

Today's issue of PD

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

- Chemsave
- Guild Insurance

FRED Marketplace

Making healthy connections

A hub for pharmacy apps and integrations

Learn more

TWC invests in upskilling for the future

TERRYWHITE Chemmart (TWC) has convened over 600 pharmacy professionals from its 550+ strong network for Masterclass 2024, its premier event aimed at enhancing skills, knowledge, and opportunities.

During the event, Ruthanne Jaja of TerryWhite Chemmart Macquarie Street was named as the Pharmacist of the Year 2024, along with Wai Mun Loh from TWC Mildura, who received the Innovative Community Care Award.

Jake Bennetts from TWC Ainslie Compounding was awarded the Intern Pharmacist of the Year.

Jaja and her team at the Macquarie Street pharmacy in Sydney CBD are known for their clinical and patient-focused care.

"Ruthanne is the epitome of a leader working at the forefront of delivering better health outcomes to her community and elevating awareness of best practices within our profession," said TWC Executive General Manager, Nick Munroe.

"She embraces opportunities to drive change as a pharmacy owner, network partner and pharmacist."

Loh and her team in Mildura have innovated with off-site vaccination clinics for First Nations people, and a delivery service to locals who are unable to visit the pharmacy.

Intern pharmacist Bennetts has built on a plan for implementing the ACT pilot for UTI and OCP resupply, and supported CareClinic health services.

The flagship event, concluding today, also emphasises pharmacists' scope of practice across clinical areas, including



weight management, men's urological health, contraception, and skin health.

Brenton Hart, TWC's Chief Pharmacist said, "the masterclasses help the profession strike a balance between embracing the future of pharmacy while honouring our deep-rooted passion for healthcare".

The program also offers practical strategies for enhancing patient engagement, optimising medication management, and leveraging technology to streamline workflow efficiencies.

Munroe commented on the success of the program, "now in our 10th year of delivering masterclasses, we can clearly show that the investment in the professional development of our pharmacist network has and continues to pay off". JG

Pictured (top): TWC Pharmacist of the Year 2024, Ruthanne Jaja, along

with Krystal Tresillian, Acting Chief Pharmacist and Nick Munroe.

Below: TWC Intern of the Year 2024, Jake Bennetts with Chief Pharmacist Brenton Hart, Pharmacist of the Year 2023 Peter Fairgray (TWC Arana Hills, Queensland) and Munroe.

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Next-gen therapies

A NEW biotech company launched yesterday will use a technology to target cancers that are difficult to treat with existing medicines, announced the Federal Health Minister Mark Butler.

The new entity called Ternarx, a spin off from the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research, was awarded \$15 million in 2023 by the government to commercialise targeted protein degrader medicines and technology.

Ternarx will initially focus on neuroblastoma and prostate cancer and, if successful, expand to other types of cancer and disease-causing proteins associated with currently untreatable inflammatory diseases.

These include diseases such as ulcerative colitis and Crohn's, and neurological conditions such as Alzheimer's, Huntington's and Parkinson's.

Butler said, "the technology Ternarx is pursuing has huge potential to create the next generation of treatments for cancer and other diseases".

"Prostate cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer in men and neuroblastoma tragically claims the lives of more children under five than any other cancer.

"Protein degrader technology promises cancer treatments that are more effective, with fewer side effects," Butler concluded.

Kelly in Vinnies sleepout



A CAPS and Pharmacy Guild of Australia pharmacist is taking part in this week's Vinnies CEO Sleepout to bring attention to the plight of the homeless in Australia.

Newly elected NSW Guild committee branch member Christine Kelly (PD 31 May) (pictured) will take part in the charity's event tomorrow, at the White Bay Cruise Terminal in Rozelle, Sydney.

Kelly is supported by community pharmacists such as Silvi Destro, Mario Barone, Ann Touchard, and CAPS PR representative Amanda Lacey, who have all donated funds for the initiative.

"For one night, I will be sleeping

outside as part of an eye-opening experience to raise awareness and bring home the realities of homelessness," said Kelly.

The event takes place typically on one of the coldest nights in winter and sees heads of businesses experience sleeping rough to raise much-needed funds to help those facing homelessness.

Kelly called for support to help break the devastating cycle of homelessness, saying, "we need your help to reach our target".

"A hundred dollars can make a huge difference to people who need it the most."

To donate to the Vinnies CEO Sleepout, [CLICK HERE](#). JG

Digital reimaged

THE Australian Digital Health Agency is inviting stakeholders and potential partners to learn more about *Transforming Australia's Digital Health Infrastructure* on Mon 15 Jul at the Hellenic Club in Canberra.

To register for the information session, [CLICK HERE](#).

Insures scope

GUILD Insurance will cover various scope of practice pilots so pharmacists can expand their services with confidence knowing they are protected for their real-life needs.

Learn more on the [back page](#) about the additional benefit for Guild members.

Discounts on offer

FOR a limited time only, Chemsave is offering a low monthly membership fee to pharmacy owners.

There are several discounts on OTC and script medicines, as well as with wholesalers.

See more on [page four](#).

Bad for the heart

NEW research from Flinders University sleep experts has found a link between snoring and uncontrolled hypertension.

The study, published in *Nature* is the largest objective study of more than 12,000 participants globally over a nine-month period to detect snoring and sleep apnoea.

It is the first to use multiple night home-based monitoring technologies over a prolonged period to explore the association between snoring and hypertension.

"For the first time, we can objectively say that there is a significant connection between regular nighttime snoring and high blood pressure," said lead author Dr Bastien Lechat from the College of Medicine and Public Health.

The study found that of all participants in the study, 15% who were primarily overweight middle-aged men, snore for more than 20% of the night on average and that this regular nightly snoring is associated with elevated blood pressure.

To learn more, [CLICK HERE](#).

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Dispensary Corner

IMAGINE a smartphone app that could spot a stroke faster than you can find your keys in the morning.

A team of biomedical engineers at RMIT University has developed a face-screening tool that could help paramedics identify strokes in seconds, saving precious brain cells and, ultimately, lives.

Led by PhD scholar Guilherme Camargo de Oliveira, the team created this nifty app, which is 82% accurate, under the watchful eye of RMIT's Prof Dinesh Kumar.

"Early stroke detection is critical, and many times the signs are very subtle," said Kumar.

"On top of that, if first responders are working with people who are not their race or gender - most notably women and people of colour - it is more likely that signs will be missed.

"This rate can be even higher in smaller regional centres.

"Given that many strokes occur at home and initial care is often provided by first responders in non-ideal conditions, there is an urgent need for real-time, user-friendly diagnostic tools," he explained.

"So we made a simple smartphone tool that paramedics can use.

"It's like having a mini neurologist in your pocket."

With the innovative app, paramedics can quickly alert hospitals before the ambulance even hits the road.

Next up, the team plans to expand the app to detect other neurological conditions.

PRODUCT SPOTLIGHT

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

Bion Tears® Lubricant Eye Drops discontinued from the PBS

Bion Tears® is no longer available via PBS subsidy (Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme) in Australia. Any remaining stock can continue to be sold over the counter to patients until stock runs out.

To help make the transition easier for those patients and practitioners currently using or prescribing Bion Tears®, practitioners could recommend the PBS-listed lubricant **Systane® UD Lubricant Eye Drops**. This has the benefit of being available in a similar delivery format, preservative-free unit dose vials, and addresses the mucoaqueous layer of the tear film with HP Guard technology.

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

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Cover that grows as fast as your scope.



For over 60 years, Guild Insurance has supported Australia's pharmacy profession through everything you do. Together with the PGA and PDL, we've worked hard to ensure our policies protect and reflect pharmacists' real-life needs.

Now that the PGA-driven scope of practice changes are live, we understand that, yet again, the real-life needs of pharmacists have changed, but our support hasn't. All Guild customers who participate in an approved scope of practice pilot can do so with confidence, knowing their insurance policy will still protect them.

What's a scope of practice pilot?

Scope of practice pilots will continue to evolve as state and federal governments and their agencies continue to work with our profession. In Queensland right now, community pharmacists who have undertaken 12 months of additional training can offer additional services to patients for a number of conditions, including school sores, shingles, mild psoriasis, wound management, swimmer's ear, weight loss management and hypertension, among others. It is these types of programs that Guild has committed to support through the addition of an additional benefit.

An additional benefit for Guild customers.

To provide cover certainty, the policy wording we apply to all Guild Pharmacy Business policies includes an additional benefit for 'Scope of Practice Pilots'. If you're already insured with Guild, this benefit is automatically applied. If you are not with Guild, you should ask your insurer if they can say the same.

If you'd like to find out more about Guild's exclusive support of pharmacy's scope of practice pilots, visit guildinsurance.com.au/pilot or if you'd like to be protected by a policy that is tailor made for Australian pharmacists, call a Guild insurance specialist on **1800 810 213**.

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