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## Today's issue of PD

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

- Dispense Assist
- Glucojel

## Low-cost solution

**DISPENSE** Assist is a low-cost staffing solution with dispensary technicians available 24/7 at rates as low as \$6.37 per hour for sessions from 30 minutes to two hours. Learn more on [page three](#).

## Reasons to smile

**GLUCOJEL** is giving pharmacy owners - and their customers - 10,000 reasons to smile with its latest offer. Curious? See the [back page](#).

## Biomarker use

**BLINKLAB** Limited has joined the MAGNET (Monash Autism & ADHD Genetics and Neurodevelopment) study, led by the university's School of Psychological Sciences.

The study, which aims to enrol 1,000 families with children diagnosed with autism, ADHD, or both, seeks to identify new autism and ADHD subtypes using deep phenotype data.

BlinkLab's Dx 1 biomarkers, including the Prepulse Inhibition (PPI) measure, will play a key role in differentiating between autism and ADHD - see more, [HERE](#).

## New benchmarks start

**THE** Advanced Pharmacy Australia (AdPha) Clinical Pharmacy Standards are now released, offering a comprehensive update to practice in this area.

The 2024 edition introduces 22 new Quality Statements, emphasising person-centred care across the patient journey, and equitable access to quality pharmacy care for Australians in all care settings.

The release coincides with the start of the Medicines Management 2024 conference in Adelaide, where AdPha President Tom Simpson highlighted its relevance amid ongoing discussions about pharmacy practice scope.

"Collaboration is at the core of our Standards, with team-based care essential to advanced pharmacy," Simpson said.

"The expertise of pharmacists is maximised when the entire pharmacy workforce - including technicians and assistants - practice to the top of scope, as reflected in this document."

Simpson noted that while different hospitals and health services may implement varying aspects of the Standards, the central commitment to patient care remains consistent.

"The Standards establish evidence-based best practice across Australia's health system, which is not universally achieved today," he said, adding that they represent a 'goal state' that the healthcare system should aspire to.

The Standards cover all aspects of healthcare where pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, and



medicines intersect, focusing on continuous care in and beyond the hospital setting.

"We cannot focus solely on the few days a person might spend in the hospital while ignoring the rest of their year," Simpson remarked.

AdPha's Clinical Pharmacy Standards, updated for current practice, has been guided by extensive input from members and experts, and will serve as a blueprint for patient care.

Published in the *Journal of Pharmacy Practice and Research*, the clinical Standards are now accessible to AdPha members-only through its portal. *JG*

## TGA settlement

**THE** TGA has reached a settlement with InstantScripts, concluding judicial review proceedings over 45 infringement notices issued to the online prescription provider in Nov 2023.

The TGA initially cited InstantScripts for allegedly unlawful advertising of prescription-only medicines on its website.

In response, InstantScripts sought a judicial review in Mar.

Under the settlement terms, the TGA has withdrawn the infringement notices, while InstantScripts has agreed to maintain its website's current prescription service functionality until Jun 2025 or until new TGA advertising guidelines are issued.

This settlement is part of the TGA's ongoing initiative to regulate unlawful advertising of prescription medicines, and enforce legal requirements when promoting such products.



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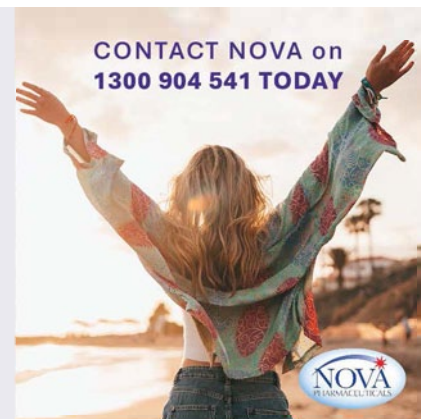
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## NOVELLA -1

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### Dispensary Corner

**IN A** surprising twist, attending daycare might just lower the risk of type 1 diabetes in kids.

New research, published in *JAMA Paediatrics*, looked at 22 studies and over 100,000 kids, revealing that children who go to daycare, compared to those who don't, seemed to have a slightly reduced risk of developing the disease.

Researchers suspect it's all about the microbes - kids who spend time at daycare are exposed to more germs, which could help their immune systems stay sharp and prevent the onset of diabetes.

But hold your applause - don't rush to sign your kid up for the nearest daycare just yet.

The study did find a slight difference in risk, but the numbers weren't quite "significant" enough to declare a definitive cause-and-effect relationship yet.

Still, with a combined odds ratio of 0.68 (meaning about a 32% reduced risk), this could be the most unexpected health benefit of daycare we've seen, since the discovery that running around at recess isn't just for fun, it is also good for your children's health.

So, while we wait for more studies to confirm this potentially groundbreaking discovery, maybe it's time to reframe your thoughts on that dreaded daycare bill.

It could be helping your children avoid more than just sniffles by teaching them, and parents too, to embrace germs as their new best friends.

## APP2025 program is out



**THE** Australian Pharmacy Professional Conference and Trade Exhibition (APP2025) has unveiled its official program, announced by conference convenor Kos Sclavos.

The conference, themed 'Unlocking Your Opportunities', will take place from 19-22 Mar, 2025, on the Gold Coast.

APP2025, the largest pharmacy conference in the Southern Hemisphere, typically draws nearly 7,000 attendees.

Educational sessions will cover a wide array of topics including business innovation, clinical pharmacy, harm minimisation, rural and Indigenous health, cultural engagement, and professional development.

Highlights include the opening plenary, industry awards, the Alan

Russell Oration, and the State of the Industry Panel, offering insights into sector developments and emerging trends.

Keynote speakers will feature former tennis star Jelena Dokic sharing her experiences of resilience, and Dr Ben Bravery, a zoologist and patient advocate.

Pre-conference workshops on full scope of practice, and immunisation will commence on 19 Mar, providing practical skills and CPD credits.

Networking opportunities are set to include the welcome reception, a women's networking lunch, and a 'country hoedown' street party.

APP25's earlybird registration offers a 10% discount until 31 Jan.

To avail of this discount, head to [www.appconference.com](http://www.appconference.com). JG

### Mounjaro reduces T2 diabetes risk: study

**ELI** Lilly has announced that *The New England Journal of Medicine* has published the results of the Phase 3 SURMOUNT-1 study, the longest study of the weight loss drug Mounjaro (tirzepatide) to date.

Over a 176-week treatment period, tirzepatide significantly reduced the risk of developing type 2 diabetes in adults with prediabetes and obesity or who are overweight, achieving

notable weight loss.

On average, participants lost 22.9% of body weight, with nearly 99% remaining diabetes-free.

Tori Brown, Eli Lilly General Manager for ANZ, underscored the need for equitable access to Mounjaro, calling for a shift in PBS reimbursement priorities to ensure Australians with medical needs receive necessary care.

Lilly plans to submit the study's findings to the TGA.

### NAPSA initiative

**THE** National Australian Pharmacy Students Association (NAPSA) has partnered with LRNRX to launch a dedicated community group for all pharmacy students.

This initiative aims to foster connections, allowing students to engage with peers, access industry news, and stay updated on NAPSA events.

The NAPSA national board will also advise LRNRX in developing courses and resources for students.

NAPSA President Sebastian Harper said, "our collaboration with LRNRX will ensure that students across the country can enhance their learning which will prepare them for a successful career in the pharmacy sector".

Krysti-Lee Patterson, LRNRX founder and CEO, added, "we're excited to partner with NAPSA to bring pharmacy students a tailored learning experience to ensure every student feels connected and empowered as they advance their knowledge and skills."

Designed for the fast-paced pharmacy environment, LRNRX stated its courses can be completed in under 15 minutes, making learning both efficient and enjoyable by putting it into the daily routine.





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OVER-WORKED?  
WAGES INCREASING?**



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