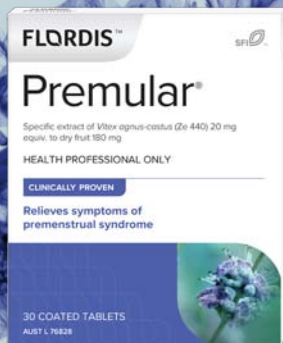
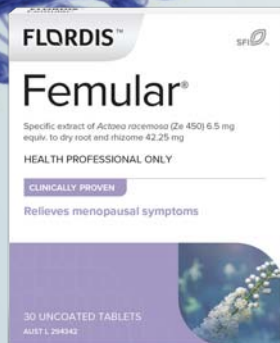


## Clinically proven for PMS and menopause



**Menstrual cramps,  
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Recommend the  
Premular® difference**

- Clinically researched herbal extract of chaste tree Ze 440
- Reduces PMS symptoms, including mood swings, menstrual cramps and bloating, and breast pain
- Easy 'one a day every day' dosing across the entire menstrual cycle



**Mild hot flushes  
or night sweats?  
Recommend the  
Femular® difference**

- Clinically researched herbal extract of black cohosh Ze 450
- For mild menopause symptoms; usually seen in late to post menopause stages
- Research on Femular has been conducted in hundreds of menopausal women<sup>1-3</sup>



**Constant hot flushes  
or night sweats?  
Recommend the  
Femular® Forte difference**

- Clinically researched herbal extract of black cohosh Ze 450
- For moderate to severe menopause symptoms; usually seen in perimenopause and early menopause stages
- Research on Femular Forte shows the higher 13mg dose is effective for severe menopause symptoms<sup>1</sup>

## Offer your customers the Flordis™ difference today!

To discover the Flordis™ integrative medicine pharmacy specials, contact your Flordis™ representative. Contact details are available at [www.flordis.com.au/health-professionals/](http://www.flordis.com.au/health-professionals/) or by contacting customer service on 1800 334 224.

**These medicines may not be right for you. Read the label before purchase.**

**Follow the directions for use. If symptoms persist, talk to your health professional.**

## Today's issue of PD

*Pharmacy Daily* today features three pages of news, a front cover page from *Flordis*, and full pages:

- September Monthly Wrap
- Australasian Sleep Association

## Treating PMS

**INTEGRATIVE** medicine specialist, *Flordis*, is offering pharmacists a range of "clinically researched" products to treat the symptoms of PMS and menopause.

See **cover wrap** for more.

## That's a wrap

**TODAY** marks the launch of our new Monthly Wrap, revisiting some of the stories that have made headlines over the last 30 days.

The Sep Monthly Wrap on **page four** also looks at *What's Trending* in the industry, with TerryWhite Chemmart providing an update on its influenza vaccination program.

## Info key for COVID vax

**PHARMACISTS** will be important players in supporting the rollout of any successful COVID-19 vaccinations, and need to ensure they understand the vaccine development process, former Pharmacy Guild of Australia National President, Kos Slavos, believes.

Slavos spoke to *Pharmacy Daily* following last night's Australasian College of Pharmacy (ACP) webinar featuring International Union for Microbiological Societies Virology Division Chair, Professor Paul Young, discussed the development journey of the University of Queensland's (UQ) COVID-19 vaccination.

Slavos said the webinar highlighted that there are "no short-cuts being taken" with the development of vaccines, adding the research process for many of the leading candidate vaccinations has been ongoing for more than 12 months, as part of the World Health Organization's preparations for "Disease X".

"Understanding there was a lot of preparation work [in the development of these vaccines] will be important for pharmacists," he said.



"If we are able to explain that, it will be crucial."

Slavos said consumers' opinions will be formed by the people they speak to, and pharmacists "will be important players" in reassuring them that vaccines will not be approved without meeting rigorous safety and efficacy standards.

With Young telling the webinar that the UQ vaccine was likely to require patients receive two doses, pharmacists will also be required to remind consumers to get their second shot.

Slavos said a recording of the webinar will be posted on the ACP's website to allow pharmacists who were unable to attend the live event to stay up-to-date.



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13th October 2020

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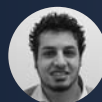
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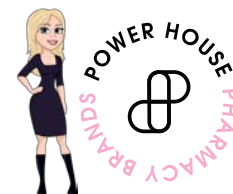
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## Advantage Group, Instigo to merge

**PHARMACY** operator, Advantage Group, and service provider, Instigo, are set to form one of Australia's strongest independent pharmacy groups, through a merger agreement announced this morning.

The combined entity will trade as Pharmacy Platform Pty Ltd, bringing together more than 350 pharmacy members and an additional 500 clients serviced through specialised business units.

In a statement released this morning Instigo Managing Director, Michael Flannery, said the business would leverage both groups' capabilities to optimise the delivery of enhanced value to its stakeholders, noting the two companies were "stronger together".

"Years of experience as a pharmacist and a pharmacy owner have taught me to always look for innovation and sustainability in your business," he said.

"To achieve this, organisations need to be underpinned by a strong and engaged team and this is exactly what Pharmacy Platform will represent to the industry; two independent businesses founded and owned by pharmacists providing a powerful and unique opportunity for its members and clients."

Advantage Group CEO, Steven Kastrinakis, said the merged business would be "ideally positioned to support and transform" members' pharmacies, ensuring they are "highly relevant to their communities."

"It's an exciting opportunity in a challenging time for our industry," he said.

"Pharmacy Platform is here to help our members and clients progress through COVID-19, succeed through 7CPA and be a leading growth platform towards CP2025."

Pharmacy Platform will include



the Advantage Pharmacy, Chemist Discount Centre and Pharmacy Catalyst brands, adding support services, technology solutions and wholesale and distribution through its Instigo, Buy-IT-Right, ExSell Australia, Know-IT-All, Rx360 and SmartPharm business units.

Former Apotex Asia Pacific Managing Director, Roger Millichamp, has been named as the inaugural CEO of Pharmacy Platform.

## Sigma's new CFO

**SIGMA** Healthcare has appointed Jackie Pearson as its new Chief Financial Officer (CFO) with immediate effect.

Pearson has been with the Australian Securities Exchange (ASX) listed pharmaceutical wholesaler since 2005, working across multiple roles.

Most recently Pearson has led the company's Project Pivot transformation program and was also responsible for the transition of its contract with Chemist Warehouse.

Sigma Chair, Ray Gunston, said Pearson's experience in the company gave her "a comprehensive view of what drives value across the business".

"It is pleasing to announce such a highly capable internal appointment," he said.

Pearson replaces Interim CFO, Jeff Sells, who will continue as Executive GM Retail Pharmacy.

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## Six of the best

**TERRYWHITE** Chemmart (TWC) is celebrating six of the group's star performers, who have been listed as state finalists in the Pharmacy Guild of Australia Maxigesic Pharmacy Assistant of the Year (PatY) 2020 competition.

The pharmacy network's assistants have dominated the South Australian PatY finalists list, with three of the five candidates working at TWC pharmacies - Amber Greenwood (TWC Kapunda), Torey Foureur (TWC Woodcroft Town Centre) and Mignonne Hill (TWC Melbourne Street).

TWC Keperra's Emma Storrs, has been named as a finalist for the Queensland PatY Award, with TWC Mentone's Susan Gainey, in line for the Victorian title, while TWC Bluffpoint's Amanda Skipper, nominated for the Western Australian Award.

The national judging workshop will take place on 30 Oct after which the overall winner will be announced.

## Guilty of drug tampering



**A FORMER** pharmacist in the US is facing up to 10 years behind bars after pleading guilty to tampering with an injectable medication.

Bryan Lewis, 34, confessed to using an opioid analgesic, hydromorphone, after a colleague Home Choice Partners in Roanoke, Virginia, discovered a needle, alcohol pad and bloody tissue in a staff bathroom, which prompted an investigation.

Local media outlet, WSL, reported that the employee who found the items told another colleague before contacting the state Department of Human

Services, after which a decision was made to drug test all staff.

Prosecutors said Lewis had initially been due to take a day off on the day of the drug test, but was ordered to attend.

When queried about the items found in the staff rest room, Lewis said they may have fallen out of his pocket.

Lewis then told an employee that he was responsible for the equipment discovered in the bathroom, telling his colleague that he had been using hydromorphone taken from the pharmacy for nine months.



## Dispensary Corner

**SNIFFER** dogs may have a unique new role in the post-coronavirus world, because apparently they have the ability to smell COVID-19.

Dogs specially trained to detect the novel coronavirus have begun sniffing passengers at Helsinki Airport in Finland this week, as part of a research program being conducted by the University of Helsinki.

Volunteers are training 15 dogs and 10 handlers, with researchers saying the animals are able to detect COVID-19 in humans five days before they develop symptoms.

Under the trial, passengers wipe their necks with a cloth which is then placed into a can for the dogs to sniff.

During the trial, travellers are also instructed to take a swab to confirm the result.

Researchers from the University of South Australia have previously suggested "detector dogs in Australia could be hugely valuable" to sniffing out COVID.

Dogs in the experimental studies have not been shown to be able to replicate the virus within their bodies, the researchers said.



## WIN WITH DERMAVEEN

This week Pharmacy Daily and DermaVeen are giving readers the chance to win a DermaVeen Sensitive Relief Calmexa range prize pack worth RRP\$ 65.97



**Q: What additional ingredient is featured in the Moisturiser?**

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

Please note by entering the competition you are providing consent for your details to be shared with the competition partner.

## Intern guide

**THE** National Australian Pharmacy Students' Association (NAPSA) has released its *Intern Guide for 2020 Pharmacy Graduates*, providing advice on applying for an internship, details of training programs and tips from early career pharmacists.

The guide also highlights key pharmacy bodies and organisations including the Pharmacists' Support Service and NAPSA's Alumni Network.

**CLICK HERE** for more.





## FIP plans pharmacy transformation

**PHARMACISTS** around the world are being urged to take on a broader scope of practice, with the International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) laying out its Development Goals for the decade ahead (PD 22 Sep).

Launching the 21 Development Goals at the FIP Virtual Congress earlier this month, FIP President, Dominique Jordan, said the organisation was committed to working with its members to deliver on its vision "for a world where everyone benefits from access to safe and effective medicines and pharmaceutical care".

The goals cover a broad spectrum of issues from Academic Capacity to Antimicrobial Stewardship and Sustainability in Pharmacy, with each goal underpinned by core elements of workforce and education, practice and science.

"With the FIP Development Goals, FIP is set to transform global pharmacy working in partnership with our members everywhere," he said.



"FIP is committed to supporting you all to implement these goals. "With trust, solidarity and action, we can transform pharmacy together."

To support the organisation's Antimicrobial Stewardship Development Goal, FIP is establishing a Commission on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) that will "bring together experts and expertise from within the FIP membership" and externally.

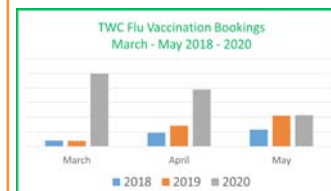
FIP CEO, Dr Catherine Duggan, said

the Commission's duration will not be limited to a set time, "because we really need this to work, to be supported and championed as far as it needs", noting, "globally pharmacy is seen as a cause of AMR through inappropriate access and sub-standard quality".

Nominations for the Commission will open in Oct, with FIP aiming to have its membership finalised by the end of Nov, to enable it to meet for the first time before the end of 2020.



## What's trending



**OVER** the last three years, we have seen demand for flu vaccinations more than double each year across the TerryWhite Chemmart network with demand significantly greater in Mar and Apr this year compared with previous years.

This year alone, TerryWhite Chemmart vaccinated more than 550,000 Australians against the flu.

The COVID pandemic, alongside the government's push for early flu vaccination by Australians, certainly played a key role in the substantial increase we have seen this year. The ongoing increase in demand for flu vaccinations is perhaps a pleasing reflection of both improvements in accessibility through the community pharmacy network and an increase in patient awareness.

It will be interesting to see how the pandemic this year and potential ongoing restrictions impact on flu vaccination demand next year. With more than 1000 clinic rooms available across our pharmacy network and a commitment to increase the volume of pharmacist immunisers, TerryWhite Chemmart pharmacists are certainly ready to play a key role in the expansion of vaccinations services and taking the lead on such an important public health change.

## Medicinal cannabis products fall short

**WITH** medicinal cannabis set to be down-scheduled to Pharmacist-Only (PD 10 Sep), the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) is warning manufacturers of products supplied under the Special Access Scheme (SAS) of the requirements of TGO93.

The warning came after testing found five cannabis oil products failed to meet requirements for the content of the active ingredient - with three falling short of the lower limit, while two exceeded the limit.

The products impacted

were: Bedrocan Dried Cannabis Flos for Inhalation; Spectrum Blue Cannabis Oil; LGP Classic 20:5 Cannabis Oil (Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) 20mg/mL and cannabidiol 5mg/mL); Althea Jasper Cannabis Oil (labelled as 5.39mg/mL THC, THCA; 10.26mg/mL CBD, CBDA); and Althea Capilano Cannabis Oil (labelled as 10.72mg/mL THC, THEA; 12.79mg/mL CBD, CBDA).

A further 17 products were tested and met the requirements for the content of active ingredients.

## Dunkley PotY

**IN A** year when Australian pharmacists have been pushed to their limits maintaining health services through multiple crises, it was fitting that Pharmacists' Support Service Executive Officer, Kay Dunkley, was named the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia's (PSA) Pharmacist of the Year (PotY) (PD 25 Sep).

History was also made with consultant pharmacist, Debbie Rigby, becoming the first female recipient of the PSA Lifetime Achievement Award.



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Full day course with 17 experts on healthy sleep, the major sleep disorders, and how they're treated. Build a solid foundation for expanding pharmacy services into the world of sleep.

## **Primary care management of insomnia**

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With Christina Sandlund (Sweden) on cognitive behaviour therapy for insomnia and Claire Ellender on pharmacotherapy for chronic insomnia. Learn more about supporting those who struggle to sleep.

*"Sleep is such a critical part of good health, that all of us working in pharmacy can benefit from this type of education. I have found ASA resources to be incredibly useful in my day to day pharmacist life, and not just for delivery of sleep apnoea services."*

Todd Marion, Pharmacist and Co-Proprietor, Kiama Pharmacy NSW



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