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Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features two pages of news.

TWC asthma quiz

TERRYWHITE Chemmart (TWC) is aiming to make asthma support more accessible through its online Asthma Control Quiz.

Available through the TWC website, the system assesses patients' responses and provides the results to them by SMS or email, with a prompt to see their GP or respirologist if required.

TWC Chief Pharmacist, Brenton Hart, said the group wanted to help tackle the overuse of reliever medications in Australia.

"Our key aim is to support people with asthma to use medication appropriately and get the best possible asthma control," he said.

WA hospital to trial e-scripts: ADHA

ROYAL Perth Hospital will become Australia's first hospital to provide patients with electronic prescriptions to be dispensed through community pharmacies.

The Australian Digital Health Agency (ADHA) said e-scripts will initially be introduced across selected out-patient clinics, as part of a 12-week trial, before being rolled out across the hospital.

ADHA CEO, Amanda Cattermole, said the introduction of e-scripts in a hospital setting was a major step forward for patients.

"This is a fabulous development for hospital outpatients to make their lives a little easier upon leaving hospital with proven digital technology that will further enhance the reputation of Western Australia's world-class health system," she said.

"At the end of the Royal Perth Hospital trial, there will be a full-scale evaluation involving feedback from patients, clinicians and pharmacists to help inform further

rollout plans for WA Health."

Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) WA Branch President, Lusi Sheehan, welcomed the rollout of e-scripts through Royal Perth Hospital, saying it would empower pharmacists and other health professionals to connect to health information more efficiently.

"It's very exciting to see the public hospital system adopting the latest technology to give out e-scripts to patients," she said.

"GPs and nurse practitioners around Australia have been utilising e-scripts for more than two years now, it's about time that public hospitals catch up."

Commenting on the planned trial, Pharmacy Guild of Australia WA Branch President, Andrew Ngeow, told *Pharmacy Daily* that it had the potential to improve patient outcomes after they have been discharged from hospital.

"One of the biggest problems that we have is the transition of patients



out of hospital," he said.

"So anything that can smooth that out and make it easier for patients to access their medications is going to help that process, and hopefully help reduce the rate of hospital readmission."

Since the launch of e-scripts in 2020 (*PD* 08 May 2020), more than 45,000 prescribers have issued close to 72 million prescriptions, with more than 390,000 registrations for Active Script Lists.

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Travel & Cruise Weekly

Dispensary Corner

GRADUATING with a Masters in Pharmacy is undoubtedly something to celebrate.

And celebrate is what University of Nottingham graduate, Simi Oladele, did as she attended her graduation ceremony.

Walking up to the stage to receive her degree Oladele waved her arms in the air and blew kisses to the audience.

The display of excitement and enthusiasm prompted the master of ceremonies to blurt out, "I want some of that" as she walked past the rostrum.

Realising the comment could be misconstrued, the MC sought to avoid a #MeToo moment by saying, "as in the drink! Whatever she was drinking".

"So badly went wrong there, didn't I," he said.

Oladele said that she hadn't heard the comment at the time, but after watching the video back - and posting it on TikTok - she said the incident had certainly made the graduation ceremony memorable.

"He was talking about my energy," she said.

"If anything I felt a bit bad for him, as he looked so embarrassed.

"But it's all banter at the end of the day."

Commenting on the clip, one TikTok viewer said, "he'll wake up in the middle of the night in a cold sweat thinking about this moment for years".

A university spokesperson distanced the institution from the comment, saying the MC was an "external professional".

Parker scoops APA title



ALBURY-WODONGA-BASED pharmacy owner, Ruth Parker, has been named as the Australian Patients Association's (APA's) Most Outstanding Pharmacist of the year.

Accepting the honour presented by Pharmacy Guild of Australia National President, Trent Twomey, at last night's APA Awards in Melbourne, Parker said she was "really humbled".

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, Parker has focused on making her Beechworth Pharmacy a central health and vaccination

hub for the community.

Having also recognised that customers are keen to access a diverse range of services at the pharmacy, Parker has embarked on a Bachelor of Health Science (Naturopathy) to be able to offer both pharmaceutical and natural medicine to improve health outcomes.

She has also accepted the opportunity to train as a local pain educator with the Pain Revolution group, to teach patients how to manage and live with pain.

Quinapril safety investigation

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) is investigating potential contamination of quinapril medicines with low levels of the nitrosamine impurity N-nitroso-quinapril.

"The TGA has been advised that very low levels of N-nitroso-quinapril have been detected in Australian quinapril products including when quinapril has been combined with hydrochlorothiazide. This issue also affects quinapril products and quinapril with hydrochlorothiazide supplied internationally," the TGA said.

"As a precautionary measure, the sponsor of Accupril and Accuretic/Aquinaretic, Pfizer Australia, has paused supply of its quinapril products while this issue is investigated."

The TGA noted that there is no immediate risk stemming from this issue, and patients currently using quinapril medicines, including products with hydrochlorothiazide, are advised not to stop treatment without consulting their doctor.

Mayne CEO plans retirement

PLANS to relocate Mayne Pharma's CEO from Adelaide to the US on a permanent basis, have prompted the incumbent, Scott Richardson, to announce his retirement.

Mayne's Chair, Frank Condella thanked Richardson for his leadership of the business over the last 10 years.

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