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Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features four pages of news, including our **Beauty & Wellness** feature, plus full pages from:

- Dispense Assist
- Priceline
- Independent Pharmacies of Australia Group

Low-cost solution

DISPENSE Assist is a low-cost staffing solution with dispensary technicians available 24/7 at rates as low as \$6.14 per hour.

See more on **page five**.

Reasons to switch

THERE are 10 reasons for pharmacists to join the Priceline Pharmacy network, and take their business to the next level.

Learn more on **page six**.

New program starts soon

CREDENTIALLED pharmacists can work onsite in aged care homes via community pharmacies or employed directly from 01 Jul, according to the Department of Health and Ageing.

Aged care homes will also be able to claim the pharmacist's salary from 01 Oct, when the payment administration system will be operational.

The onsite pharmacist program is available to a number of different Commonwealth-funded aged care facilities, but is not available to respite-only homes.

Aged care homes that wish to participate in the program will



be required to implement an electronic National Residential Medication Charts within the next 12 months to be able to access an aged care onsite pharmacist.

MEANWHILE, the Pharmacy Guild of Australia has revealed its schedule of upcoming State of the Industry Roadshows, to discuss current and future issues such as the onsite pharmacist program and the impact of the 8CPA.

National President Trent Twomey, and other stakeholders will attend each event - see more **HERE**.

Evolve with IPA

INDEPENDENT Pharmacies of Australia (IPA) Group is highlighting how it can support you when it comes to managing your business.

See more on the **back page**.

Amazon's move

AMAZON Pharmacy in the US will be available to 50 million Medicare recipients, who will have access to its RxPass for US\$5 (A\$7.50) per month.

The behemoth's subscription service will allow customers to fill as many scripts as they need from around 50 generic medicines, along with delivery.

The move that marks the latest effort to draw customers away from large chains such as Walgreens, CVS, and Rite Aid, will also offer 24/7 access to a pharmacist, a service only available until now to Amazon Prime members.

A Medicare participant will save around US\$70 (A\$104.95) per year, with overall spending for the scheme reduced by US\$2 billion (A\$3 billion), stated Amazon.

Around 67.3 million people in the US are enrolled in Medicare, representing a large part of the pharmacy market.

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TGA webinar

THE new regulations and the ban on compounding of weight loss medications will be explained to pharmacists in a webinar by the Department of Health and Ageing on 14 Aug.

The TGA will continue to actively monitor the supply of Ozempic, Mounjaro and Trulicity and liaise with sponsors of GLP-1 RAs regarding supply status and availability of their medicines.

The amendments to the Therapeutic Goods Regulations 1990 (Schedule 5, item 6) made last month, resulted in compounded GLP-1 RA products no longer being able to be manufactured by pharmacists, and supplied to patients (PD 22 May).

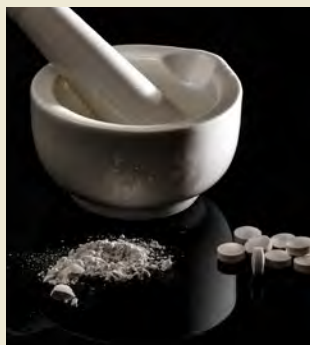
These amendments will apply to all medicines containing GLP-1 RA analogues, regardless of dosage form, compounded on or after 01 Oct this year.

The TGA said the illegal manufacturing of medicines through compounding has meant that these products are being provided in large quantities, without the regulation and evaluation that such volumes should undergo.

The regulatory body added that while its role is to evaluate and facilitate access to appropriate treatments, the risks, in this instance, have outweighed the benefit of access, and it recommended that the appropriate regulatory actions be taken.

Prof Robyn Langham, Chief Medical Adviser of the TGA, will conduct the webinar.

To register, **CLICK HERE**.



Clear out stocks of vapes



AS THE sweeping vaping reforms bill is being debated in Canberra, suppliers and retailers around the nation are being given advance warning by the TGA to work towards running down their stocks of vapes and related products.

The *Therapeutic Goods and Other Legislation Amendment (Vaping Reforms) Bill 2024* is currently before Parliament and, if passed, may take effect as early as 01 Jul, or the day immediately following Royal Assent, whichever is later.

The bill will introduce a single consistent framework that applies nationally to regulate the importation, domestic manufacture, supply, commercial possession and advertisement of all

vapes (PD 22 Mar).

The legislation is part of a wider set of reforms being implemented by the Federal Government to prevent and reduce the use of vapes in the country, unless clinically appropriate for smoking cessation or the management of nicotine dependence.

The bill was referred to the Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs for public hearings and further reporting.

The committee has recommended that the bill is passed without amendment.

The bill moved through the House of Representatives on 15 May and was introduced into the Senate on 16 May. JG

Check compliance before UTI services

NSW pharmacists are being reminded to recheck their insurance coverage ahead of providing treatment for UTIs to eligible patients, said insurer Pharmaceutical Defence Limited.

NSW Health said the UTI component of the NSW Pharmacy Trial ceased on 31 May.

Participating pharmacists are required to comply with a range of requirements from this month, even though they have already completed training, and can provide suitable facilities to treat the condition.

Pharmacists should make and keep a secure digital record of consultations and outcomes for seven years.

They will also need to share, with consent, a record of the



consultation with the patient's usual treating medical practitioner within a week of the visit.

Another requirement is to maintain an up-to-date service listing via Healthdirect **HERE**.

Pharmacies can also first check if they are in the directory and, if not, complete the registration form **HERE**.

Vyvanse shortage

TAKEDA Pharmaceuticals Australia have notified the TGA that its Vyvanse 20mg capsules are now in shortage.

It is also expected that from late Aug, Vyvanse 60mg caps will be in limited supply.

These shortages are due to higher-than-normal demand for these strengths of Vyvanse capsules, used to treat conditions such as attention deficit hyperactivity and binge eating disorders.

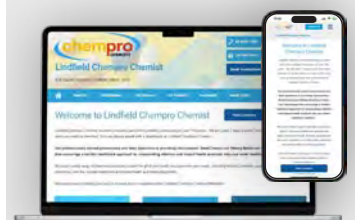
Takeda stated it is working closely with pharmacy wholesalers to facilitate equitable distribution of available strengths.

Pharmacists should advise their patients to contact their doctors to arrange another treatment option.

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Editor's Choice: Natio's new fuss-free skincare range for men

NATIO'S new skincare range for men has arrived in Chemist Warehouse stores across Australia, with six effective, fuss-free products now available.

The Natio Men Plus Tight and Tone BHA Exfoliant (RRP: \$23.95) uses salicylic acid, niacinamide and antioxidant mountain pepper berry to uncover a bright, healthy-looking complexion.

The leave-on lotion dissolves away expired skin, promotes skin renewal and minimises inflammation for fresh, younger-looking skin.

Also featured in the Men Plus range is the Age Protect Face Lotion SPF 50+ (RRP: \$23.95), designed to protect skin from sun



damage and signs of ageing.

The lightweight, double-duty moisturiser and sunscreen is formulated with UVA/UVB very high broad spectrum protection and enriched with aloe vera and antioxidant Vitamin E.

These products are complemented by the Natio Men Plus Age Defence Face Moisturiser, Natio Men Plus Energising Eye Cream (both RRP: \$24.95), and the Natio Men Plus Dual Action Face and Beard Oil (RRP: \$22.95).

TBN hires new CEO



TOTAL Beauty Network (TBN) has announced senior retail executive Liz Webster as its new CEO, at the same time as the multi-million dollar beauty company celebrates its 20th anniversary.

Webster will commence in the role on 01 Jul, bringing experience in category leadership, supply chain transformation, retail operations and marketing within health, beauty, fashion, footwear and accessories.

She will work closely with founder and current CEO Tony Rechtman, who will take up the role of Executive Chairman.

Rechtman said, "Liz's exceptional retail experience driving revenue growth, optimising business profitability and increasing market-share across department store, pharmacy, convenience store and e-commerce channels will set us up for continued strong growth for the next 20 years and beyond".

TBN's portfolio boasts labels such as Designer Brands, Inika Organic, Raww Cosmetics and Colour by TBN, all distributed widely in community pharmacies.

A boost for blondes

JOHN Frieda's Blonde+ three-step system - the brand's strongest blonde repair line yet - is now available in Chemist Warehouse stores around the country.

The first step in the range is the Blonde+ Pre Treatment, which claims to strengthen hair and visibly repair damage in just one minute, followed by the Blonde+ Shampoo and Conditioner to encourage healthier-looking blonde hair.

The products retail for \$20.99 ea.



Burt's Bees creates a buzz with new lip balms



NATURAL skincare brand Burt's Bees has unveiled several new products are expected to hit shelves in pharmacies around the country next month.

The new 'You're the Balm' pack, (RRP: \$21.95) contains four

lip balms formulated to soften and hydrate lips to help prevent dryness, cracking and chapping.

Using responsibly sourced beeswax, nourishing oils and butters, and free from parabens, phthalates, petrolatum or SLS, the balms moisturise, soothe and protect lips.

There are four flavours in each pack - Beeswax, Wild Cherry, Watermelon and Vanilla Bean.

Burt's Bees is also introducing two new standalone lip balms next month - Kiwi Melon Moisturising Lip Balm, and the Passion Fruit Moisturising Lip Balm.

Both products claim to pamper and beautify dry lips using clean, 100% natural ingredients.

The new balms will be available for RRP: \$7.45 each.

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Beauty & Wellness
by Pharmacy Daily



Dispensary Corner

POO donations are needed to provide a snapshot of the human gut microbiome, all in the name of research for future generations of Aussies.

Queensland University of Technology's new Australian Human Microbiome Biobank (AHMB) has set out to create the country's first catalogue of microorganisms found in the human gut, reported *ABC News*.

Prof Gene Tyson, who heads AHMB, is optimistic that the collection will lead to new treatments for many disorders.

With a \$3m government grant, they've built a high-tech, oxygen-free lab because, apparently, our gut microbes like to party without air.

"We are isolating these organisms and growing them in the lab, many of them for the very first time, and building a biobank out of them," Tyson said.

"What that means is that when other researchers or commercial entities - or whoever wants to access those organisms and get them to work with them in the lab - the biobank will be there as a resource for them."

The team plans to gather and study up to 100,000 different microbe samples over three years, but they need volunteers to share their microbial bounty.

Participants can donate stool samples or swabs from their mouth, skin, or other interesting places.

So, whether you're into science or just curious about the inner zoo living inside you, consider donating to the cause.

To donate **CLICK HERE**.

Two decades at LPG Orana



DUBBO pharmacist Lisa Gibson (pictured) is celebrating 20 years of service with the Life Pharmacy Group (LPG).

Gibson, who began her career at Orana Mall Pharmacy (OMP) as a student, has today risen to become the managing partner and pharmacist in charge.

Reflecting on her milestone, Gibson told *Pharmacy Daily*, "it's hard to believe it's been 20 years already...serving our local community is a real privilege".

"I knew I wanted a healthcare role that would allow me to work in a sector that I enjoyed and also raise a family in the community that I love," Gibson commented.

"Buying Orana Mall Pharmacy all those years ago was a great opportunity for me to be involved

and give back to the community that I was born and raised in."

Gibson completed her internship in 2006 and became a registered community pharmacist.

By 2008, she was a managing partner at LPG, which is part of the Independent Pharmacies of Australia Group.

She has also made significant contributions as a diabetes educator and founder of the in-store sleep apnoea clinic.

"I've always enjoyed that from a pharmacy perspective, our team can ensure you receive the same care people in cities would, if not, better," said Gibson.

Her commitment to the community and her profession has been recognised by her co-owner, Simon Blacker.

"From the first day I met Lisa, I saw a bright, motivated student who would be an asset to our team," Blacker said.

"Her intellect, work ethic, and commitment to community pharmacy have made her a leader in LPG," he added.

Under her leadership, OMP has garnered several industry awards, including the 2024 Life Pharmacy Group Pharmacist in Charge of the Year and Pharmacy of the Year. **JK**

New health head



THE Federal Government has appointed Prof Jenny May (pictured) as the new National Rural Health Commissioner.

The govt acknowledged outgoing commissioner Prof Ruth Stewart for her dedication to healthcare equity.

May has been a long-term ally of the National Rural Health Alliance, serving as its Chair from 2008 to 2011, a Board member from 2017 to 2018, and representing the Rural Doctors Association of Australia in the Alliance Council since 2002.

She will commence as the commissioner on 02 Sep for a two year tenure.

An acting National Rural Health Commissioner will be appointed for the period between Jul and Sep.

Pharmacist and Assistant Minister for Mental Health Emma McBride said, "our bulk billing incentives have seen its rate increase by 3.4% nationally since last Nov, with some of the greatest gains in rural and regional areas".

"I look forward to working with Prof May to improve healthcare for all, especially those living in the bush."

New metric for work-related illnesses

AUSTRALIA loses 41,194 work years annually due to work-related injuries, disease and mental health conditions, new research has revealed.

The Monash University team has developed the new 'Working Years Lost' (WYL) metric to measure the national burden of work-based injury, illness and disease resulting in compensation claims.

Published in the *Medical Journal of Australia*, the study found that male workers made up 61.6% of WYL, while females were 38.4%.

Further, more than half of all workers affected were over 45.

Involved in the study, Prof Alex Collie said, "the impact of some injuries and diseases are more accurately represented by the new metric", see more **HERE**.



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*Excludes dispensary

“Joining a national brand like Priceline Pharmacy, the marketing campaigns are very visible, we find a lot of our customers know what is going on in our stores. Priceline filled the gap in our community and provides a whole comprehensive offer. When opening our second store, our pre-existing experience with Priceline and knowing how supportive they would be was a big factor.

Cobie McQueen

Priceline Pharmacy Madden St and Horsham, Vic

“I joined Priceline Pharmacy because I wanted to take my business to the next level. I wanted to make my pharmacy a destination, so it needed to stand out from the competitor in my local area. Our front of shop sales doubled within the span of 2 years after converting to Priceline Pharmacy. We achieved a 50/50 split across front of shop and script sales within 3 years.

Tri Vo

Franchise Partner Priceline Pharmacy Kwinana, WA





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