it's all part of our sophisticated IT platform - iHUB.

- Stock the products that sell
- Buying deals visible in one place
- Order every day at the best possible price
- More information guides better buying decisions
- Order the right amount based on the current deal and maximise upcoming deals

To find out how TerryWhite Chemmart can bring real chemistry to your business, visit www.realchemistry.com.au





Dispensary Corner

WHILE debate is raging over the appropriateness of pharmacy-based COVID-19 testing in Queensland, other jurisdictions around the globe are turning to man's best friend for assistance.

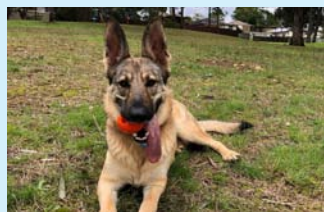
France's National Veterinary School has taught detector dogs to identify infected people using sweat samples from infected patients, with an initial trial showing most dogs could detect a positive sample from a line of negative ones with 100% accuracy, researchers from the University of Adelaide noted in an article published in *The Conversation*.

Dogs have already been added to the UAE's airports in an effort to sniff out any asymptomatic carriers of the virus, and the article's authors believe they could be added to Australia's COVID defences.

"Perhaps we shouldn't be surprised about dogs' ability to detect COVID-19, as we already know their noses are amazing," the authors said.

"Dogs can help detect hypoglycaemia in diabetics, warn people who are about to have an epileptic seizure and have been used to sniff out some cancers.

"Their great potential in dealing with the current pandemic is just one of myriad examples of how dogs enrich our lives."



NSW Health plans pharmacy audit

NSW Health is set to launch a quality assurance audit to assess pharmacists' compliance with the NSW Pharmacist Vaccination Standards.

The Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) NSW Branch President, Chelsea Felkai, urged the profession to use the audit as an opportunity to showcase pharmacists' abilities to support the expansion of pharmacist administered services in the state.

Under the terms of the audit, any pharmacy that provides vaccinations may be required to undergo an assessment, which will also include a separate audit of individual pharmacist immunisers, from today.

"The vaccination audits will provide NSW pharmacists the opportunity to demonstrate their expert knowledge and competency in administering vaccines and this will go a long way in furthering our efforts for vaccination expansion and scope of practice around other injectables," she said.

"Pharmacists have continued to

demonstrate they are more than capable of providing a number of vaccination services to patients and this audit will provide an opportunity to review vaccination services in the pharmacy.

"In recent months NSW pharmacists have been given more scope to provide vaccines to patients including the influenza vaccination to children aged 10 and above and the ability to administer vaccinations outside of a community pharmacy."

"This has led to a greater number of people in NSW being vaccinated and as the peak national body for pharmacists, PSA will continue to work with the NSW Government to remove barriers which restrict pharmacists from administering other vaccines to better protect the community."

Any aspect of the NSW Pharmacist Vaccination Standards may be assessed as part of the audit, including pharmacist training, recording vaccinations, practice standards, the vaccination area and



equipment, storage and handling, patient consent and eligibility, post vaccination care, management of adverse events and general requirements on authorised vaccines.

MEANWHILE, legislation in Ireland has been amended to permit pharmacists to supply and administer the influenza vaccine to children aged six months and older for the 2020/21 flu season.

Irish pharmacists will also be allowed to administer influenza nasal spray to children aged two-years and older under the new arrangements.

Med supply in Vic

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration's Medicine Shortages Working Party, comprising pharmaceutical industry, wholesaler and health professional groups and chaired by the Department of Health, supports the Victorian Government's exemptions to allow continued medicine distribution during Stage Four restrictions.

Exemptions will ensure continuity of supply of non-prescription medications, including multivitamins, as well as prescription drugs.

Win a Shady Lady

Everyday this week Pharmacy Daily & Jacaru are giving away one of their Shady Lady hats worth RRP \$69.95



One of the best selling hats in all our 50yrs of making them. The Jacaru Shady Lady, handmade with a thick brushed cow suede leather and crowned with a durable mesh that allows for maximum airflow. The chiffon scarf around the crown is changeable. Simply un-clip the tabs on the side and add your own hatband or check out our range.

Orders: Power House Pharmacy Brands
Phone: 0430 241 521 | Website: www.powerhousepharmacybrands.com.au
Contact: helen@powerhousepharmacybrands.com.au
For more information, click **HERE**.

Q: What material is it made of?

To win send the correct answer to comp@pharmacydaily.com.au



YOUR EXCLUSIVE UPDATE ON COVID-19 VACCINE DEVELOPMENT

from the perspective of the University of Oxford

This webinar will assist participants in understanding the development and clinical issues with one of the lead COVID-19 vaccine candidates.

**PROFESSOR
SARAH GILBERT**



UNIVERSITY OF
OXFORD

Join Professor Sarah Gilbert, Professor of Vaccinology at the University of Oxford and Co-Founder of Vaccitech, live from the United Kingdom.

Prof. Gilbert is the lead vaccinologist on the front-running University of Oxford team developing a COVID-19 vaccine. She will detail her mission to create the world's first mass-produced COVID-19 vaccine and take questions from Australian pharmacists during this exclusive clinical webinar.

**25TH AUGUST
2020
TUESDAY
7:00 PM (AEST)**

Sponsored by:



The Pharmacy
Guild of Australia

QUEENSLAND BRANCH

Register at guild.org.au/COVIDvaccineupdate