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## Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features three pages of news.

## PSA Awards nominations

THE Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) has extended the deadline for nominations of its State and Territory Awards (excluding Tasmania) until Mon 09 Nov.

Nominees must be PSA members, and have exemplified a contribution to the profession that aligns with the Society's 11 Action Items for Change.

The Awards include State and Territory Pharmacist of the Year, Early Career Pharmacist of the Year, Lifetime Achievement Award, and Intern Pharmacist of the Year.

**CLICK HERE** to nominate a worthy pharmacist now.

## NIP access separates Qld parties

QUEENSLAND'S two leading political parties are committed to supporting pharmacists being able to practice to their full scope ahead of this Sat's state election.

The incumbent Australian Labor Party (ALP) Government and the Liberal National Party of Queensland (LNP) backed a series of "election asks" from the Pharmacy Guild of Australia Queensland Branch, with their positions on committing to change policy to allow pharmacists to access the National Immunisation Program (NIP), the only point of difference.

While the LNP committed to supporting pharmacist access to the NIP, Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk's ALP said it would retain the status quo.

However, both parties agreed to appoint a community pharmacy representative from the Guild to Queensland's Clinical Senate, and to support the current pharmacy ownership laws.



The two parties also said that they would back the "implementation of a Queensland Pharmacy Council with a narrow remit to enforce, monitor and uphold the integrity of the *Pharmacy Business Ownership Act 2001*".

The Guild noted that the Queensland Greens, One Nation, Katter's Australian Party and the United Australia Party, have yet to provide responses.

"The upcoming state election and the subsequent four-year term provides another important opportunity for Queensland to again make advancements in primary health care," a statement from the Guild said.

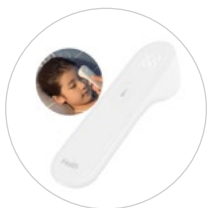
"The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the essential role that community pharmacy plays in maintaining the health and well-being of Queenslanders."

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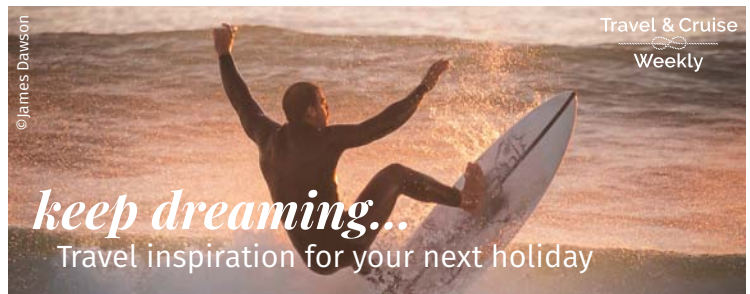
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## US pharmacists' vax scope expanded

**PHARMACIST** immunisers across all 50 states of the US are now authorised to administer vaccinations to children aged three years and older.

Under the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act (PREP Act) qualified pharmacy technicians and state-authorized pharmacy interns have been given the green light to provide immunisations to "address a decrease in childhood vaccination rates due to the COVID-19 pandemic", the US Department of Health and Human Services said.

Announcing the moves to expand pharmacy-based immunisation services, which will see qualified pharmacy staff administer vaccines approved and licensed by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA), including COVID-19 vaccinations when they become available, Assistant Secretary for Health,



Admiral Brett Giroir, said "pharmacists and their staff are critical to the COVID-19 response".

"Together with paediatricians and family physicians, they are ensuring that Americans receive the vaccinations they need where they need it," he said.

Under the legislation the vaccines must be ordered by the supervising qualified pharmacist.

## Aged care roles backed

**RECOMMENDATIONS** proposed by the Counsel Assisting the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety's calling for improved access to quality medication management reviews for people receiving aged care are being welcomed by the Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia (SHPA).

SHPA CEO, Kristin Michaels, said recommendations highlighted by the Counsel Assisting, reflected the importance of facilitating hospital pharmacist expertise at crucial points in the care journey of older patients.

"The crucial role of pharmacy in aged care is undeniable, with Australian research indicating 91% of aged care residents take at least five regular medicines, and 65% take more than 10, every day," she said.

"The recommendation (18) to engage a pharmacist as part of minimum allied health care, supported by capped base payments per resident and activity-based payments for the direct care provided, is a strong step toward reducing medicines misuse and medication-related hospitalisations and injuries



among this vulnerable cohort.

"Importantly, and as advocated by SHPA, the presence of a dedicated geriatric medicine pharmacist will ensure the optimal efficacy of Residential Medication Management Reviews (RMMRs) for aged care residents, and we welcome the recommendation (70) to allow and fund pharmacists from 01 Jan 2022 to conduct reviews on entry to residential care, and annually thereafter."

Michaels also voiced support for recommendations focused on transition of care, noting "care teams are flying blind if medication histories and medication reconciliations are not conducted and communicated clearly after care transitions".

## Raven's launches Career Podcast

**INNOVATIVE** pharmacists are set to share their stories about their careers with Raven's Recruitment as part of a new fortnightly podcast series.

The *Your Pharmacy Career* podcast, hosted by Allie Xu, aims to show pharmacists "the world of opportunities that exist" for people in the profession.

Raven's Recruitment General Manager, Heidi Dariz, said the initial series will feature, 2018 TerryWhite Chemmart Pharmacist of the Year, Karen Brown; Aboriginal pharmacists and 2018 NSW Female Aboriginal of the Year, Faye McMillan; 2017 Telstra Australian Young



Business Woman of the Year, Elise Apolloni, and others.

"We hope the Podcast series becomes a must listen for any pharmacist in Australia, irrespective of their field of interest, and shines a light on the wonderful role models in the profession and their amazing stories and careers," Dariz said.

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## Dispensary Corner

**DESIGNERS** in Canada have done something which would have been unthinkable earlier this year during the initial panic-stricken stages of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The 17th annual Cashmere Collection has been released, consisting of 15 stunning dresses created entirely out of toilet paper.

During the worldwide shortage of the dunny essential in the first throes of coronavirus it appeared this year's pageant would not take place, but Canadian brand Cashmere Bathroom Tissue has pressed on, with the event dedicated to raising awareness and funding for breast cancer research.

In keeping with the ongoing themes of 2020, the collection was also based on a Venetian Masked Ball motif.

One of the stunning creations is pictured below, made by designer Rod Philpott who was invited to create the couture alongside 14 other fashionistas.

And just in case, the dresses are of course ideal for anyone who's caught short without a square to spare.



## Police dog sniffs out crim in pharmacy

A SOUTH Australian Police dog has sniffed out a would-be cat burglar who broke into a pharmacy through an air-conditioning duct yesterday morning.

Police were called to a pharmacy on Gawler Street, in the north Adelaide suburb of Salisbury, after an alarm was activated.

Police Dog, Axe, was called to search the premises after officers noticed an air-conditioning vent on the roof had been disturbed, and heard noised coming from inside the pharmacy.

"PD Axe and [his] handler searched the pharmacy, finding a man hiding in a rear office behind a display," SA Police said in a statement.

"The 21-year-old man from Salisbury was arrested for serious criminal trespass and property damage after he allegedly caused



substantial damage to the air-conditioning ducts on entry and smashed several shop displays.

"The arrested man was taken to the Lyell McEwen Hospital for treatment after he admitted ingesting several types of prescription medication just prior to being arrested."

Police remained at the scene for several hours to search the roof space of the pharmacy and adjoining premises for possible accomplices, but no other people were discovered.

The man is due to appear at the Elizabeth Magistrates Court later today.

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