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## Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features three pages of news, plus a full page from Prolox.

## Discount offer on

**PROLOX** was developed by dermatologists to care for over 50's fragile, sensitive and compromised skin.

There is a 10% discount offer on new pharmacy orders.

See more on the **back page**.

## Early bird closing

**THE** Australian Pharmacy Professional Conference and Trade Exhibition (APP2024) Convenor Kos Sclavos is reminding those wishing to attend this year's event that the early bird registration will close on 31 Jan.

"Delegates can save up to \$120 on a full registration with early bird rates," said Sclavos.

## Pain inquiry seeks input

**THE** Pharmacy Guild of Australia's Victorian branch has encouraged pharmacists to make submissions to the Vic Govt's new Inquiry into Women's Pain.

Vic Branch Vice President, Grace Chong, said, "this inquiry is an important opportunity to improve the care and treatment of pain conditions for girls and women across Victoria".

"Sharing your frontline experiences of the current care, treatment and services for pain conditions as part of this inquiry will help to identify opportunities for future improvement."

Listening to the pain experiences of girls and women will help this inquiry identify the issues and opportunities to improve the care, treatment and services of several pain conditions, she commented.

"Pain is an issue that many Victorian women suffer daily."

In fact, a recent Victorian Govt survey found that four in 10 women in the state are living with chronic



pain every day, explained Chong.

"Whether this is pain associated with periods, pregnancy and birth-related pain, or for the management of conditions like endometriosis, or the symptoms of perimenopause or menopause, it is vital that girls and women are confident they can access treatment and care from a trusted health practitioner, which can and often does include their community pharmacist," she said.

Submissions to the Inquiry into Women's Pain can be made from 30 Jan, **HERE**. JG

## New CPD courses

**THE** Australasian College of Pharmacy has launched new courses on iron deficiency for both pharmacists and pharmacy assistants.

As frontline professionals, the College stated they play a vital role in recognising the signs and symptoms of iron deficiency in patients at risk, referring them for further diagnosis, and providing information to them about their recommended treatment.

The CPD-accredited pharmacist course describes the causes of iron deficiency, discusses the purpose and impact of available treatments, and provides counselling points for pharmacists.

The pharmacy assistant course is approved for QCPP Refresher Training and demonstrates how staff can use questioning protocols to provide assistance to people with anaemia-related enquiries.

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## Guild, Nectr deal to start

**THE** Pharmacy Guild member-exclusive energy deal with Nectr will be commencing on 12 Feb.

The peak pharmacy body stated it understood the burden that rising electricity prices had placed on pharmacy businesses.

“That’s why we have partnered with Nectr to develop this energy deal, which will see Guild members receive attractive energy rates, priced 20-30% below the Default Market Offer,” it explained in a recent LinkedIn post.

The Pharmacy Guild had announced the creation of an industry-first energy deal in Oct last year, stating the plan would include “very attractive” rates, especially for electricity consumed during daylight business hours, and “indicative savings are potentially up to \$1,000 per annum” for each participating community pharmacy.

To successfully implement this member benefit the Pharmacy Guild planned to work in conjunction with Nectr, an



Australian renewable energy company, wholly owned by South Korea’s Hanwha Energy Corporation and an affiliate of the Hanwha Group, a Fortune 500 corporation.

“Nectr’s focus is on renewable energy and technology with the aim to clean up the energy industry; moving away from the big polluters and making affordable renewable energy accessible to all Australians,” explained the Guild.

Guild members can still register for the Nectr offer, [HERE](#).

To become a Guild member and access exclusive offers like this, [CLICK HERE](#). JG

## MM2024 conference to head to Adelaide

**THE** 48th Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia conference, Medicines Management 2024 (MM2024), will be held on 14-16 Nov this year in Adelaide, with the theme ‘It starts with a spark!’.

MM2024 is all about that moment where the spark of an idea illuminates new ways of thinking or a connection that becomes a catalyst for change.

Fuel your passion at MM2024 in the heart of Adelaide BioMed City (ABMC), South Australia’s world-class precinct of research translation and innovation.

The conference promises to be another jam-packed event full of quality speakers, presentations, and networking opportunities.

ABMC already offers mixed-use infrastructure where researchers, clinicians and students work together with entrepreneurs and leading industry players.

Further, SHPA is also promoting its ANZCAP platform which



recognises career progression and specialty skills, enabling pharmacists and technicians from all practice settings to be recognised for their experience and expertise.

ANZCAP comprised an initial Foundation Program that acknowledged prior professional experience and an Independent Program for anyone, anywhere to map their own path.

These are now open to all Australian pharmacists with an Ahpra General Registration.

Training programs to fast-track recognition for Pharmacy Technicians, and Custom Portfolios for personal professional use will be available in 2024 - see more [HERE](#).

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### Dispensary Corner

**ACROSS** 21 licensed premises in England, removing the largest individual serving size of wine from the menu reduced the volume of wine sold, according to a new study published in the journal *PLOS Medicine*.

Alcohol consumption is the fifth largest contributor to premature death and disease globally, a fact that pharmacists know only too well.

The University of Cambridge researchers asked premises to remove their usual 250ml size wine serving from their menus for four weeks and then tracked the total volume of wine, beer and cider sold by each establishment.

Over the course of the four weeks, the total volume of wine sold by the licensed premises decreased by 7.6%; there was no overall increase in beer and cider sales, and no change in daily revenue, likely reflecting an increased profit margin from selling smaller glasses of wine.

Overall, the study suggested that when the largest serving of wine was not available, people shifted towards the smaller options and ultimately drank less alcohol.

The study authors suggested "removing the largest serving size of wine by the glass in 21 licensed premises reduced the volume of wine sold, in keeping with the wealth of research showing smaller serving sizes reduce how much we eat".

"This could become a novel intervention to improve population health by reducing how much we drink."

## Heatwave safety campaign launched

**SWELTERING** Cities, a new heat safety campaign is calling on people to check in on friends, family and other people who might be at risk this summer.

The health promotion organisation's Executive Director Emma Bacon said that heatwaves are Australia's deadliest environmental disaster and they're expected to get worse.

"Heatwaves aren't about just a day at the beach, they can be seriously dangerous, so it's important that we check in on people who might be at risk.

"Isolation can be deadly for the elderly, those who live in hot homes, people with disabilities and chronic illnesses, and others."

She added that the combination of hotter summers driven by climate change and a cost-of-living



crisis means that more than ever people are worried about whether they can afford to keep their homes cool this year.

"We've heard from people across the country who are being forced to choose between air conditioning or essentials like food and petrol.

"Not only does isolation put people at risk during heatwaves, but heatwaves can also increase isolation," commented Bacon.

More than 45% of respondents in the national Sweltering Cities 2022 Summer Survey revealed that they avoided socialising on hot days.

"When it comes to heatwave advice, we're told to stay out of the sun, drink water, and check in on people," said Bacon.

"But who should we be checking in on, when should we do it, and what advice can we give?"

"The safety campaign on 27 Jan is all about supporting others as easy as possible.

"It's time to call Nan, text your friend who lives in a hot home, or drop in on family who might be struggling to keep little kids cool on hot days," she added.

"This campaign is to make sure your community is safe by checking in as all it takes is a text, a call, or a knock on the door." JG

## PRODUCT SPOTLIGHT

Suppliers wanting to promote products in this feature should email [newproducts@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:newproducts@pharmacydaily.com.au)

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