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Today's issue of PD

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

- Dermal Therapy
- Glucojel

Latest launches

DERMAL Therapy has launched new personal care products including its Sweat Control Spray and Roll-on, which provides 48-hour protection.

See more on **page three**.

Murray disqualified

A PERTH pharmacist has had her registration cancelled and been disqualified from re-applying for 18 months for dispensing meds to herself and others without valid scripts over a six-month period.

On 21 May 2021, the Pharmacy Board of Australia took immediate action and accepted an undertaking from Lauren Murray not to practise following two notifications that alleged she had dispensed various Schedule 4 medications on multiple occasions to herself and others without valid prescriptions between Nov 2020 and Apr 2021.

The matter was referred to the Western Australian State Administrative Tribunal on 27 Jun last year where the Board and Murray agreed to the terms on which the matter could be resolved.

Award for agent of change

MONASH University's Rural Pharmacy Liaison Officer Emily Griffin (pictured) was recognised with the Early Career Pharmacist of the Year Award at the recent Victorian Annual Excellence Awards, presented by the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PD 20 Dec 2023).

The award recognised Griffin's deep-rooted passion for healthcare and efforts to make pharmaceutical services more accessible, noted a statement from the university.

One of her main achievements included co-building and developing the Australian-first Voluntary Assisted Dying (VAD) Statewide Pharmacy Service in Vic, leading to the successful implementation of the service in 2019.

She has also co-authored VAD guidelines and a Pharmacist Credentialing Program for training pharmacists across the country, and contributed significantly to the pharmacy profession through professional services, innovation, community programs, health promotion, professional development, and pharmacist and patient advocacy.

Griffin is currently practising as a Senior Pharmacist in the Complex Care Service at St Vincent's Hospital, Rural Pharmacy Liaison Officer for Vic within Monash Rural Health, a teaching associate within the Master of Clinical Pharmacy at Monash University, and a credentialed consultant pharmacist.

Highlighting her personalised approach to patient care, Griffin said, "every patient I see I treat as though they are my family member, and



it is an honour to be able to serve patients in whichever the setting may be, particularly, in their home".

She also acknowledged the support of her manager Dr Pamela Harvey, Director of Rural Nursing and Allied Health Partnerships at Monash Rural Health, and how important a positive workplace culture is.

"It is something I am passionate about because people in our industry need a positive workplace to ensure that care is at the forefront of all that we do."

In her role as Rural Pharmacy Liaison Officer for Vic, the Monash statement added that Griffin is giving back to her rural roots by supporting and promoting the rural pharmacist workforce.

"Rural pharmacy practice and the care of humans in rural Australia is just as important as metropolitan pharmacy practice and the care of humans in metros - the opportunities, the care, and the resources should not differ so enormously," Griffin said.

"I'm hoping to be able to influence some change here." JG

Raven's podcast

THE latest episode of Raven's Recruitment's *Your Pharmacy Career Podcast*, hosted by Krysti-Lee Patterson, has interviewed Tom Simpson, President of the Society of Hospital Pharmacists Australia.

Listeners will gain valuable insights into the power of mentorship, the significance of networking, and the courage required to push the boundaries of the familiar.

Throughout the episode, Patterson and Simpson engage in candid dialogue about the evolving role of pharmacists in healthcare, the transformative ANZCAP initiative (PD 24 Nov 2023), and the importance of emotional intelligence in building lasting relationships with patients and colleagues.

Highlighted in the interview is also the dynamic nature of pharmacy practice, where efficiency and clinical excellence are paramount.

The episode culminates with a forward-looking discussion on the future of pharmacy, celebrating the advancements in independent prescribing for pharmacy graduates and exploring the global implications for healthcare.

Listen to the podcast **HERE**.

New appointment

PHARMACY Daily has a new Deputy Editor, Matt Lennon, an experienced B2B journalist who will be joining next week.

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Dispensary Corner

AS CYBER scams go, this one is rather unique.

Men in India were being offered a job that sounded too good to be true: money - and lots of it - in return for getting a woman pregnant, reported *BBC*.

Apparently the "All India Pregnant Job Service" was advertising on Facebook with a video to register to help childless women get pregnant.

One of the many victims, Mangesh, said once he had paid A\$14 and signed up, he would be sent details of the woman he would have to impregnate.

They offered him half a million rupees (A\$8,969) - almost three years' wages - just to have sex with the woman and promised further reward of 800,000 rupees (A\$14,350) if she conceived.

"I'm a poor man, I desperately need money, so I believed them," the father of two young boys told the news publication.

Over the next couple of weeks, Mangesh was asked to fork out more than 16,000 rupees (A\$287) - 2,550 rupees (A\$45) to obtain some court documents, 4,500 rupees (A\$80) as safety deposit and 7,998 rupees (A\$143) as GST on the money he was going to get.

The scammers kept him interested by sending him photos of "seven-eight women", asking him to choose the one he would like to impregnate.

"They said they would book a hotel room in the town where I lived and I would meet the woman there," he said.

The promised money is on hold until he pays income tax on it...

APP early bird closes soon

THERE are only three weeks to go until early bird ticket pricing closes for pharmacy's largest conference, the Guild's Australian Pharmacy Professional 2024 (APP2024).

Save up to \$120 on full registration fees with early bird rates available until 31 Jan.

APP2024 will feature four days of education, social activities, Australia's largest pharmacy trade exhibition, and several valuable opportunities to network.

Pharmacist prescribing will be a key topic this year, with sessions discussing the challenges of pharmacist prescribing and the vital role it plays in the future of healthcare in Australia.

The discussion will delve into the lived experiences of pharmacists implementing expanded services and participating in the Queensland Scope of Practice Pilot Program.

Pharmacists Brenton Hart, Sarah Dineen-Griffin and Therese Lambert will share their journeys, insights and transformations as pharmacist practice continues to evolve to full



scope of practice in Australia.

The sessions will cover practical insights into education and training, understanding how full scope services can fit into existing pharmacy practice, changing views on pharmacist prescribing including interactions with local physicians, community engagement, and experiences in supporting patients with various health conditions.

To register, [CLICK HERE](#). JG

Hormones matter

EARLY menopause before the age of 45, taking hormone replacement therapy, and having four or more children are among several hormonal and reproductive factors linked to a heightened risk of rheumatoid arthritis in women, according to a large long-term study published in the open access journal *RMD Open*.

Women are more susceptible to this autoimmune disease than men, showed data used from UK Biobank.

They are four to five times as likely as men to develop rheumatoid arthritis under the age of 50, and twice as likely to do so between the ages of 60 and 70, with a greater physical toll on women than men.

In a bid to discover more about rheumatoid arthritis, the researchers drew on 223,526 UK Biobank participants whose health was tracked for an average of 12 years.

[CLICK HERE](#) to read the study.

Malaria study

A MENZIES School of Health Research study has provided further insight into the cost-effectiveness of a new malaria medication, tafenoquine, to treat vivax malaria.

Primaquine and tafenoquine are the two medications available to treat the liver stage of vivax malaria.

The study uncovered that tafenoquine was a cost-effective option when compared to seven days of primaquine treatment.

Learn more about how these findings can provide cost-effective treatments [HERE](#).

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