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## Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features three pages of news, plus the MIMS September update.

## Pandemic ready

AUSTRALIA'S response to the COVID-19 pandemic will ensure the nation is better prepared for a second wave or future pandemic, Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia (SHPA) President, Peter Fowler, believes.

Speaking during an International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) webinar yesterday, Fowler said he was confident the country had learned lessons from the crisis, noting the health workforce has been upskilled, while there has been "significant improvements in the performance of the medicines supply chain", with improved capacity.

# COVID resets public perceptions: FIP

PHARMACISTS' work on the frontline of the global COVID-19 pandemic has been key to changing patients' views of the profession, International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) Community Pharmacy Sector President, Lars-Ake Soderlund, says.

Speaking during a webinar focused on the lessons learned through the COVID crisis, as part of the FIP Virtual 2020 conference yesterday, Soderlund said the profession had demonstrated its importance to global health systems.

"There has been a welcome reset of the public's perception of pharmacists' role at the forefront of our health systems," he said.

"We have lived through many challenging situations, and I am very proud of how we, as a sector have responded to the outbreak.

"When other healthcare facilities closed their doors, hospital and community pharmacies remained open.



"We can conclude that pharmacists have once again shown that we are essential to the health of our communities and to the continued functioning of our health systems.

"This goes for pharmacies in academia, science, educational activities, in industry, the supply chain, hospital and community pharmacy - we are all on the frontline in fighting this disease."

Soderlund warned delegates not to underestimate how national

health systems will change as a result of the pandemic, stressing that the flexible multidisciplinary approach that many countries have adopted "must continue".

He added that pharmacists needed to play a prominent role in future healthcare planning.

"It's urgent that we, as a sector, are involved in continuous planning in our countries for a second outbreak [of COVID-19], a new pandemic or a [different] crisis," he said.

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## Vaccine messaging key for uptake

**PHARMACISTS** are being encouraged to review promotional material to encourage better uptake of any potential COVID vaccine or seasonal shots, an international aged care leader believes.

Addressing an International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) webinar last night, International Federation on Ageing (IFA) Secretary General, Jane Barratt, voiced concerns about the messages being used by health professionals when communicating with older patients.

Barratt told the webinar terms encouraging elderly people to “be careful”, “stay indoors”, “social distance” and “cocooning” were instilling fear and anxiety in their target audience.

“Ageism has been brutally exposed in the COVID pandemic,” she said.

“So in our messaging to encourage people to be vaccinated, not only against COVID, but against



seasonal influenza, pneumococcal, pneumonia and shingles, the messages need to be very clear.

“I call on pharmacists to really have a look at the kinds of messaging and promotional material you’re using to encourage people to be vaccinated.”

Barratt also flagged concerns about vaccine uptake levels among healthcare workers as another issue that needs to be addressed as part of efforts to boost global

immunisation rates.

“We know the rates of vaccination in healthcare workers in many countries is extremely low,” she said.

“So while we stand forward and demand that governments make greater investments [in vaccine programs]...we also have to take personal responsibility and ensure we are the trusted sources, because we actually believe in vaccination [and have been immunised].”

## Priceline flags counterfeit fears

### AUSTRALIAN

Pharmaceutical Industries (API) is investigating a number of Priceline Pharmacy stores after it emerged they had sold counterfeit products obtained from an unauthorised source.

In a post published on the [Priceline Australia Facebook page](#) the group reported stores in Bankstown, Blacktown, Merrylands and St Marys have been ordered to “remove all invalid products”, while customers have been advised to “cease use of the product and return it to the store of purchase for a full refund”.

“We take these matters very seriously and we thank those who brought it to our attention so quickly,” the company said.

“Priceline is proud to stock ‘The Ordinary’ and Priceline head office has not and would never authorise such activity.”

## Anna Meares claims another first at APP

**AUSTRALIAN** track cycling legend, Anna Meares OAM, is the first speaker to be confirmed for the Australian Pharmacy Professional Conference and Trade Exhibition (APP) next year.

The multiple Olympic and Commonwealth medallist is set to headline day four of the 2021 event on the Gold Coast, which will run from 20 to 23 May.

APP convenor, Kos Sclavos,

said Meares will speak about what success looks like and how professionals can overcome adversity in pursuit of their goals.

Online registration for APP 2021 is set to open in mid-Oct, with the event running at a slightly later date than its traditional Mar slot, to allow more time for COVID-19 restrictions to be lifted.

**CLICK HERE** for more.

Tuesday 29 September 2020 at 7pm (AEST)

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## YOUR EXCLUSIVE UPDATE ON COVID-19 VACCINE DEVELOPMENT

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## Location secured for new pharmacy

**RESIDENTS** of Seaforth in Queensland are set to get improved access to pharmacy services after the Mackay Regional Council backed proposals to rent a 25m<sup>2</sup> section of the local community hall to Vivid Horizons Pty Ltd, following a tender process.

The noted Vivid Horizons has three directors, all of whom are registered pharmacists, with the business establishing two other pharmacies in Baralaba and

Wowan over the last four years, while the Australian Securities and Investments Commission records show the group also owns the Calen District Pharmacy.

Minutes from the 09 Sep council meeting noted "the nearest pharmacy to Seaforth is approximately 40km away and by establishing a pharmacy at Seaforth it will provide a vital service to approximately 1,360 residents (2016 census) of Seaforth, Ball Bay, Halliday Bay and Cape Hillsborough, as well as the many visitors to the region".

"Awarding the contract to Vivid Horizons represents the most advantageous outcome and demonstrated value for money to Mackay Regional Council," the minutes reported.

"Vivid Horizons has the

experience, capacity and resources to fulfil lease requirements as specified in the Request for Tender.

"Vivid Horizons Pty Ltd offer multiple benefits to the community, including health services, essential pharmaceuticals and employment of local residents, and are willing to co-share the facility."

The lease is subject to Vivid Horizons securing approval for the material change of use of the property from the Queensland Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy.

Once approved Vivid Horizons will be responsible for all costs relating to the fit-out of the pharmacy and other costs including cleaning and waste charges, internet and telephone connections.

The initial lease will be for a term of three years.



## Dispensary Corner

**THE Dispensary Corner** team will be putting a bit more focus on their cardiovascular fitness and diet after research found being sarcastic could be a fatal characteristic for heart-attack survivors.

The study published in the *European Journal of Cardiovascular Nursing*, found patients with hostile, sarcastic and cynical personalities may need to focus on managing their behaviour to improve their overall health.

The authors noted that of 2,321 patients in a randomised trial of heart-attack patients, 57% were found to have hostile personalities.

## Win With John Plunkett's

Everyday this week Pharmacy Daily and John Plunkett's are giving away a SuperBright Exfoliating Skin Brightener Serum worth RRP \$29.95

Overnight micro-cellular exfoliation containing salon strength glycolic acid (25%) in a buffered solution for easy at-home treatment. Reduces fine lines and surface discolouration, revealing brighter, clearer new skin without visible peeling. Lactokine protects against potential inflammation and Aloe Vera soothes and hydrates.

**Q: Besides reducing surface discolouration, what else does Exfoliating Skin Brightener Serum do?**

For more information click [HERE](#).

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



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## New Products

- **Acalabrutinib (Calquence)** is a small molecule inhibitor of Bruton's tyrosine kinase (BTK). BTK is a signalling molecule of the B-cell antigen receptor (BCR) and cytokine receptor pathways. In B-cells, BTK signalling results in activation of pathways necessary for B-cell proliferation, trafficking, chemotaxis, and adhesion. Acalabrutinib and its active metabolite, ACP-5862, form a covalent bond with a cysteine residue in the BTK active site, leading to inhibition of BTK enzymatic activity. In nonclinical studies, acalabrutinib inhibited BTK-mediated activation of downstream signalling proteins CD86 and CD69 and inhibited malignant B-cell proliferation and tumour growth in mouse xenograft models. Calquence is indicated for the treatment of patients with mantle cell lymphoma who have received at least one prior therapy. This indication is approved via the provisional approval pathway, based on overall response rate. It is also indicated for the treatment of chronic lymphocytic leukaemia (CLL)/small lymphocytic lymphoma (SLL). Calquence capsules contain acalabrutinib 100 mg and are available in a pack size of 56.
- **Lorlatinib (Lorviqua)** is an adenosine triphosphate (ATP)-competitive, brain-penetrant, small molecule inhibitor of anaplastic lymphoma kinase (ALK) and ROS1 tyrosine kinases that addresses mechanisms of resistance following previous treatment with ALK inhibitor therapy. In nonclinical studies, lorlatinib inhibited catalytic activities of non-mutated ALK and a broad range of clinically relevant ALK mutant kinases in recombinant enzyme and cell-based assays. Lorviqua has provisional approval for the treatment of patients with ALK-positive advanced non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) whose disease has progressed on: crizotinib and at least one other ALK inhibitor; or alectinib as the first ALK inhibitor therapy; or ceritinib as the first ALK inhibitor therapy. Lorviqua is contraindicated with the concomitant use of strong CYP3A inducers due to the potential for serious hepatotoxicity. Lorviqua tablets contain lorlatinib 25 mg (available in packs of 90) and 100 mg (available in packs of 30).
- **Tafenoquine (succinate) (Kozenis)**, an 8-aminoquinoline, eradicates *Plasmodium vivax* (*P. vivax*) liver hypnozoites, preventing the relapse of malaria. The molecular target of tafenoquine is not known. Tafenoquine is indicated for the radical cure (prevention of relapse) of *P. vivax* malaria in patients aged 16 years and older who are receiving appropriate antimalarial therapy for the acute *P. vivax* infection. Kozenis is contraindicated with hypersensitivity to other 8-aminoquinolines; G-6-PD deficiency or unknown G-6-PD status due to the risk of haemolytic anaemia; pregnancy; breastfeeding an infant who is G-6-PD deficient or if the G-6-PD status of the infant is unknown. Kozenis tablets contain tafenoquine 150 mg and are available in a pack size of 2.

## New Indications

- ***Clostridium botulinum* type A toxin - haemagglutinin complex (Dysport)** is now indicated for the symptomatic treatment of focal spasticity of upper limbs in children aged 2 years and older.
- **Dulaglutide (rch) (Trulicity)** is now indicated as an adjunct to standard of care therapy to reduce the risk of major adverse cardiovascular events in adults with type 2 diabetes mellitus who have established cardiovascular disease or multiple cardiovascular risk factors.
- **Insulin glargine (Toujeo)** is now indicated for the treatment of diabetes mellitus in patients aged 6 years and older.
- **Ipilimumab (rch) (Yervoy)**, in combination with nivolumab and 2 cycles of platinum-doublet chemotherapy, is now indicated for the first-line treatment of metastatic or recurrent NSCLC with no EGFR or ALK genomic tumour aberrations.
- **Nivolumab (Opdivo)**, in combination with ipilimumab and 2 cycles of platinum-doublet chemotherapy, is now indicated for the first-line treatment of metastatic or recurrent NSCLC with no EGFR or ALK genomic tumour aberrations.
- **Pertussis vaccine - acellular and diphtheria and tetanus toxoids (adsorbed) combined with inactivated poliovirus type 1, 2 and 3 (Vero cell) (Adacel Polio)** may be administered during pregnancy for the prevention of pertussis in young infants via transplacental antibody transfer from the pregnant woman to the foetus.

*This list is a summary of only some of the changes that have occurred over the last month.  
Before prescribing, always refer to the full product information.*