

Tue 7th September 2021



Today's issue of *PD*

Pharmacy Daily today features three pages of news including a special feature from Testo plus a full page from Pharmacy Guild of Australia.

Testo your fridge

ENSURING medicines are stored are the correct temperature is critical to maintaining their safe supply. Testo's cloud-based system provides automated temperature monitoring and delivers 24/7 alerts. See page two for more.

Dates set for APP

THE Australian Pharmacy Professional Conference (APP) is set to return to its traditional Mar slot in 2022, with organisers offering a 10% discount to the first 200 early bird registrations.

The event will take place on the Gold Coast from 24 to 27 Mar 2022.

See page four for more.

Govt deal to tackle supply shortages

STRATEGIC agreements between the Federal Government, Medicines Australia and the Generic and Biosimilars Medicines Association (GBMA) are expected to help overcome supply chain issues.

The five-year deals will see medication manufacturers boost stockpiles of Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) listed drugs, while the Government has committed to enhancing consumer engagement to support the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC) decisions and create faster access to new medicines and treatment on the PBS.

Welcoming the agreements, GBMA Independent Chair, Jane Halton, said the COVID-19 pandemic had "pulled the curtain back on how vulnerable Australia was to international disruption of the supply of vital medicines".

Under the deal signed by Medicines Australia, manufacturers of listed brands that have reached an approved ex-manufacturer price will be required to hold a default minimum amount of stock of that medication in Australia.

In the case where a listed brand has a medication and manner of



administration that satisfies the requirements for the agreement's 30% Price Disclosure threshold, sponsors must have at least four months' supply from 01 Jul 2023,

while there will be a six month requirement for any drug that has received a price increase.

"The Commonwealth will consult the medicines industry prior to 01 Jul 2023, and thereafter as considered necessary by the Commonwealth, regarding alternative appropriate stockholding amounts that may be suitable should the Minister [for Health] wish to make a determination," the agreement stated.

Federal Minister for Health, Greg Hunt, said the agreements would further strengthen the PBS and deliver improved stability, predictability and viability for the medicines industry.

"These agreements will reduce the cost of prescription medicines for individuals and taxpayers and bolster the supply of medicines available through the PBS," he said.

"They will also ensure that pharmacy shelves across Australia are continuously stocked with PBS medicines and that Australians will have early access to new life changing medicines regardless of where they live."







Click here for more information

The trusted leader in pharmacy websites





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Content produced in collaboration with

MEDICATIONS have the ability to harm as well as heal, and they are being monitored more closely than ever in efforts to protect our communities from these inherent dangers.

It is critically important for pharmacists to take steps that ensure patients have access to quality medications that have been stored in a proper temperaturecontrolled environment.

Cloud based system with precise wi-fi data loggers are extremely flexible and can be used almost anywhere where temperature and humidity need to be measured over long periods.

With numerous specialised probes and setup configurations, these systems are unbeatable with regard to their versatility of applications and cost-savings.

A perfect application is in pharmacies where quality assurance of vaccines and drugs in



fridges and freezers are so crucial for keeping our community safe.

testo Saveris 2 is compliant with Quality Care 2020 and with Section 3.4 of the Site requirements guidelines from ATAGI.

It is a system which uses the advantages of the digital world giving pharmacies time for other important things.

Strive for 5 - automated temperature monitoring with 24/7 alerts

THE national vaccine rollout project is well underway here in Australia and with community pharmacies included in this vital endeavour, there is a heightened level of attention on ensuring quality cold chain management for vaccines at the point of care.

Most pharmacies would have been advised of the site requirement guidelines developed by the Australian Government with the input of ATAGI to support the vaccine rollout.

This increased scrutiny highlights cold chain management, the need for policies and protocols to monitor the temperatures of refrigerators where vaccines are stored and for policies and protocols for temperature breaches.

CLICK HERE for the guidelines and see section 3.0 for details of vaccine storage requirements.

Measure smart with testo Saveris 2



THE testo Saveris 2 data logger is an easy-to-use fridge and freezer temperature monitoring solution.

The device enables automatic monitoring of temperaturesensitive pharmaceutical products, including vaccines, with smart alerts available via SMS and email

Users can access the data from anywhere, at anytime, using any smart device as the testo Saveris 2 automatically transfers and securely stores temperate values on the Cloud.

By using the testo Saveris 2, you can remain compliant with all current cold chain and quality requirements.

Keep healthy! Contact Testo for a demonstration.

CLICK HERE for more information.





testo Saveris 2 data-loggers for fridges and freezers.

Continuous 24/7 monitoring of temperature sensitive pharma products. That's smart!

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Dispensary Corner

BASKETBALL star-turned pundit, Charles Barkley, is using his media clout to callout professional athletes who are refusing to be vaccinated against COVID-19.

Speaking on 97.5 Fanatic Philadelphia, the former NBA legend accused high-profile players of being "selfish", noting they were among the luckiest people on the planet during the pandemic "[they've] gotten every single cheque," while others have lost their jobs or died as a result of the virus.

"For us to be selfish and not trying to help the world get back where we can take these stupid masks off and go out to dinner in a full restaurant, I just think it's selfish," he said.

"I've heard these idiots talk about chips in it, and I heard people talking about [the government] wants to follow us around.

"They can follow us around anyway... everybody's got a cellphone.

"And first of all, what are you doing that you're worried about people following you?"

Speaking with CNBC last month, Barkley said "everybody should be vaccinated", adding "the only people who are not vaccinated are just assholes".



New Qld Guild President

FORMER Australasian College of Pharmacy President, Chris Owen, officially takes over the presidency of the Pharmacy Guild of Australia Queensland Branch today.

Owen has been filling the role as Acting Branch President since Mar, following Trent Twomey's election as Guild National President (PD 22

"It's an absolute pleasure to serve community pharmacy and as a leader of industry," Owen said.

"I am inspired by the dedication of our profession to their patients, especially throughout the pandemic.

"It has been truly amazing to see the way in which pharmacists and their team members have risen to the challenge of COVID-19 in their local communities."

Following confirmation of his appointment as Branch President, Owen - a third generation pharmacist - said he would continue to advocate for pharmacists to be able to work

to their full scope of practice in Queensland.

"I bought my first pharmacy in 2009, but I remember growing up working over holiday periods with Mum and Dad in their pharmacies," he said

"Working in pharmacy in those early years, I really felt part of the community, engrained in it.

"This sense of community inspired me to give back to the profession and to advocate for the role and scope of pharmacists, particularly in rural areas.

"Now, more than ever, communities across Queensland are depending on their local pharmacies to provide health care support and advice, and we know community pharmacies are only too happy to step up and meet the needs of their communities."

Welcoming Owen's appointment, Twomey described the new Queensland Branch President as "a great leader and a fantastic pharmacist."

Guild **Update**

Trust in the Vaccine

COMMUNITY pharmacists along with other healthcare professionals are working to build highest levels of integrity and safety into Australia's COVID-19 vaccination rollout. As part of this, community pharmacists recognise it is mandatory for vaccination providers to report all COVID-19, influenza and NIP vaccines. Reporting of other vaccines is encouraged but not mandatory. The Australian Digital Health Agency has built an integrated platform to assist, providing a more streamlined alternative to records using HPOS. The Pharmacy Guild of Australia is working with Government agencies to help ensure Australia reaches vaccination targets of 70% and 80 per cent as quickly as possible. Separately, following direct discussions recently with Prime Minister Scott Morrison, Guild National President, Adjunct Professor Trent Twomey, has announced Opposition Leader Anthony Albanese will meet with community pharmacists in a webinar presentation on 8 September.

Win with Cheeki



How long do Cheeki's insulated water bottles keep water hot for?



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