

4 ways to help build strong bones

Available from Symbion, Sigma, API & CH2

Petrus PHARMACEUTICALS

Always read the label and follow the directions for use.

Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features three pages of the latest news, plus a full page from **Pointrs**.

Savings on travel

POINTRS is offering users ways to save money on travel by using cash, credit card and loyalty points.

The program shows pharmacy owners how to earn 125% more on American Express membership reward points.

See more on the **back page**.

Medicare listing

THE Federal Government has announced measures to address the healthcare needs of women suffering from endometriosis and complex gynaecological conditions.

Starting 01 Jul 2025, two new items will be added to the Medicare Benefits Schedule, ensuring extended specialist consultations of 45 minutes or more are covered.

The move aims to provide timely and appropriate assessments, reducing waiting times for critical diagnoses and treatments for women.

With a \$49.1 million investment, approximately 430,000 additional services will be available nationwide.

Initial consultations will receive \$168.60, while subsequent consultations will be reimbursed at \$84.35 for a minimum of 45 minutes.

Upskill with new MMR microcredential

A **NEW** microcredential from Monash University will be available to registered pharmacists across Australia in Jun.

The program will train them to perform Medication Management Reviews (MMRs) in home and healthcare settings, including aged care facilities where this specialised skill set is needed most.

The Monash University MMR Training Program (MUMTP) was developed by the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences to credential pharmacists in line with the latest Australian Pharmacy Council (APC) Performance Outcomes.

Speaking to *Pharmacy Daily* Kristie Galbraith, Prof of Pharmacy Practice and Education, highlighted that microcredentials are short courses that help learners develop targeted skills, making them ideal for upskilling pharmacists to conduct MMRs.

"This microcredential is based on standards set by the Australian Pharmacy Council to address



specific skills pharmacists need to fill a critical gap in Australia's healthcare system," she said.

The three-step intensive course includes online learning, simulated workshops, assessments, and practical supervised workplace training, Galbraith explained.

A/ Prof Steven Walker, Director of Experiential Development and Graduate Education, emphasised the program's potential impact.

"Our goal was to develop a high-quality, comprehensive learning experience that prepares

pharmacists to deliver person-centred care," Walker stated.

The program is designed to equip pharmacists with the knowledge and skills needed to improve medication management, particularly for older Australians taking several medications.

The university stated the MUMTP is the only program currently accredited by the APC with a recognition of prior learning pathway for those who have already completed relevant training in their internships. *JG*

Flu vax in WA Budget

THE Western Australian 2024-25 Budget will make a \$3.2b investment in the state's health system.

The Budget has allocated \$8 million for free flu vaccines in May and Jun 2025 for all Western Australians aged six months and older.

Further, \$260 million will be invested in mental health, suicide prevention, alcohol and other drug services.

The Emergency Locum Service (ELS) provides support to community pharmacies in rural and remote regions of Australia via direct access to pharmacist locums in emergency situations.

Call us: 1800 991 541 (24/7)

Register as an Emergency Locum Pharmacist

Emergency Locum Service

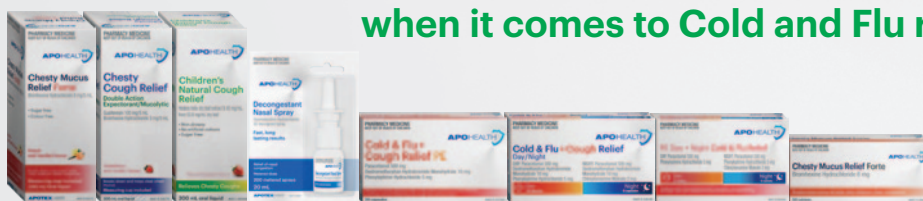
Raven's recruitment

7CPA

Statistical Government Department of Health and Age Care

Pharmacy Programs Administrator

DRAW THE LINE... when it comes to Cold and Flu relief



APOHEALTH

Affordable, quality healthcare supporting Australian families.

Always read the label and follow the directions for use.

Apotex Pty Ltd Macquarie Park NSW 2113. ABN 52 096 916 148. Copyright © CONSUMER-000779. March 2024. All rights reserved.

www.apohealth.com.au

VidaCorp

VidaCorp - A DBG Health Company



Increase rebates

THE Australian Medical Association (AMA) has called for increased Medicare funding and an expanded 'after hours' definition to improve access to GP services outside standard times for patients.

"Anyone who has needed care outside normal hours knows how difficult it is," said AMA President Steve Robson.

Expanding the 'after hours' window to include higher Medicare rebates from 6pm on weekdays and 12pm on Saturdays would provide more accessible options and ease pressure on emergency departments, added the AMA.

A 2022 report from the Australasian College for Emergency Medicine found that 39% of emergency department visits occurred between 6pm and 7:59am.

The AMA stated extended hours incentives would cost an estimated \$339.7 million.

Female pharmacists are still held back

EXCLUSIVE

THOUGH women make up 60% of pharmacy graduates and pharmacists, they hold only 34% of leadership and ownership roles, according to Andria Aird, a community pharmacist, pharmacy owner, and Board Director of Blooms The Chemist.

"When we go through uni, we are taught pharmacy, but not how to run a business," Aird told *Pharmacy Daily*.

"There is still some misogyny in the high ranks of big business and senior government levels."

Even with changes underway, Aird noted, "I still feel as a woman I have to be tougher, stronger, and more outspoken than you would otherwise be".

"To move forward it's crucial to educate yourself on business management, find a reliable business partner, and seek advice from experts."

Aird acknowledged that Blooms



The Chemist is a "female-friendly group" with women in leadership roles across legal, marketing, and strategic departments.

"I really feel heard in this Blooms group, whereas in my earlier career, I struggled to be heard," she said.

Aird aims to foster a caring culture for the future generation.

"I would like our young female pharmacists and students to know they are heard.

"I want to lay a foundation for my daughter and future generations, ensuring women know their potential is limitless."

She said the group supports aspiring female pharmacists with financial modelling and resources to help them become owners.

As an accessible and predominantly female frontline workforce, Aird emphasised the importance of understanding women's health issues holistically.

"We relate to so many women by staying up-to-date with the latest health information."

Aird said with many women, both as part of the group's staff and customers, facing chronic pain issues such as endometriosis, "listen to them, so they are heard and ask them to seek help".

To other pharmacy owners, she advised, "keep communication wide open to help your customers".

She also suggested outsourcing administrative tasks like payroll and marketing to support teams to minimise office time.

"That's the advantage of being part of a banner group like Blooms," Aird commented.

She encouraged pharmacies to use consulting rooms for private conversations, freeing pharmacists from the dispensary. *JG*

Hear from our Franchise Partners

"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



Ready to take your business to the next level?

Contact JoinPricelinePharmacy@api.net.au

Find out more



priceline pharmacy





Dispensary Corner

IN THE Indonesian jungle, scientists witnessed a fascinating sight involving Rakus, a Sumatran orangutan, and his inventive approach to healing a cheek wound. Rakus, likely nursing an injury from a spat with a neighbour, caught the attention of primatologist Dr Isabelle Laumer, who told *BBC* that what she saw was nothing short of astonishing. For three consecutive days, Rakus followed a curious medical routine. He'd snack on a leaf for 13 minutes, then, in a comedic twist, paused mid-chew, to apply the leaf to his wound like a makeshift Band-Aid, and repeat for several minutes. The result - a remarkable improvement in his cheek wound's condition. The secret to Rakus's success? A humble jungle leaf boasting potent medicinal properties, acting as a natural remedy. What amused researchers most was Rakus' methodical approach to his own wound. He didn't just slap the leaf on; he carefully layered it with the finesse of an artist. As for Rakus's inspiration, it remains a mystery. Perhaps he's a fan of wildlife documentaries or simply a natural problem solver with a flair for the dramatic. Regardless, Rakus's antics added a touch of whimsy to the world of primatology, reminding us that sometimes, the most unexpected pharmacological solutions can be found in nature's toolkit.

Business travellers at risk



AS BUSINESS travel is on the rise, Australian professionals are at risk of struggling with their mental health, according to The Banyans Healthcare.

According to IBIS World and gov data, the business travel industry is valued at \$3.8 billion and currently, travellers spend an average of 3.5 nights away each trip.

Meanwhile, 59% of businesses expect to make even more trips in 2024 than the previous year.

As many of those travelling for work are often in managerial roles, health professionals warn of added stress while away from home.

In fact, 55% of Australian managers claim work has negatively impacted their mental health, compared to 32% of non-managers.

"While on-site workers may

be able to make positive steps towards improving their mental health through implementing simple daily routines, business travellers may struggle to hold to steady habits to buffer the adverse effects of work on their mental health," said Ruth Limkin, The Banyans Healthcare founder.

"This is especially true when working away involves committing free time to work associated activities such as being in transit or meetings over dinner."

According to Limkin, some helpful wellbeing strategies for workers include taking five minutes at the beginning and end of the day to practice mindfulness, prioritising sleeps, stepping into the sunshine in between meetings, and stocking up on healthy snacks. *JHM*

PATY nominations

WITH third-party nominations closing today, Trent Twomey, National President of the Pharmacy Guild of Australia, has made a final call out for entries for the Pharmacy Guild of Australia/Maxigesic Pharmacy Assistant of the Year Award (PATY) 2024.

"With PATY, pharmacy owners, managers, and pharmacists can nominate deserving pharmacy assistants or colleagues for all of their dedication throughout the year," said Twomey.

"It would be a shame if anyone missed out on having their work recognised."

Twomey noted that the new online nomination process to propose a pharmacy staff member is "quick and simple and it only takes a couple of minutes to recognise the efforts of others".

He highlighted the rewards, saying, "the state winners will receive exclusive training, return flights and accommodation for the National Judging Workshop in Sydney, and complimentary registration to the Pharmacy Assistant National Conference".

The top 10-15 finalists in each state will also be invited to participate in a workshop, which will provide professional development opportunities for participants.

The national winner will earn a \$5,000 cash prize, complimentary registration, and flights for next year's APP2025 and PA2025 conferences, as well as an invitation to the 2025 National Judging Workshop.

To nominate, **CLICK HERE**.

DID YOU KNOW?

That we regularly publish **Health Professional only** editions of *Pharmacy Daily*?

[CLICK HERE TO UPDATE YOUR DETAILS](#)

Pharmacy Daily



Earn up to 3.5x more airline
and credit card loyalty points.

pointrs



Earn 125% More Airline And Hotel Loyalty Program Points/Miles When Paying Pharmacy Wholesalers

Do you own a pharmacy and use a wholesaler-branded
American Express card to pay your wholesaler bill?

This Pointr will show you how you can earn 125% more American Express Membership Rewards Points, which you can convert to 125% more airline and hotel loyalty program points and miles, without spending any more at your wholesaler. Fly and stay more than twice as often as before or upgrade to luxury.

Browse
3000+
Pointrs
and see for yourself.

Earn More. Spend Less. Travel Better.
www.pointrs.com