

Even a short 5-day course of antibiotics can alter the makeup of the bacterial species in the gut! Antibiotics kill both beneficial or 'friendly' bacteria along with pathogenic bacteria, thus reducing the gut's microbial diversity and affecting digestive health. This can lead to dysbiosis and diarrhoea in patients.²⁻³ **NEW** THER-BIOTIC™Antibiotic BioRenew contains only clinically researched probiotic strains that help maintain

Always read the label and follow the directions for use.





Tuesday 2nd Apr 2024



Ferro-Max (with Vitamin C to aid absorption."

Available from Symbion, Sigma, API and CH2.

For use when iron deficiency or iron deficiency anaemia has been diagnosed by your doctor and a therapeutic iron supplement is recommended. Always read the label and follow the directions for use. If symptoms persist, worsen or change unexpectedly, talk to your health professional. *Vitamin C has been shown to enhance the absorption of iron when taken together.

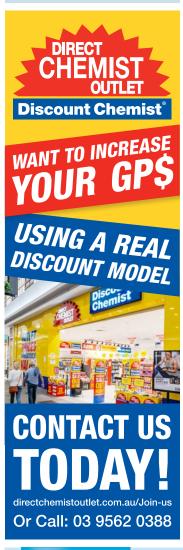


Flu vaccine on NIP

FLUCELVAX QUAD, a cellbased flu vaccine by CSL Segirus, is now on the National Immunisation Program (NIP).

The move aims to shield Australians at an increased risk of flu complications by offering the vaccine free of charge.

Unlike traditional egg-based vaccines, cell-based vaccines such as Flucelvax QUAD utilise mammalian cells to grow influenza viruses.



GSK's drug listed on PBS

IN AN advancement for Australian women battling ovarian cancer, GSK Australia announced yesterday the expansion of PBS access to the drug Zejula (niraparib).

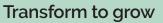
Zejula, a once-daily capsule designed for the treatment of newly diagnosed homologous recombination deficiency (HRD) positive advanced ovarian cancer, specifically targets those without the BRCA mutation.

This group represents around 25% of women diagnosed with this challenging disease.

Zejula, as a poly ADP-ribose polymerase (PARP) inhibitor, functions by preventing the repair of damaged ovarian cancer cells, leading to their death.

Starting this year, patients have been able to undergo a newly reimbursed HRD test to determine their eligibility for Zejula, marking a shift in treatment accessibility and personalised medicine.

HRD, a condition in which cancer cells lose the ability to repair damaged DNA, plays a crucial role



TERRYWHITE Chemmart can help business owners improve their script numbers, increase customer loyalty, grow average basket size and smooth out dispensary workflow.

See more on page three.

Reasons for success

PRICELINE has given 10 reasons to help business owners decide if they would like to partner with the network with insights from pharmacist colleagues.

See more on page four.



in ovarian cancer's resistance to medical treatment.

The testing for HRD is essential for guiding the use of targeted therapies like PARP inhibitors, and is performed on tumour samples from surgery or biopsy.

It is distinguished as the only TGA approved and PBS reimbursed monotherapy maintenance treatment for HRD-positive women, allowing for standalone use without additional treatments.

GSK stated Zeiula's availability as a first-line maintenance treatment post-surgery and chemotherapy offers a new horizon for ongoing treatment with a tailored approach through individualised dosing to minimise adverse effects. JG

Today's issue of *PD*

Pharmacy Daily today features two pages of news, a cover wrap from SFI Health, plus full pages from:

- TerryWhite Chemmart
- Priceline Pharmacy
- Wizard Pharmacy

Join the network

WIZARD Pharmacy is on a mission to grow nationally and searching for new franchise and partner opportunities.

Book an appointment with Wizard staff to learn more by heading to the back page.

Practice aid for TB

THE International Pharmaceutical Federation has launched an infographic to manage tuberculosis symptoms in 20 languages HERE.

Healthy gut aid

SFI Health's Ther-Biotic contains probiotic strains that help maintain good gut flora during and after antibiotic use. See more on the cover page.



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AMH Aged Care Companion

Evidence-based information to address the most common aged-related illnesses and drug treatment challenges.

amh.net.au



Dispensary Corner

IN SOMETHING straight out of a quirky crime novel, a new study published in PLOS ONE has discovered that women with a chill, low resting heart rate aren't just cool under pressure - they might also be more likely to engage in criminal activities.

Yes, you read that right.
Sofi Oskarsson and her team
of curious scientists from
Orebro University in Sweden
embarked on this peculiar
journey to uncover whether
women's heart rates have a
shady side too.

Diving into the health and criminal records of 12,500 Swedish women who, at around 18 years of age, thought joining the military sounded like a good idea, they found some heart-pounding results.

Women with resting heart rates under 69 beats per minute (bpm) seemed to be 35% more adventurous when it came to bending the law, compared to their counterparts beating away at a brisk 83 bpm or higher.

Interestingly, their penchant for trouble didn't extend to violent crimes, but they did show a knack for finding themselves in accidental scrapes and bruises, hinting at a fearless, thrill-seeking spirit.

And while blood pressure readings seemed to hint at who might throw a punch, the overall message was clear: having a heart that doesn't race at the sight of danger might just mean you're the danger.

Oskarsson and her team cautioned against taking these findings too, well, heartily.

APP holiday comp winner

JESS Pfingst, a pharmacist from Bray Park Priceline Pharmacy in Queensland, was declared the winner of the 2024 'Win a Holiday Competition' last week by APP Chairman Kos Sclavos.

The announcement follows a competitive selection process involving 2,340 submissions for a \$10,000 travel voucher, sponsored by PassportCard.

The competition was accessible to a wide range of professionals within the pharmacy sector, including registered pharmacists, students, assistants, retail managers, dispensary technicians, and interns.

Pfingst expressed astonishment and gratitude upon winning,

highlighting her previous lack of success in similar contests.

"This win is unexpected and thrilling; I look forward to planning a trip to Italy, a goal I've been nurturing for years," said Pfingst.

In the wake of the conclusion of APP2024, Sclavos provided an overview of the event's achievements, noting the participation of nearly 7,000 delegates, the presence of 450 trade stands, and the availability of over 60 sessions for attendees.

He also indicated that preparations for the upcoming Pharmacy Connect conference in Sydney, set for 05 to 07 Sep, are already in progress with early bird rates coming soon. *JG*

R Guild Update

New report on pharmacy workforce

THE Pharmacy Guild's Workforce Capability Project has just released its latest report for members' reading.

It's the second edition of the *Pharmacy Workforce Supply and Demand Report* and examines the current trends and factors affecting the supply and demand of the workforce in community pharmacy.

Among the key findings of the report are:

- Growth in the workforce and in job vacancies outstripped the growth in the number of pharmacies registered between 2013 and 2023.
- Workforce shortages do not appear to be driven by a rise in the number of pharmacists working in hospitals or other settings outside community pharmacy.
- Distribution of the pharmacy workforce shows there is likely to be a continuation of employment not keeping up with demand.

One significant issue impacting the supply of the community pharmacy workforce is the availability and location of staff to work in the sector, which includes migration of internationally qualified pharmacists to Australia.

The next edition of the Pharmacy Workforce Supply and Demand Report will provide more details about the pharmacy assistant supply and demand modelling.

Members can read the second edition **HERE**.

Centre looks at impact of male bias

A UNIVERSITY of New South Wales (UNSW) centre inaugurated last week addresses a critical health issue - the pervasive male-centric bias in medical research and care.

The bias has led to significant health disparities and suboptimal outcomes for women, girls, intersex, trans, and genderdiverse individuals.

The Centre for Sex and Gender Equity in Health and Medicine was established by The George Institute for Global Health at UNSW in collaboration with Deakin University.

It aims to transform this one-size-fits-all approach into a system that recognises and caters to the diverse health needs of all Australians.

Highlighting the foundation of these disparities, the institute's Founding Director Prof Robyn Norton pointed out the over representation of "white men in clinical trials and the use of male cells and animals in laboratory research", has led to misdiagnoses, inappropriate treatments, and overlooked symptoms in other populations.

The Centre's mission is to integrate a sex- and gender-sensitive perspective into research and healthcare practice, thereby improving outcomes for underrepresented groups.

Deakin's Executive Dean Prof Rachel Huxley emphasised the specific challenges in addressing women's health, advocating for a broader focus beyond reproductive issues to include major conditions like heart disease which are still considered a 'man's disease'.

"Women's symptoms are often not picked up, attributed to other psychological causes, and treatment is delayed or not given at all, with serious consequences including death," said Huxley.

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