



## Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features three pages of news, plus a full page from TerryWhite Chemmart.

## Keeping pace

BE ON the front foot and keep up with vaccination programs when you join TerryWhite Chemmart. See more on page four.

## \$8.5m in funding

THE Federal Government will invest \$8.5m for those with a lived experience of mental health to shape the policies and programs that affect them. Funding of \$7.5m will go to two independent peak bodies. Lived Experience Australia will also receive \$900k. Funding of \$100k will go to a regular stakeholder forum.

# 900 kids to benefit from Wizard's gift

WIZARD Pharmacy has donated \$54,558 to the Starlight Children's Foundation to help sick children and their families as part of their Starlight Giving Tree Christmas Appeal.

The donation will give 900 children access to the Starlight Express Rooms at the Perth Children's Hospital and the Royal Darwin Hospital for the duration of their hospital stay, as well as grant three life-impacting Starlight wishes.

Wizard Pharmacy has provided over 11,500 kids across Western Australia and the Northern Territory access to the Starlight Express Room throughout their 12 years of partnership and is on track to reach \$500k in donations.

Starlight Children's Foundation Partnerships Executive Sarah Sosnowski said how deeply grateful Starlight was for Wizard Pharmacy's unwavering support over the past 12 years.

"Wizard's ongoing fundraising



efforts support us to provide kids and their families with an important break from the stress and pain of illness, helping us to bring happiness, connection and play to the hospital," said Sosnowski.

Wizard Pharmacy Chief Operating Officer Sally Parker said that after the difficulties the last few years have presented, the Wizard network felt it was very important to give back.

"We are overwhelmed by the

generosity of our communities and how everyone continues to rally together each year to do something special for those in need," she said.

**Pictured above:** Captain Starlight, Wizard Pharmacy General Marketing Manager Gavin Feilding; Wizard Pharmacy Chief Operating Officer Sally Parker; Wizard Pharmacy Senior PR & Partnerships Coordinator Amelia Tuttleby; Starlight Children's Foundation Partnerships Executive Sarah Sosnowski and Captain Starlight.

# DRAW THE LINE... when it comes to Vitamin Supplements



## Affordable, quality healthcare supporting Australian families

Always read the label and follow the directions for use.  
[www.apohealth.com.au](http://www.apohealth.com.au)

Check out our NEW website!



The APOTEX trademark is under license. Apotex Pty Ltd Macquarie Park NSW 2113. ABN 52 096 916 148. Copyright © CONSUMER-000779. January 2023. All rights reserved.

## DO WE HAVE YOUR CORRECT DETAILS?

As a health professional, did you receive today's special edition? [Click here](#) to change your subscription details via email.



## Cognitive injury

**REPEATED** concussions are linked to worse brain function in later life, according to new research.

The findings, published in the *Journal of Neurotrauma*, showed people who reported experiencing three or more lifetime concussions had worse cognitive function at baseline than those with no concussion history.

The UK-based research, conducted by UNSW Sydney, the University of Oxford and the University of Exeter, analysed data of more than 15,000 study participants - the largest study to explore the cognitive effects of concussion, or traumatic brain injury (TBI), to date.

Participants in the study who reported just three episodes of even a mild concussion had significantly worse concentration and ability to complete complex tasks.

Those with four or more mild concussion episodes also showed worse processing speed and working memory.

Each additional concussion correlated with progressively worse cognitive deficits.

Furthermore, the study found just one moderate-to-severe concussion was associated with worse concentration, ability to complete complex tasks and processing speed.

"Our findings suggest concussions are associated in the long-term with a fixed chronic deficit that seems to increase with each additional TBI," said Dr Matthew Lennon MD, a PhD candidate from the Centre for Healthy Brain Ageing at UNSW Medicine and Health and lead author of the study.

People with a history of concussions should be wary of the potential dangers of continuing activities that may place them at risk of further head trauma, like contact sports, the researchers said.

Learn more [HERE](#).

## Use SafeScript reminder

**THE** Pharmacy Guild is reminding pharmacists to be aware that the Poisons and Therapeutic Goods Regulation 2008 requires pharmacists to record certain information when dispensing medicines.

Pharmacists should record a patient's information such as their full name, date of birth, and the street address.

Medicine information including the name, strength, and quantity of medicine to be supplied, date of supply and the prescription reference number is required.

Pharmacist information such as their own full name, contact details, the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency registration number and the healthcare identifier is recommended.

The Guild said SafeScript NSW is a clinical tool that provides pharmacists and prescribers with real-time information about a patient's prescribing and dispensing history for monitored medicines.

SafeScript NSW is most effective when it contains accurate information about patients, practitioners, and medicines, the Guild said.



SafeScript NSW is designed to be integrated into clinical workflow through prescribing and dispensing systems.

A panel of academics, pharmacologists and experts in addiction medicine and pain management was established to provide advice to NSW Health when determining the medicines monitored in the SafeScript NSW system.

It can also be accessed by logging into the SafeScript NSW web portal. Register for SafeScript NSW [HERE](#).

## Less aggression!

**PEOPLE** taking beta adrenergic-blocking agents ( $\beta$ -blockers) for heart conditions may be less aggressive while they're on the medication, according to international research.

$\beta$ -blockers are used to treat high blood pressure, angina and other heart problems, and there is some evidence they can have psychological impacts.

Using Swedish healthcare data for 1.4m people prescribed the medication, the researchers compared psychiatric hospitalisations, suicidal behaviour and violent crime charges when people were taking the drugs with periods when they weren't.

The researchers say the participants had a 13% lower risk of being charged with a violent crime while taking  $\beta$ -blockers and were 8% less likely to be hospitalised for a psychiatric disorder.

Those taking  $\beta$ -blockers were 8% more likely to be treated for suicidal behaviour.

Learn more [HERE](#).

## Vaccine refusals

**VACCINE** hesitancy isn't a strictly modern phenomenon. Using records from two smallpox epidemics in Glasgow between 1900-1904, researchers found that people's past local experience of an infectious disease can impact their vaccination decisions.

In areas where there were fewer deaths from smallpox, subsequent vaccine refusal was higher, indicating that complacency influenced vaccination decisions, the Royal Society researchers said.

The UK authors said the implication of this is that, in some areas, vaccine policy may be more effective if it takes previous local disease experience into account.

*keep dreaming...*  
travel inspiration for your  
next dream holiday

Be inspired by this week's magazine featuring Norway, Barcelona, Tasmania and more dreamy destinations.

Travel & Cruise  
Weekly

Click to  
read



## Dispensary Corner

**THE** health-conscious Dutch are always cycling to get around.

But where to park the bike? Under water, of course!

Plagued by ever-shrinking space to park its hundreds of thousands of bicycles, Amsterdam opened the first of its largest-ever bicycle parking complexes, built underwater in a pioneering engineering project.

The shelter is constructed beneath the Open Haven Front, an access tributary to the city's IJ river, and will be followed by another next to the IJ itself that will open soon.

They will have a combined capacity for 11,000 bikes in the cycling-mad Dutch capital.

"Together the shelters will be the largest in the city," the Amsterdam municipality said, with the Open Haven Front storage able to take 7,000 bicycles and the IJ-side site around 4,000.

Conveyor belts take cyclists 9m (30 ft) below ground level, according to wUrck, the architectural firm that designed the ultramodern parking spaces that aim to evoke their oceanic surroundings.

"The cyclist steps into an imaginary oyster with a rough exterior of basalt and natural stone and a smooth, light interior," the firm said in a statement.

There are an estimated 900,000 bicycles in Amsterdam with some 625,000 trips made daily, according to the city's 2021 Bicycle Monitor plan - and finding proper parking has long been a headache.

## \$1.7m for pain research

**SCIENTISTS** at the University of Sydney, Australia have been awarded \$1.7m from NSW Health, to research a new treatment for chronic pain affecting people with spinal cord injuries, *BioSpectrum* has reported.

Up to 80% of people with a spinal cord injury develop some degree of persistent pain.

Recent research by the National Drug Strategy Household Survey found 2.7% of the country's population took up cannabis use for medicinal purposes in 2019 - a figure which has been rapidly rising since the drug was made available via prescription in late 2016.

In partnership with the Lambert Initiative for Cannabinoid Therapeutics, this world-first trial is examining whether the non-intoxicating component of cannabis

- cannabidiol (CBD) - is safe and effective in reducing neuropathic pain in people with spinal cord injury.

The trial will be run at Neuroscience Research Australia in Randwick, Sydney, a well-known facility for brain imaging and spinal cord injury research.

"Success of this trial would trailblaze future research on the benefits of CBD in other neuropathic pain conditions which, much like neuropathic pain following spinal cord injury, remain undertreated and misunderstood", said the study's co-investigator Professor Iain McGregor from the University of Sydney's Lambert Initiative for Cannabinoid Therapeutics.

To find out more about the SCAN trial, visit **HERE**.

## Dosing started

**THE** Royal Adelaide Hospital and Australia's Accelagen, in collaboration with US-based Kiora Pharmaceuticals, have announced that dosing has commenced in the Phase 1 first-in-human trial for KIO-301.

This trial represents a development in the treatment of people with the rare inherited condition, Retinitis Pigmentosa, which currently has no approved cure or standard treatment.

"Clinical research is not about just testing something in a group of trial participants.

"It is about creating measurable improvements for people's health and wellbeing that will impact generations to come," shares Greg Plunkett, Accelagen CEO and Founder.

## NEW PRODUCTS

Suppliers wanting to promote products in this feature should email [newproducts@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:newproducts@pharmacydaily.com.au)

### BlastX is the game-changer in wound care

The new innovative BlastX is now available in Australia. BlastX acts in 3 ways to destroy bacteria, deconstruct biofilms and defend against recolonisation, plus it promotes a moist wound environment for faster healing. Dermatologists and GPs are referring patients to pharmacies for BlastX – sold over the counter without a prescription.

Suitable for acute and chronic wounds: Post-Surgical, Partial/full thickness, Grafted & donor wounds, Pressure injuries, 1st and 2nd degree burns and Diabetic foot & leg ulcers.

Available at a 20% discount to pharmacies for a limited time.

**RRP:** \$27.99 (7.5ml tube) and \$69.99 (30ml tube)

**Supplier:** Symbion PDE: 7.5ml tube - 679356. 30ml tube - 677868. CH2 PDE: 7.5ml tube - 2589074. 30ml tube - 2589082.

**Website:** [www.blastx.net.au](http://www.blastx.net.au)



# #1 for Vaccination Excellence



“Vaccination support improved goodwill in our community”

I joined TerryWhite Chemmart in 2020, right in the middle of the first peak of COVID-19. As an independent operator we were challenged with a deluge of customers needing information about COVID-19 along with shortages in some medications. We were in uncharted waters. Joining TerryWhite Chemmart enabled us not only to be on the front foot with vaccinations but to keep pace with the latest developments.

Through education, daily communications, and operational support from TWC, we are now a centre for health and trusted advice in our community.

Vaccination programs have been a source of new customers for us. Month to month we see an increase in customers coming into the pharmacy. Vaccination services have had a major impact on growth as a business.

Improving public health makes it personally rewarding for me while it also helps my pharmacy to grow.

Toby Keall at TerryWhite Chemmart Floreat Forum, WA  
(Opened 31st August 2020)



**Want to grow your business? Call today:**

Richard Jensch (QLD, SA, NT, WA) – 0401 560 712  
Fiona McKenzie (ACT, NSW, WA) – 0437 599 920  
Peter O'Brien (VIC, TAS) – 0427 352 902  
Gary Flynn (SA, NT) – 0488 223 155

