

Today's issue of PD

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

- Pointrs
- Metagenics
- Pharmacy Connect

Pointrs' free trial

WITH over 5,000 hotels and flights to explore, Pointrs is offering pharmacists ways to save on travel and 3.5 times more loyalty points than other providers - see **page four** for the free trial offer.

Expand your scope

METAGENICS six-module accredited learning course is available for integrative pharmacists to expand their scope of practice.

Learn how you can gain up to 17 CPD points, and open a product account on **page five**.

Blackmores named Employer of Choice

THE Workplace Gender Equality Agency (WGEA) has named Blackmores Group as a recipient of the 'Employer of Choice for Gender Equality' citation.

The award acknowledges Blackmores' efforts to tackle workplace gender inequality, including eliminating bias in recruitment, addressing pay inequalities, and combating sexual harassment.

Blackmores Group CEO

Alastair Symington praised the recognition, stating it reflects the company's commitment to an inclusive workplace.

WGEA CEO Mary Wooldridge commended citation holders like Blackmores, noting that such efforts "unlock enormous benefits for their business".

"Research shows businesses with greater gender balance in leadership roles are more profitable and productive."

SHPA shares PSA's vision

HOSPITAL pharmacists welcomed the *Pharmacists in 2030* report, launched by the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) at PSA24.

The report supports pharmacy specialisation, collaborative care teams, and practitioner recognition, aligning with the Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia's (SHPA) own strategic vision.

SHPA President Tom Simpson said *Pharmacists in 2030* serves as a complementary framework for SHPA's upcoming *Statement on Advanced Pharmacy* and strategic plan to guide the growing impact of the pharmacy profession on medicines safety and patient care.

"We absolutely recognise the need to update the definition of advanced practice in Australia," remarked Simpson.

The *Pharmacists in 2030* recognises "urgent issues" facing the profession, while identifying actionable solutions, many of which echo the initiatives of SHPA's *Transformation 2024* agenda, explained Simpson.

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Additionally, PSA National President Fei Sim explained that the report "leverages the appetite for change in our health system", driven by patient needs, and provides a roadmap for the next six years on how pharmacists' full potential can be realised.

Sim added *Pharmacists in 2030* "challenges the entire health ecosystem" to collaboratively drive pharmacy practice to the next level, including policymakers, patients, and consumers.

"We know that regulatory change alone is not enough," she said.

"We need to address the cultural and system factors which hold our profession back, and importantly, we cannot continue expecting pharmacists to do more with less."

Pictured: Federal Health Minister Mark Butler and Sim at PSA24. JG

Training subsidy

THE Australasian College of Pharmacy will now manage Queensland Health's subsidy distribution for pharmacists' training, for the state's Community Pharmacy Scope of Practice pilot (**PD 26 Apr**).

Announced in Jun, the Queensland Government allocated \$6 million to support the pilot's rollout, making training more accessible.

Eligible pharmacists can receive up to \$7,000 for completing approved clinical educational courses within 18 months of enrolment.

College CEO Amanda Seeto urges pharmacists to apply for the subsidy, noting that some in North Queensland have already completed the training and expanded their services.

Seeto acknowledged the financial support, highlighting its role in enhancing pharmacists' capabilities and healthcare accessibility.

To learn more, **CLICK HERE**.

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AMH Children's Dosing Companion - New Release

Australia's national dosing guide for medicine use in children



Compounding updates



The pharmacy board guidelines also outline legal requirements and standards for compounding.

The revised guidelines also reaffirm longstanding guidance for the profession about when not to compound a medicine, with pharmacists advised not to compound medicines if they replicate existing available medicines, lack proper equipment, or if safety is not evidenced.

Additional resources include a consumer fact sheet and updated regulatory background information, with an FAQ set for review by 01 Oct - to see more, [CLICK HERE](#). JG

THE Pharmacy Board of Australia has published revised guidelines on safe practice for compounding medicines, effective 01 Oct.

These updates provide clarity on when compounding is appropriate, supported by a new definition of 'commercial medicine'.

Key changes include a greater focus on risk assessment, reducing duplicated information from sources like the Australian Pharmaceutical Formulary, and differentiating guidelines for animal versus human patients.

Gain CPD credits

THE end of the CPD year is fast approaching, but there is still a chance to gain credits by attending the Pharmacy Guild of Australia's Pharmacy Connect conference in Sep.

To book your ticket, head to the [back page](#).

AI avatars offer engaging CPD content

MEITHEAL Services has launched its first AI-generated CPD accredited course, 'CPD: Oral Emergency Contraception', now available on its LRNRX app and website.

Founder and CEO pharmacist Krysti-Lee Patterson (**pictured**) said, "utilising AI-generated avatars revolutionises pharmacy education, offering high-quality, engaging, and cost-effective training at scale".

"Our LRNRX platform enables pharmacists, assistants and students to complete content flexibly, enhancing knowledge retention and professional development," said Patterson.

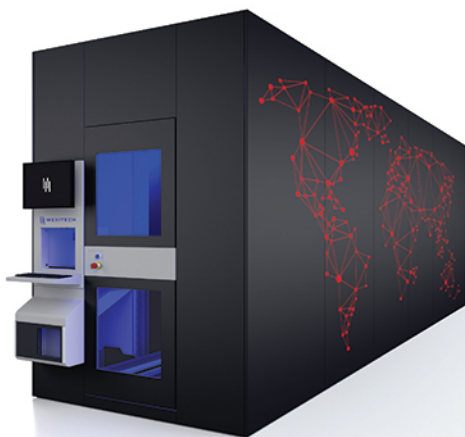
The course aims to enhance community pharmacists' knowledge and skills in managing emergency contraception, covering topics such as the impact of unintended pregnancy, types and effectiveness of emergency contraception, and patient communication and



counselling techniques.

The AI technology and LRNRX platform comply with SOC2 and GDPR standards, to ensure security and privacy.

The course is accredited by the Australian College of Pharmacy, offering up to two Group 2 CPD credits upon successful assessment completion, contributing to the annual requirement of 40 CPD credits.



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Dispensary Corner

EAGLE-EYED Olympics watchers may have noticed something a little off with the costume worn by one of the Swiss athletes competing in the mixed relay triathlon this week. Normally red to signify the Swiss flag of course, one athlete was in a neutral (which in a way, is so very Swiss) white outfit. This was due to the athlete in question - Simon Westermann - being drafted in as a late substitute after Adrien Briffod was forced to withdraw due to a gastrointestinal infection caused by swimming in the filthy Paris river, the Seine. It's easy to see why prior to the Olympics, swimming in the Seine was banned for 100 years. The Swiss weren't the only ones affected by the putrid state of the river, with another French-speaking nation Belgium forced to withdraw the entire team after one member had caught *E.Coli* from the same activity. Organisers of the Paris 2024 Olympic Games said the water quality in the Seine had been tested on the morning of the race and was deemed to be in "very good" condition, according to the standard of the International Federation of World Triathlon. Ironically, the headquarters of the World Triathlon's governing authority is in the city of Lausanne, Switzerland. The state of the Seine has provided no shortage of talking points during the Games, with the individual triathlon events delayed by one day.

APA honours pharmacist

PHARMACIST Andrew Douglas has been recognised as this year's winner of the Australian Patients Association (APA) 'Outstanding Community Pharmacist' award. The APA's award recognises an outstanding pharmacist with excellent pharmacy and medication dispensing skills, strong interpersonal skills and a good reputation with patients. Douglas is the Managing Director of Priceline Pharmacy in Yass, NSW, and has been working as a community pharmacist for almost 17 years. For Douglas, community pharmacy is a family business; his brother and father are also community pharmacists, with his father working in the profession for over 50 years. Pharmacy Guild National President Prof Trent Twomey



congratulated Douglas on his win and said, "against tough competition for the award, Andrew's experience and his commitment in putting in the extra effort for both his patients and local community have clearly come through to the APA". *JG*
Pictured: Andrew Douglas and Victorian Branch Vice President, Grace Chong.

Hernia surgeries

HALF of the 435,826 hernia repair procedures in Australia from 2017 to 2021 were for inguinal (groin) hernias, with men accounting for 89.6% of these surgeries, researchers from the University of South Australia found. The study, published in *Critical Public Health*, analysed data from the Australian Institute of Health & Welfare, focusing on five types of hernia operations to identify high-risk age groups and genders. Men aged 60-64 years are most at risk overall, while women are more prone to femoral and incisional hernias. Women aged 20-39 years are also more likely to undergo epigastric hernia surgery. To learn more, **CLICK HERE**.

PRODUCT SPOTLIGHT

Suppliers wanting to promote products in this feature should email newproducts@pharmacydaily.com.au

Discover Botani Rescue Acne Cream

A vegan-certified product targeting pimples and providing a natural solution for mild to moderate acne for all ages. This eco-friendly choice features sustainable packaging and a non-alcoholic, benzoyl peroxide-free formula. With golden seal extract, gotu kola, echinacea, green clay and lemon-scented tea tree oil, it reduces inflammation, calms redness, heals acne lesions and unclogs pores. Scientifically tested to eliminate *P.acnes* bacteria in 30 minutes and dermatology tested for safety, it's trusted for its effectiveness.

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Completion of the 6 module course will provide you with the following:

- Up to 17 CPD points towards your continued professional development requirements
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