

Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features four pages of news, including our **Beauty & Wellness** feature, plus a full page from Nova Pharmaceuticals.

Order Novella-1

EMERGENCY contraception medication, Novella-1, is available to order now from Nova Pharmaceuticals - find out more on the **last page**.

Dementia toolkit

DEMENTIA Australia has released a free, easy-to-use community education toolkit, which community groups and organisations can use to deliver informative sessions about dementia.

The pack, available **HERE**, was created in response to huge community demand for dementia education.

New Panadol packs arrive in pharmacies

NEW Panadol pack sizes are set to begin rolling out in pharmacies across Australia this month, in line with the Therapeutic Goods Administration's (TGA) upcoming scheduling changes (**PD 18 Apr**).

In an effort to minimise the risk of harm from intentional misuse, packs of paracetamol products available for self-selection will contain a maximum of 16 tablets in WA and Queensland, and a maximum of 50 tablets in all other states and territories.

However, customers will still be able to purchase larger packs from behind the counter, after speaking with a pharmacist.

While the legislation doesn't come into effect until 01 Feb 2025, Haleon, the makers of Panadol, is implementing the rollout early to ensure no disruption to supply.

Pharmaceutical Society of Australia National Board Director and community pharmacy owner, Bridget Totterman, said it is important pharmacists are aware of



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these changes and can confidently talk to their customers about them.

"Pharmacists need to be aware of and understand the changes being made to the pack sizes of paracetamol-containing medicines.

"We play a key role in providing health advice to patients and the changes may prompt them to ask questions about what it means for them," Totterman said.

Elena Pintado, Head of Pain from Haleon ANZ, said, "our focus is always on consumers and facilitating responsible self-care".

"We will continue to work with our retail partners to ensure a smooth transition in support of these measures."

Haleon is providing pharmacy staff with resources and tools to help address the changes, including an explanatory video **HERE**.

"Pharmacists and pharmacy staff play a crucial role in providing advice so it's vital they understand the rationale behind the changes in order to help consumers navigate them," Pintado added.

Customers should also be reassured there is no change to the suitability profile and efficacy of paracetamol for pain relief when used as directed.

For more information and to access helpful resources, pharmacists can visit the Haleon Health Partner Portal **HERE**. *JM*

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TGA stamps out illicit vape activity in Vic

THE Therapeutic Goods Association (TGA) has been working with the Victorian Police to dismantle the state's illicit vape and tobacco supply chain.

As part of an ongoing investigation into a significant crime syndicate involved in the illicit tobacco market, the regulatory body helped the Victorian Police conduct more than 27 search warrants across the state, resulting in the arrests of eight people this week.

The individuals have been charged with Commonwealth offences for their role in directing and assisting the organised crime syndicate.

During the operation, Victoria Police seized 600,000 tobacco sticks, tobacco products and vapes to combat the illegal trade of these goods.

Other assets alleged to be the proceeds of crime were also seized, including luxury cars.

The *Therapeutic Goods and*



Other Legislation Amendment (Vaping Reforms) Act 2024, which came into effect earlier this year (*PD* 29 Jul), restricts the sale of vapes to Australian pharmacies, banning their sale from retailers like tobacconists and convenience stores.

The investigation in Victoria complements other domestic enforcement efforts led by the TGA and the Australian Border Force's Illicit Tobacco Taskforce, resulting in the seizure and surrender of over 6.5 million vaping products since 01 Jan.

Further joint operations are set to take place nationwide.

Members of the public are encouraged to report suspected illegal sales of vaping products to the TGA or local authorities.

Vaccine storage concern

HEALTH officials are calling for urgent government action to tighten scrutiny on vaccine storage, which costs taxpayers more than \$22 million per year in wastage and causes serious public health issues.

The calls follow an incident at a Sydney general practice last week, which identified more than 1,200 patients at risk of failed or ineffective vaccines administered due to improper storage between Dec 2019 and Jul 2024.

Among the patients involved were hundreds of children aged under five who received their first routine jabs against various diseases including polio, hepatitis, measles, pneumonia, whooping cough and more.

Another area of concern raised is around \$22.3 million in taxpayer funds wasted by the government's National Immunisation Program Schedule due to improper storage via cold chain breaches.

Vaccines are required to be kept between 2°C to 5°C, according



to World Health Organisation guidelines, to ensure no spoilage and maximum vaccine efficacy.

"It's terrifying to think that so many Australians - including our most vulnerable, like infants and the elderly - believe they are being protected by vaccines when they may not be safeguarded at all," said Terrence Daniel, General Manager of PSS Distributors, a company specialising in Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS) technology.

"And with our economy under immense strain right now, it's disheartening to see over \$22 million wasted each year on something as fundamental as proper vaccine storage."

PSS Distributors has partnered with medical refrigeration manufacturer Vacc-Safe to develop Australia's first vaccine refrigerator with a built-in battery backup. *ML*



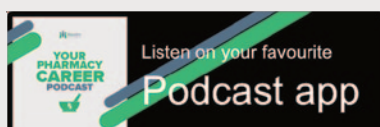
YOUR PHARMACY CAREER PODCAST

Dive into our latest podcast episode featuring **Emily Griffin** on Championing Rural Pharmacy and Workplace Culture.

Emily is a trailblazing force in the pharmacy world, renowned for her compassionate and innovative approach and multi-faceted expertise.



Emily



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Editor's Choice: E45 releases new facial care range for dry skin

SKINCARE specialist E45 has just launched a new facial care range, developed for dry, sensitive and eczema-prone skin and tested by dermatologists.

The new range is perfect for the whole family and can be used as part of a daily skincare routine.

The fragrance-free E45 Face Foaming Cleanser (RRP \$14.99) gently cleanses the skin and is packed with antioxidant ingredients like vitamin E and helichrysum oil to reduce irritation and protect skin against free radicals.

It is also free from soap, sulphates and alcohol.

E45's Face Moisturiser (RRP \$14.99) is fast-absorbing and



non-greasy, providing 24-hour hydration, enriched with vitamin E and sweet almond oil.

It also contains hyaluronic acid and polyglutamic acid to lock in moisture and protect the skin's natural barrier.

For itchy and irritated skin,

E45's innovative Itch Recovery Coolmousse (RRP \$16.99) can provide relief within 60 seconds.

The mousse can be used all over the body and contains pro-vitamin B5, as well as aloe vera, allantoin and betaine to soothe, protect and nourish.

MCoBeauty newness



LUXE-FOR-LESS Australian brand MCoBeauty has dropped a new range of new products, just in time for summer and soon to be stocked at Woolworths, Big W and Chemist Warehouse.

First cab off the rank is the new Bouncy Jelly Tint Cheek & Lint (RRP \$20), which transforms from a cool jelly into a sheer pigmented tint as soon as it hits the skin, and is available in Berry Pop, Coral Pop, Pink Pop and Red Pop.

Then there is the new Hydrate & Glow Ultra-Hue Serum (RRP \$35), a three-in-one product that offers a sheer bronze tint, while illuminating and moisturising the skin, jam-packed with hyaluronic acid, niacinamide and watermelon.

The new Liquid Blush Luminous Glow (RRP \$26) features a weightless veil of colour, available in Passion, Lava and Bella Vita.

Meanwhile, the new Cheek & Lip Stain 2-in-1 Cream Tint comes in a sheer mango-coral shade, containing squalane to nourish and hydrate skin.

Plus there's the Coconut Lip Balm (RRP \$18), with coconut oil, jojoba seed oil and safflower extract to keep lips soft and nourished.

Probiotics for babies

BIOGAI Protectis Baby Drops are specially formulated to relieve symptoms of infant colic.

The drops contain BioGai's patented probiotic strain isolated from breastmilk and helps to support bowel function, restore the balance of good gut flora and minimise diarrhoea.



A better brush for hair and the environment



SUSTAINABLE beauty brand EcoTools has just launched its new Better Brush Collection, offering high-quality haircare tools that are kind to hair and the environment.

Perfect for a wide range of different hair types, textures and needs, each brush in the range features 100% renewable bamboo handles, recycled materials and vegan bristles.

The range includes the Slick Back Brush (RRP \$17.99), ideal for sleek buns or ponytails and designed to tame frizz, or the Smoothing Detangler Brush (RRP \$26.99), which can be used for wet or dry hair.

The Travel Detangling Brush (RRP \$15.99) can be used for styling on the go, while those looking to create big, bouncy blowdries should opt for the Voluminous Round Brush (RRP \$24.99).

Also available is the Edge Defining Brush (RRP \$9.99) to tame baby hairs, and plenty of other options in the collection.

Want to feature on this page?

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Beauty & Wellness
by Pharmacy Daily

Dispensary Corner

THERE'S a giant inflatable melanoma sitting on Bondi Beach right now as part of the annual Sculpture by the Sea event this weekend.

The three-metre-high by 20-metre-wide sculpture was developed by advertising creative Andrew Hankin, who also founded Skin Check Champions to raise awareness of skin cancer after a close friend died from the disease.

Interestingly, the melanoma will actually change colour, shape and size throughout the duration of the exhibition.

"We almost want people to not recognise that it's changed at first," Hankin explained to *The Guardian*.

"We want people to feel like, 'oh wow, that changed in front of my eyes, and I didn't really realise it'...because that almost feels like how you would recognise a melanoma on your own skin."

Skin Check Champions provide free early detection services and educates Australians about the dangers of skin cancer.

The organisation will be offering free skin checks for people viewing the sculpture until 04 Nov.

After that, it will take up a 10-day residency at the Bondi Surf Bathers' Life Saving Club, where it aims to screen about 2,000 people.

The costs of both creating the sculpture and staging the mass skin check events are being jointly funded by La Roche-Posay and pharmaceutical company Bristol Myers Squibb.

Australian CDC needed



EXPERTS from several Australian health bodies have banded together to urge the Federal Government to commit funds to establish a permanent Australian Centre for Disease Control (CDC).

The call comes in the lead-up to the COVID-19 Inquiry Response Report, due tomorrow, which the government said will help determine the Australian CDC's future structure and function.

Experts from the Public Health Association of Australia (PHAA), the Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP), the Australasian Society for Infectious Diseases (ASID) and the Climate and Health Alliance (CAHA) said that the delay of the COVID-19 Response Inquiry Report, which was originally due at the end of Sep, means the govt will need to take urgent action in the coming weeks.

Adjunct Professor Terry Slevin, PHAA's CEO, voiced his concerns about the lack of progress in setting up the new centre.

He pointed out that Prime Minister Anthony Albanese's promise during the 2022 federal election campaign to establish an Australian CDC in their first term of government is yet to be fulfilled.

Meanwhile, funding for the interim CDC - which was

established at the beginning of this year - expires on 30 Jun 2025.

"The COVID-19 Response Inquiry has been a very important and complex undertaking, and we fully support the Government's decision to grant an extension to the Inquiry panel," Slevin said.

"However, as soon as the report is delivered, we expect to see the government act very swiftly to fulfil its election promise before a federal election is called."

The call for action also comes as Australia's Chief Medical Officer, Professor Paul Kelly, who has been leading the interim CDC, prepares to retire at the end of this month.

Slevin said Kelly's departure "raises questions about the future leadership of the Australian CDC", adding "we now need strong leadership for the agency in this vital stage in the development of the agency".

President of the ASID, Professor Joseph Doyle, added that the threat of pandemics is ongoing, and that there are other health challenges that urgently need national leadership from a CDC.

"It needs to be well resourced, science-led and accountable to best protect Australians from new and emerging health threats including avian influenza and mpox." JM

NSW tobacco crackdown

THE NSW Government has today announced new laws for retailers, in a bid to weaken the state's flourishing tobacco black market.

The illicit trade has exploded in recent years, thanks to organised criminals who are illegally importing cigarettes in vast quantities and selling them tax-free to smokers.

Following a campaign from legitimate retailers, NSW will implement a new licensing regime for tobacco stores and a big increase in fines for those caught selling under-the-counter cigarettes and vapes.

Under the proposed changes, anyone selling tobacco products will be forced to pass a fit-and-proper test and pay an annual license fee.

The penalties for trading without a license will increase to \$44,000 for individuals and \$220,000 for corporations, while individuals and businesses caught selling illegal cigarettes will be forced to cough up \$22,000 and \$110,000 respectively - double the previous fines.

Additionally, the number of NSW health enforcement officers will double to 28.

"We're not saying this is going to solve every problem overnight, but this is one of the most significant reforms in over a decade in relation to tobacco and licensing, and one that will make a difference," said NSW Health Minister Ryan Park.

NSW is the last state to either introduce, or commit to introducing, a licensing regime specifically for tobacco retailers.

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