

Today's issue of PD

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

- Chemsave
- Glucojel

Continued Ozempic shortages in 2025

NOVO Nordisk has informed the TGA that supplies of the type 2 diabetes drug Ozempic (semaglutide) will continue to be limited until 31 Dec 2025.

The TGA has advised health professionals to consider the ongoing shortage when prescribing the drug, to inform patients of the shortages and discuss alternative treatment options for when Ozempic cannot be accessed.

Medview

There's now a smarter way.



Digital Basket Technology

Smart baskets.
Faster scripts.
Happier customers.

Find out more

Consumers' support strong

THE Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) has released the *Pharmacists in 2030: Strengthening consumer voices* report, an addendum to the *Pharmacists in 2030* vision released in August this year (PD 07 Aug).

In it, consumers reaffirmed high levels of trust with pharmacists, and spoke of highly valued relationships with pharmacists on whom they rely for advice on the quality and safe use of medicines.

One of the key takeouts of the report, which was based on patient focus groups held as part of the broader *Pharmacists in 2030* consultation process, was wide support for expanding pharmacists' scope of practice, including prescribing and participating in multidisciplinary teams.

In the words of one of the consumer panellists quoted in the report, "Pharmacists are specialists in medication and should work to the full scope of practice - we are leaving team members on the bench who can really add value".

Consumers are also keen to have more time with pharmacists, ideally in private consultation rooms, though recognised time constraints were a barrier.

As part of the report, the PSA has also made a series of commitments to ensure patients are better served by Australian pharmacists.

The commitments include

Chemist Warehouse doubles UAE presence

CHEMIST Warehouse has opened its second United Arab Emirates store in the Bur Juman Centre, Dubai.

Its first store in the Middle East opened in October, and the new addition joins over 530 Australian stores, 56 in New Zealand, 12 in China and 11 in Ireland.

"The Chemist Warehouse model has been so positively received in this innovative market and we are committed to providing a 'one-stop shop'



offering to service the health and wellness needs of the Dubai community," said CWH Director, Mario Tascone.

PHARMACISTS IN 2030: STRENGTHENING CONSUMER VOICES



maintaining a consumer network to inform and partner in PSA work, including policy and advocacy and the development of practice guidelines; and utilising the lived experience of consumers to inform pharmacist education.

PSA National President Associate Professor Fei Sim said the *Pharmacists in 2030* consumer consultation was a powerful testament to how health sector policy can be strengthened with the views of patients.

"Patients and consumers are at the heart of everything we do as pharmacists, and should have a voice when policies are made for the system that is meant to serve them," A/Prof Sim said.

"Throughout our *Pharmacists in 2030* project, PSA listened to both pharmacists and consumer focus groups, and the result is a stronger vision for the future."

Cal-600®

Helps build strong bones



Petrus PHARMACEUTICALS

Calcium 600mg
120 tablets

Available from API, Symbion, Sigma & CH2

Use only as directed. Consult your healthcare professional if symptoms persist.

Consider savings

WHETHER it is catalogue pre-order rebates, dispensary assistance subscriptions or bonus stock, aligning with Chemsave delivers bottom-line benefits for your pharmacy.

Learn more about a special offer on **page four**.

Glucojel Glucojoy

GLUCOJEL is running a major campaign for a \$10,000 giveaway, so make sure your shelves are well stocked with the popular product.

See more on **page five**.

ScriptCheckWA soon mandatory

PHARMACY indemnity insurer PDL has notified members that registration with ScriptCheckWA will be mandatory by 12 Jun 2025 for all health practitioners who prescribe or dispense a Monitored Medicine.

However, the use of ScriptCheckWA is not mandated, though prescribers and pharmacists are "strongly encouraged" to use it.

Medicines included in ScriptCheckWA monitoring are Schedule 8 medicines such as opioids, stimulants and medicinal cannabis products that contain THC, as well as Schedule 4 Monitored Medicines such as benzodiazepines and codeine-based analgesics.

PDL reminds pharmacists that the ScriptCheckWA pop-up warnings are a guide only, and do not prevent dispensing a Monitored Medicine.

PDL also points out that patient records in ScriptCheckWA are confidential and can only be lawfully accessed by health practitioners involved in the patient's medical care, specifically in the context of Monitored Medicines.

Med adverse event reporting

WHILE pharmacists are the most prolific reporters among health professionals of adverse drug reactions, there is room for improvement, according to an article in the Dec issue of *Australian Prescriber*.

“Reporting adverse events to the TGA is mandatory for sponsors (pharmaceutical companies), and strongly encouraged but voluntary for healthcare professionals and consumers,” the authors wrote.

More than half (52%) of all adverse events reports from health professionals come from pharmacists, yet a 2018 survey of community pharmacists found that less than a third of respondents (31%) reported sufficient knowledge and training on ADR reporting.

One of the main barriers to reporting was lack of time.

The *Australian Prescriber* authors busted some prevailing myths about reporting, including that adverse events should only be reported if serious, recurrent or proven.

“Adverse events should be reported even when causality is uncertain, as reports may contribute to identification of a safety signal for new or uncommon events,” they said.

Other misconceptions are that only prescribed medicines and vaccines can be reported, but adverse events relating to over-the-counter and complementary medicines, medical devices and Special Access Scheme medicines should also be reported.

And a single event should not be ignored as a one-off: “All reports are valuable and contribute to the overall body of safety data for a medicine or vaccine,” they said.

“Multiple individual reports makes signal detection possible,” they emphasised.

Read the full article [HERE](#).

ADHD drugs work short-term



THE most comprehensive analysis of evidence to date on ADHD treatment in adults has found that while some medications are effective in the short-term, other interventions are ineffective or poorly tolerated, and there is little data on long-term treatment.

Published in *Lancet Psychiatry* today, the analysis covered more than 100 trials encompassing almost 15,000 participants aged 18 and older.

Treatments studied included pharmacological, psychological and neurostimulatory therapies.

Stimulants - amphetamines and methylphenidate - were the only interventions supported by evidence of short-term benefit (around 12 weeks) for core symptoms of ADHD in adults, as reported by the patient and clinician, that were also associated with good acceptability.

The selective noradrenaline reuptake inhibitor atomoxetine was effective in the short-term, but patients considered the overall acceptability worse than placebo, while guanfacine was not found to be effective.

The study authors reported that there are very few studies on the medium-term to long-term effects of medication on ADHD core symptoms, so they were unable to draw solid conclusions.

The medications also had no significant benefits on broader outcomes, such as quality of life.

Some of the non-pharmacological therapies showed promise over longer timeframes, but results

were inconsistent and there was a tendency for clinicians to rate them as more effective than patients.

Professor Ashley Bush, a psychiatry and neuroscience expert at the University of Melbourne, pointed out that while adult ADHD is prevalent, affecting around 2.5% - 6% of adults, less is known about its treatment in adults than in children.

“This massive work surveys all clinical trial evidence to conclude that psychostimulants (methylphenidate- and dexamfetamine-based drugs) stand out as the only clear winner in treating adult ADHD, although their use comes at the price of side effects,” Prof Bush said.

“Non-drug interventions (for example, psychological treatments and neurostimulation) were unimpressive in helping the core symptoms and emotional dysregulation of ADHD.

“It is important to note that, in clinical practice, we treat more than the core symptoms - ADHD is complicated by several psychiatric disorders such as anxiety and depression,” he added.

“It makes sense that these complications would not respond to psychostimulants as robustly.”

While noting that the findings reinforce the importance of psychostimulants for treating ADHD in the short term, Prof Bush said this “does not rule out non-pharmacological interventions as being of value to the complications of this prevalent disorder.”

Read the full study [HERE](#).

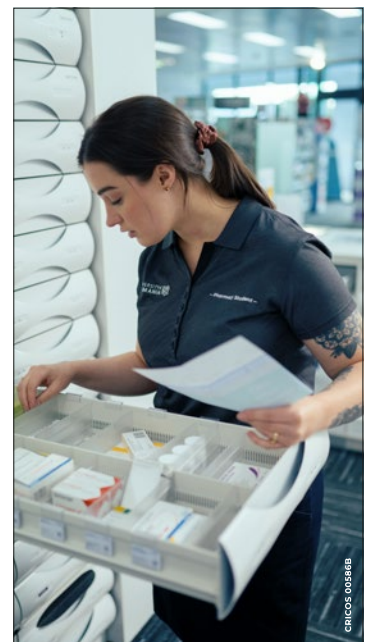
New roles for Star group staff

STAR Pharmacy Group is pleased to announce new roles for two of its employees.

An experienced marketing professional with 20 years' experience, Catherine Kelly, formerly General Manager Marketing, has been appointed to General Manager of Sales and Marketing, overseeing the buying and marketing.

With 15 years' experience in executive operations roles, Scott Carpenter has been appointed to the new role of General Manager Operations, Pharmacy & Retail.

As well as having a solid banking industry background, Carpenter is also a former Olympic water polo player.



Clinical Pharmacy: Keep pace with this rapidly changing industry

Study medications management and safety

utas.edu.au/study/clinical-pharmacy

UNIVERSITY of TASMANIA 

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



Dispensary Corner

WHILE it's not uncommon for fashion from bygone eras to become trendy again, it's not often that you hear of health advice cycling back around from the medieval days.

Well, a cough and cold remedy from the olden days has resurfaced in the zeitgeist, after medieval expert at The National Archives, Dr Kathryn Maude, unearthed two 15th century prescriptions in the papers of King Henry VI - one for soothing a head cold, and the other for clearing congestion.

The decongestant includes nutmeg, ale and mustard, while the poultice for a feverish head asks for a mix of camomile, sage wood, betony and wild purslane.

TV doctor and author, Dr Philippa Kaye, decided to try out the remedies for herself.

"It isn't every day I use my kitchen to cook up a medieval home remedy, but some old wives' tales do have a pinch of truth along with the herbs," she told the *Daily Mail*.

As it turns out, the remedies might do little more than stink up your kitchen.

"The combination of the steam with the mustard definitely felt like it might clear your sinuses, though it also made my eyes stream and seemed to give me a headache," Dr Kaye observed.

"As for the ale, perhaps the concoction was later used as the basis for a stew.

"Mine went down the sink- I think I'd rather stick to simple steam inhalation in future."

Lesson learnt!

PRODUCT SPOTLIGHT

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

Alcon Product Discontinuation from November 2024

GenTeal® Gel Moisturising Eye Gel and HPMC PAA Moisturising Eye Gel are no longer available in Australia.

To help make the transition easier for those patients and practitioners currently using or prescribing these discontinuing products, practitioners could consider preservative-free Poly Visc® Lubricating Eye Ointment, which is also listed on the PBS.

Since Poly Visc® is a high-viscosity ointment, patients may experience a different on-eye sensation between GenTeal® Gel Moisturising Eye Gel, HPMC PAA Moisturising Eye Gel and Poly Visc® Lubricating Eye Ointment.

Stockist: For details on orders, please contact Alcon Customer Service on 1800 224 153.

RRP: \$10.99

Website: <https://www.myalcon.com/au/professional/ocular-health/other-dry-eye->



Crampeze, Effective Multi-Combination Solution vs Magnesium Alone for Cramp Relief

Crampeze combines Viburnum Opulus (Cramp Bark), magnesium and a unique combination of ingredients. Crampeze is an effective multi-combination product versus magnesium alone for cramp relief.

- CRAMPEZE is ideal for chronic cramp sufferers and long-term use.
- CRAMPEZE FORTE is suitable for sports related cramps and those starting treatment.

CRAMPEZE - 30 Capsules RRP: \$16.95 /

60 Capsules RRP: \$24.95 / 120 Capsules RRP: \$39.95

CRAMPEZE FORTE - 30 Capsules RRP: \$22.95 /

60 Capsules RRP: \$33.95

Stockist contact: 1300 555 597

Website: <https://crampeze.com>.



Do The Math(s)!

Chemsave

Low Chemsave Monthly Membership Fee

- \$ 340 Catalogue pre-order rebates
- \$ 795 Dispense Assist subscription
- \$ 10 Pointers subscription
- \$ 550 Bonus stock

SUBTOTAL = Save \$ 1,695 per month
(\$ 20,340 per year)

- + Top discounts on 7000+ OTC products
- + Top discounts on 1000+ Rx products
- + Top discounts at wholesalers
- + Free point-of-sale support
- + Free merchandising
- + Free pricing servicing
- + Free digital marketing
- + Free Nostradata

GRAND TOTAL = BIG SAVINGS!

YOUR
BIG
SAVINGS
CHEMIST

ASK US ABOUT
OUR LIMITED-TIME
SPECIAL OFFER.

YOU DON'T WANT TO
MISS OUT ON THIS!

ON
OFF

7

8

9

×

÷

C

4

5

6

-

MRC

AC

1

2

3

+

M-

0

00

.

=

+

M+



VIC, SA, WA, TAS & NT

Michael Story
0425 820 160
michaelstory@chemsave.com.au



NSW, QLD & ACT

Simon Metcalfe
0499 208 182
simonmetcalfe@chemsave.com.au



GLUCOJEL™

The Original Pharmacy Jelly Bean

**GLUCO
JOY!**

**WIN
\$10K***

10,000 REASONS TO SMILE

We're giving your customers a chance to **WIN \$10K*** when they purchase Glucojel. Make sure your shelves are fully stocked!

OUR PROFIT IS YOUR PROFIT.

Go to goldx.com.au/glucojel for more information.

*Terms and conditions apply

