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8CPA surety sought before 04 Sep

THE 60DD dispensing policy should go ahead on 01 Sep despite moves in the Senate to disrupt the vote for the legislation.

The Senate faced a disallowance motion for the 60DD policy brought by the Opposition yesterday, but Labor, the Greens and Senators David Pocock, Lidia Thorpe and Jacqui Lambie voted in the Senate to reject the delay to bring on the disallowance motion 31 votes to 26, *The Guardian* has reported.

The motion was in the name of the Shadow Health Minister, Anne Ruston, the Nationals leader in the Senate, Bridget McKenzie, One Nation senators Pauline Hanson and Malcolm Roberts, and former Liberal David Van.

But when the moment arrived, none pressed it.

The Senate President, Sue Lines,

announced the motion would remain on the books until the next sitting day, in case another senator wanted to adopt the motion.

After question time, the Labor Senator Louise Pratt adopted the orphaned disallowance motion, allowing the Senate to vote it down.

McKenzie immediately announced that the Coalition had lodged "another disallowance" motion that could see the measure put to a vote in the week of 04 Sep.

The Pharmacy Guild President Trent Twomey is calling on the Albanese Government to "sit down, properly consult and commit to an early start date for an Eighth Community Pharmacy Agreement (8CPA) over the next three weeks, before the Senate returns on 04 Sep to consider further disallowance motions".

"Instead of the Labor Party disallowing their own policy in the Senate, we should be sitting down and getting this policy right for millions of patients and thousands of community pharmacies.

"With more time we can implement a policy that doesn't force hundreds of pharmacies to close, puts thousands of pharmacy workers out of a job, and increases

the cost of services for every aged care resident in the country."

The Federal Health Minister Mark Butler seems to be doubling down on the 60DD policy when speaking to the media, "I made that commitment and I'm going to deliver on that commitment.

"They'll [pharmacists] also lose some money from patient contributions, but let's put that in context, over the last four years, pharmacy, on its own figures, earned \$100 billion, now, let's assume it earns that over the next four years, even though it grew by 30% over the last four.

"Even if there's no more growth, this measure will impact their revenue to the tune of about 1 or 2% on our costings that Treasury has done for us," Butler asserted.

"This is a highly profitable sector, with 34% average gross profit, and it's protected from competition.

"And can I say this, since I announced this measure in three months, we've had twice as many applications to open new pharmacies as we had last year, twice as many as we had last year.

"So clearly, people out there who want to open pharmacies think there's still money to be made."

CWH launches its next store in Ireland

CHEMIST Warehouse (CWH) has launched its seventh store in Ireland with doors opening this week to Chemist Warehouse Mallow, the second store in Cork for the pharmacy retailer.

Following the launches of CWH's first six stores, the new addition is claimed to be the largest store in Ireland to date, spanning over 12,000sqft (3,657.6m²).

In addition to the pharmacy dispensary services, CWH will stock leading Australian brands alongside local European product offerings across the health, wellness, beauty, baby, cosmetics and fragrance categories.

Delivering a branded offering at an affordable price for consumers' health, wellness and beauty needs, the company stated the CWH brand "has



received a warm welcome from customers to date".

"The larger retail format and 'one-stop shop' variety of products has proved a perfect match for European customers," the company added.

Chemist Warehouse Mallow is located at Park Road, Castlelands, Mallow, and is open seven days a week.

Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features three pages of the latest news, plus full pages from:

- TerryWhite Chemmart
- PharmXchange

Apply to TWC

TERRYWHITE Chemmart is accepting applications for its 2024 Internships.

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See more on **page four**.

Butler furious!

THE Federal Health Minister Mark Butler has shown anger against the peak pharmacist lobby group's "scare campaigns", saying yesterday, "it's a new low for me".

"I was furious because the pharmacy lobby and the Coalition know full well that aged care facilities are funded by taxpayers to manage the medicine needs of their residents, and that includes packaging it into Webster packs.

"There is a clear legal prohibition against residents being charged for that service because facilities are already funded.

"The pharmacy lobby knows that the Coalition should know that - they were in gov't for the last decade.

"And I was furious because there have been a whole bunch of base, self-serving scare campaigns over the last few months.

"But this was a new low to frighten a couple of hundred thousand of our most vulnerable members of our community.

"To try to frighten them when they should have known that there is a clear prohibition against residents being charged was a new low for me," Butler added.

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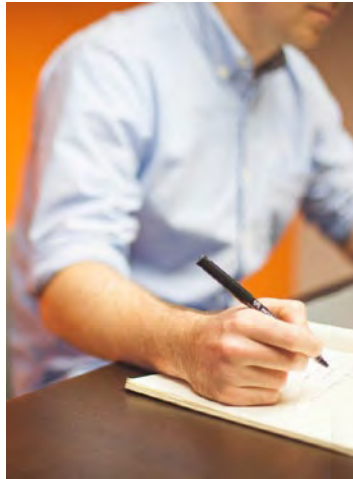
PFIZER has been ranked first in Australia/New Zealand for its corporate reputation, according to the 2022 PatientView survey, which examined 58 patient groups in Australia and New Zealand.

PatientView's *Corporate Reputation of Pharma* survey asks patient groups to assess pharma companies' corporate reputation using 10 indicators, including patient centricity, information and safety, high-quality products, transparency, integrity, patient-group relationships, services beyond the pill, involvement in R&D and equitable access.

The 2022 survey includes eight 'big pharma' companies AbbVie, AstraZeneca, Bristol Myers Squibb, Gilead Sciences, Janssen, Novartis, Pfizer and Roche.

"This achievement reflects our purpose to deliver breakthroughs that change patients' lives," said Anne Harris, Pfizer Australia & New Zealand Managing Director.

"At Pfizer, patients are at the heart



of our business decisions daily. "Understanding and acting on patients' needs and expectations will help speed development and access to treatments.

"As a result, every decision we make starts with the essential question - what will this mean for patients?"

"However, we are not resting on our laurels," assured Harris.

"We will place even greater focus on the inclusion of patients to enhance our understanding of patient needs and deliver decisions that serve them better."

According to Leigh-Anne Simmonds, Pfizer's Senior Manager for Patient Advocacy, PatientView's survey results speak to the commitment of all Pfizer colleagues to set a new standard in patient centricity.

"We know patient centricity exists at Pfizer when we listen and learn from the patient perspective, acting as partners with accountability and integrity to deliver outcomes that matter most to patients and those involved in their care.

"We do this through four key principles of patient-centricity insights and immersion, empowering and equipping, support and services, and advocacy action.

"This is how we apply our patient focus every day," Simmonds concluded.

De-labelling in ED

A STAGGERING 18-25% of Australian hospital inpatients report that they have an antibiotic allergy, especially 'penicillin allergies'.

But studies show that when they are tested for a penicillin allergy via skin tests and oral administration, they have no reaction.

These people can then be labelled non-allergic, in a process known as penicillin allergy 'de-labelling'.

Dr Winnie Tong, allergy researcher at UNSW Medicine & Health and clinical immunologist at St Vincent's Hospital Sydney said de-labelling is important to give people a more accurate idea of their penicillin allergy status if they end up in hospital.

"But it's often a complicated, expensive process, which patients and healthcare providers don't fully understand" - see more [HERE](#).

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¹Koetter U, et al., *Phytopher Res.* 2007;21:847-851. ²Fussel A, et al., *Eur J Med Res.* 2000;5:385-390.

³Lataster MJ, et al., *Notabene Medici.* 1996;4:182-185.



Dispensary Corner

AN ITALIAN man has been crushed to death under thousands of wheels of a Parmesan-style cheese, authorities said.

Giacomo Chiapparini, 74, was buried when a shelf broke in his warehouse in the Lombardy region last week, firefighter Antonion Dusi told *AFP*.

The collapse created a domino effect bringing down thousands of wheels, which weigh about 40kg each.

It took 12 hours to find Chiapparini's body, Dusi explained.

Some of the wheels reportedly fell about 10m and a local resident told Italian media the collapse sounded "like thunder".

The economic damage caused by the accident has been estimated at €7m (A\$11.75m).

The warehouse is located in Romano di Lombardia, about 50km east of Milan and contained 25,000 wheels of Grana Padano, a hard cheese which resembles Parmesan and is popular in Italy.

Reckitt's tips for workplace hygiene

HEALTH and hygiene brand's business-to-business arm, Reckitt Pro Solutions, is sharing actionable advice for businesses, like pharmacies, on ways to promote positive hygiene habits this winter.

In Jan, one of Australia's warmest months, around 90,000-100,000 people are usually away from work due to sickness for an entire week.

However, Jan 2022 saw that number jump to around 450,000 people per week, Reckitts stated.

Jonathan Weiss, Commercial Director for Global Business Solutions EUANZ at Reckitt said, "Reckitt Pro Solutions understands the importance of running and maintaining holistically successful businesses, but also acknowledges there are many different factors at play".

"Following and committing to a rigorous hygiene and cleaning program can offer businesses the opportunity to provide a better environment for staff."

Here are a few simple ways that pharmacists can promote positive hygiene habits across their businesses to ensure staff and visitors are protected from the spread of germs, said Weiss.

"Work closely alongside cleaning



teams to identify high-traffic areas and hotspots within spaces, aligning on the frequency at which they need to be disinfected with efficacious and efficient products.

"Remind employees to stay home if they are unwell," he said.

"Encourage and remind employees to keep their hands clean, by washing their hands with soap for at least 20 seconds."

Importance of this peaks during crucial times such as after using the restroom, following a commute and before eating, he added.

"If washing hands isn't possible, encourage staff to carry hand sanitiser on their person."

Research has shown that high-touch points such as door handles and hand dryers can become contaminated by dirty hands, which can be transferred to the hands of the next person who touches them, Weiss explained.

"Continuously assess the effectiveness of initiatives and programs by collecting feedback from employees, monitoring sick leave trends, and making adjustments as necessary."

The Australian treasury estimated that 31,000 people missed work each day in Jun 2022 alone, due to ongoing health issues associated with contracting COVID-19.

"If establishing a healthy workplace isn't prioritised, the costs associated with sick leave, and needing to replace those workers can lead to a potential productivity issue that can impact the overall business."

"Reckitt Pro Solutions values creating workplaces and businesses where the health and wellbeing of staff is a priority and wants to help other businesses follow suit," Weiss concluded.

Research lab tackles body image issues

FLINDERS University has a new research initiative, The Embrace Impact Lab, to help young Aussies and their parents tackle body image issues, and is supported by a campaign led by the 2023 Australian of the Year, Taryn Brumfitt.

Body image researcher A/ Prof Ivanka Prichard at Flinders University heads the lab which is the new research arm of The Embrace Collective, a national

charity on a mission to reach more than one million children with its message to 'embrace everybody' through educational activities & events in schools, sports clubs and the community.

Brumfitt said, "there is so much great research that has been done in the body image space, but too much of it sits on a shelf gathering dust...we need to get these incredible insights and solutions out there!"

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- Adam Webster, Pharmacy Manager
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