

4 ways to help build strong bones



Petrus PHARMACEUTICALS

Available from Symbion, Sigma, API & CH2

## D-day for 60DD

SIXTY-DAY dispensing has officially come into play today with more mixed reviews about its value.

A joint release from six organisations including the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Asthma Australia and Breast Cancer Network Australia, among others, welcomed the policy.

The statement said it "will bring immediate benefits for some of Australia's most vulnerable people" and would be "saving patients at least \$180 a year and more if they're taking multiple medicines".

The Pharmacy Guild President Trent Twomey, meanwhile, thanked Prime Minister Albanese for "hearing our concerns", saying he was glad 60-day dispensing, along with other reforms, would now be dealt with in the normal way under a Community Pharmacy Agreement.

## Guild, Govt lay down arms for 8CPA

THE Albanese Government and the Pharmacy Guild will begin negotiations to secure an eighth Community Pharmacy Agreement with immediate effect.

With the negotiations starting to take place, the Prime Minister and Health Minister have accepted the offer from the Pharmacy Guild to suspend its public information campaign.

A commitment has been made by both parties to secure a new agreement that will commence on 01 Mar 2024.

Trent Twomey (pictured), President of the Pharmacy Guild, emphasised the aim to provide "cheaper medicines in a way that does not adversely impact the viability of community pharmacies, or patients' access to community pharmacy services".

He said, "pharmacists are ready, willing and able to step up and provide more care and services to patients, at a time when the health system is under significant



strain, and we look forward to those opportunities within the 8th Community Pharmacy Agreement.

"We must ensure the core clinical service of community pharmacies, the dispensing of prescription medicines, is remunerated appropriately to help ensure these opportunities for a greater role of community pharmacists in delivery of patient care are realised."

The start of discussions comes after Federal Health Minister Mark Butler made a surprise

announcement in August (PD 08 Aug) that negotiations would be brought forward.

Butler made the announcement at the same time as he heavily defended the implementation of 60-day dispensing, which begins today (see story left).

### Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features three pages of the latest news.



1800 429 829

info@ravensrecruitment.com.au  
www.ravensrecruitment.com.au

### Professional Care Pharmacist

Tablelands Nth QLD (Job #43688)

- Beautiful far north Queensland location.
- Accom provided - 3 bed furn pet friendly.
- Well supported professional services Pharmacist role.

Beautiful "foodie" location, close to Cairns. Home to a world class mountain bike park, waterfalls and crater lakes.

...see more info



## Minns thanks pharmacists for job help

NSW Premier Chris Minns has thanked pharmacists for their help administering the flu vaccine.

Speaking at the opening of the Pharmacy Connect Conference last night, Minns said the "vaccination program has been a huge success as well over 1,100 pharmacies have registered with the New South Wales State Vaccine Centre".

Minns said almost 591,000 flu



vaccines had been administered by pharmacists in NSW, putting the state "at the forefront of pharmacy-led vaccination efforts in the country".

# Boost your business

Receive your customised data and insights report to identify your business potential.

Register now



priceline pharmacy



a festival of you

Subscribe for free to receive our Health Professional PPA only editions of Pharmacy Daily.



[Click here to update your details](#)

## Heart pilot sees uptick

A HEART Foundation pilot program that recalls at-risk Australians via a text message from their GP clinic is being seen as a potential lifesaver.

The Heart Health Check (HHC) Recall pilot study rolled out in more than 200 GP clinics across the country.

About 42,000 at-risk Australian patients received an invitation from their GP via SMS to come in for a HHC, which led to a 14-fold increase in checks.

Results were recently published in the *Australian Journal of General Practice*, [HERE](#).

The pilot is the largest targeted cardiovascular disease (CVD) screening trial of its kind in Australian general practice, potentially paving the way for a structured CVD screening program in the future.

Heart Foundation Healthcare Programs Manager Natalie Raffouf said, "this is the most robust Australian evidence we have that

shows a targeted CVD screening program could be both effective and feasible in general practice".

"Just like Australia has dedicated screening programs for many cancers, we need to consider one for Australia's leading cause of death, heart disease."

The pilot program sent direct SMS messages from GP clinics to existing patients via the GoShare Plus software embedded into established clinical practice software with a randomised control trial design.

Patients who were invited to come in for a HHC via a personalised SMS met criteria that included being aged 45 to 74 years; not already living with CVD; not having had a health assessment or HHC in the previous 12 months; having total cholesterol and high-density lipoprotein cholesterol recorded in the previous 12 months; and being an active patient (at least three visits to the GP in the previous two years).

## Payments program rules page goes live

THE Department of Health and Aged Care and the Pharmacy Programs Administrator (PPA) has advised all pharmacists that the Regional Pharmacy Transition Allowance (RPTA) Program Rules and an updated webpage are now live, [HERE](#), to provide pharmacies with more details about the new program that commenced today.

This includes FAQs, factsheets and the RPTA payment matrix.

The RPTA Program Rules provide pharmacies with detailed information about the program, how it will operate and the payments available.

Pharmacies should ensure they have read and understood the RPTA Program Rules and have confirmed their eligibility prior to registering and applying for the program, the Department of Health stated.

Registration and applications will not open in the PPA Portal until Oct.



Pharmacies will receive further communication when the program is released in the PPA Portal.

Closer to this time a Portal User Guide providing detailed information regarding the registration and application process for the RPTA program will also be made available under the Program Rules and other downloads section of the RPTA webpage.

SFI HEALTH | FLORDIS™

## Treat More Than Heat Mood and Cognition in Menopause

Join Naturopath Sandra Villella as she shares her insights treating mood and cognitive challenges in menopausal patients

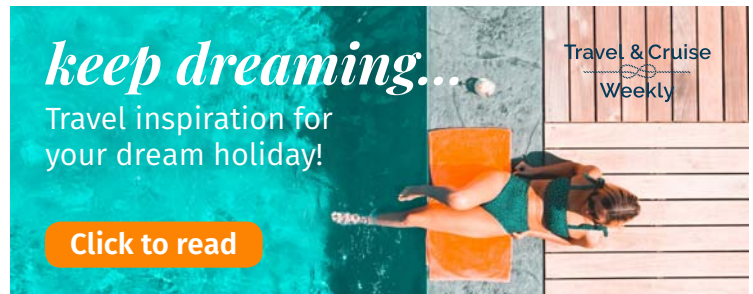
- Explore the unique biopsychosocial and hormonal influences of menopause that impact mood and cognition.
- Learn how to recognise perimenopausal depression.
- Explore the impact of the gonadal hormones on mood and cognitive function.

[REGISTER NOW](#)

WEBINAR DATE: Wed 20th Sept 2023 TIME: 6:30pm AEST

HEALTH PROFESSIONAL ONLY





## Dispensary Corner

**THE** US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has warned people not to “kiss or cuddle your turtle” after a salmonella outbreak linked to small turtles has struck at least 26 people across 11 states.

Public health officials announced that they are investigating a “multistate outbreak” after dozens of people have fallen ill in recent months, according to the CDC.

A federal law bans the sale and distribution of turtles with shells less than 10cm long as pets because they have caused multiple illnesses, especially in young children, the CDC said.

“Despite the ban, these turtles can sometimes be found illegally online and at stores, flea markets, and roadside stands,” continued the CDC.

“Pet turtles can carry salmonella in their droppings, and these germs spread to their bodies, tank water, and anything where they live.

“People get sick touching their mouths after touching turtles and anything in its environment.”

## Bringing technique to the forefront



**MOAMA** Village Pharmacy, NSW, is taking an active role in National Asthma Awareness Week (01-07 Sep) by supporting and educating the community about asthma and hay fever.

“We provide ongoing clinics to help people with asthma and hay fever all year round,” Moama Village Pharmacy asthma educator and pharmacist Sherri Barden (pictured) said in the *Riverine Herald*, yesterday.

“In National Asthma Week we are launching a more formalised inhaler technique check with our pharmacists in-store.

“Pharmacists have traditionally checked techniques, we just want

to bring it to the forefront, because up to 90% of patients use their inhalers incorrectly.

“We want to make sure patients are doing it right and getting the best effect from their inhaler treatment,” she explained in the online publication.

During spring, Barden knows that patients with asthma or seasonal hay fever are at an increased risk of thunderstorm asthma.

She recommended that patients have their reliever inhalers, such as Ventolin, on hand always in case they get symptoms, and should also know asthma first-aid.

“People die from asthma, it is a

chronic, inflammatory, respiratory condition that needs to be taken seriously,” Barden said.

“Education is really important because we have some wonderful medications to help and there are always new medicines and devices becoming available.

“We can’t cure asthma, but we can treat it really well and prevent it with the right medications.

“One in nine Australians suffer from asthma and 80% of people with asthma have hay fever.

“It is known that hay fever can trigger asthma as well, so we need to have really good control of hay fever which we can do with over-the-counter medications, so you are less likely to end up in hospital or presenting at emergency departments.”

As part of National Asthma Week, all the Moama pharmacies are supporting the Zoe Kennedy Foundation.

The niece of Echuca GP Sam Kennedy and physiotherapist Georgie Kennedy, Zoe Kennedy’s life was cut short after an acute asthma attack at the age of 13.

At both pharmacies customers can purchase a wristband to help raise funds for the foundation, the publication has reported.

## DRAW THE LINE... When it comes to Allergy relief



**Affordable, quality healthcare supporting Australian families**

Always read the label and follow the directions for use.

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

[www.apohealth.com.au](http://www.apohealth.com.au)



[www.pharmacydaily.com.au](http://www.pharmacydaily.com.au)

Pharmacy Daily is part of the Business Publishing Group family of publications.

Pharmacy Daily is Australia’s favourite pharmacy industry publication.

### EDITORIAL

**Publisher** - Bruce Piper  
**Editorial Director** - Damian Francis  
**Editor** - Jayamala Gupte  
**Associate Publisher** - Anna Piper  
**Contributors** - Adam Bishop, Myles Stedman, Janie Medbury, Matthew Wai  
[info@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:info@pharmacydaily.com.au)

Pharmacy Daily is a publication of Pharmacy Daily Pty Ltd ABN 97 124 094 604. All content fully protected by copyright. Please obtain written permission to reproduce any material. While every care has been taken in the preparation of the newsletter no liability can be accepted for errors or omissions. Information is published in good faith to stimulate independent investigation of the matters canvassed. Responsibility for editorial comment is taken by Bruce Piper.

### ADVERTISING AND MARKETING

Sean Harrigan & Nicki Harford  
[advertising@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:advertising@pharmacydaily.com.au)

### GENERAL MANAGER

Davy Adams  
[davy@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:davy@pharmacydaily.com.au)

Suite 1, Level 2, 64 Talavera Rd  
 Macquarie Park NSW 2113 Australia  
 PO Box 1010 Epping NSW 1710 Australia  
 Tel: 1300 799 220 (+61 2 8007 6760)

Sign up free at  
[www.pharmacydaily.com.au](http://www.pharmacydaily.com.au)

