

Tuesday 3rd Sep 2024



PSA CEO calls to cut carbon footprint

EXCLUSIVE

STEVE Morris, CEO of the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA), is calling on pharmacists to play a crucial role in addressing healthcare's environmental impact.

Morris was recently appointed to the Climate & Health Expert Advisory Group which supports the delivery of the National Health and Climate Strategy.

Speaking to Pharmacy Daily this week, Morris highlighted the staggering contribution of healthcare to climate change.

He said, "healthcare accounts for 7% of Australia's total carbon emissions, and medicines make up 19% of that figure".

Morris outlined three areas where pharmacists can make a difference - preventing ill health, reducing inappropriate care, and delivering care sustainably.

He stressed that preventing illness is fundamental, and explained that, "the more healthcare interventions we have, the greater the impact on climate".

Reducing inappropriate care is another vital area, with Morris emphasising the importance of deprescribing, and optimising medication use to reduce waste and improve patient outcomes.

He pointed to asthma treatment as a prime example.

"Asthma inhalers, particularly short-acting types, are estimated to contribute over 15.000 tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions annually in Australia," said Morris.

"By prescribing the right inhalers and educating patients, pharmacists can directly influence both health outcomes and environmental impact."

Today's issue of *PD*

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

- Chemsave
- **Direct Chemist Outlet**



Morris also highlighted the environmental challenges of packaging and noted the need for more sustainable packaging and improved recycling efforts.

The PSA CEO underscored the importance of sustainable delivery between the manufacture of medicines and reaching patients and suggested revisiting suppliers' efforts to reduce waste. JG

Chemsave savings

PHARMACISTS can save more than \$20,000 per year through major discounts on more than 7,000 products, as well as marketing and POS support, via a new member offer from Chemsave.

The group is also offering a low membership fee, and data insights - see more on page four.



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References: 1. Grieve KA, Barnes TM. Increased bioavailability of hydrocortisone dissolved in a cream base. Australas J Dermatol. 2015; 56(2)e30-4. 2. Van Zuuren EJ, Fedorowicz Z, Christensen R, Lavrijsen APM, Arents BWM (2017) Emollients and moisturisers for eczema. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 2017, Issue 2. Art. No.: CD012119. DOI: 10.1002/14651858. CD012119.pub2.

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New PBS listing



CABOMETYX (cabozantinib) is now available on the PBS for eligible patients with Stage IV non-clear cell renal cell carcinoma (RCC), marking a new treatment option for those previously without access.

Christine Cockburn, CEO of Rare Cancers Australia, welcomed the announcement, saying it was a positive step towards equitable access for approximately 800 people living with Stage IV non-clear cell RCC in Australia.

The earlier listing for the medicine was only applicable to clear cell subtypes.

Wizard Pharmacy opens new WA store



WIZARD Pharmacy Albany Hacienda officially opened last week, with Member for Albany, Rebecca Stephens, leading the grand opening.

The pharmacy, located at the corner of Cockburn Road and Campbell Road in Mira Mar, WA, is owned by Michael Hannagan and marks the first Wizard Pharmacy in the area.

Stephens commended Hannagan and his team, saying, "it's encouraging to see such confidence in business investments in Albany, which will benefit our community and create additional jobs".

"Pharmacies are vital, especially in regional WA, and our

government has expanded the role of community pharmacies to enhance primary healthcare access.

"Initiatives like the UTI treatment and oral contraceptive pill resupply show how pharmacists provide convenient treatments."

Hannagan expressed enthusiasm for bringing a fresh approach to health and wellness to Albany.

"Wizard Pharmacy has evolved from the traditional pharmacy experience to offer more than just prescriptions and health services

as we offer categories like giftware, beauty and fragrance.

"With rising costs, the extra rewards from Wizard's loyalty program and the RAC partnership, which offers an additional 5% off, is valuable," Hannagan concluded. JG

Pictured: Pharmacy staff Amanda Vanmaris and Carmen Tranter. Rebecca Stephens MLA - Member for Albany, proprietor Michael Hannagan, and store staff Stimy Santo and Joelene Stanley.

DCO's invite to grow

PHARMACISTS heading to Pharmacy Connect 2024 can contact Direct Chemist Outlet (DCO) to talk about their store's future.

See details on page five.

FIP urges lift game to advance the sector

THE International Pharmaceutical Federation's (FIP) 82nd World Congress kicked off yesterday with Australia-based President Paul Sinclair giving his opening address to several hundred professionals.

He said greater progression by the sector is needed to tackle issues like inequitable access, medicine shortages, antimicrobial resistance, and substandard drugs.

Sinclair emphasised the need for innovation in pharmacy, citing immunisation as an impactful example.

He also highlighted the

importance of the principles integrity, performance, and passion in advancing the pharmacy profession.

Sinclair urged pharmacists to support FIP's 'Think Health, Think Pharmacy' campaign to elevate the role of pharmacies in primary healthcare.

The congress also honoured several pharmacists, including Australians Dr Shania Liu, who received the Early Career in Pharmaceutical Practice Recognition Award, and Dr Sarah Dineen-Griffin, awarded a FIP fellowship for her contributions see more HERE.



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Dispensary Corner

SCIENTISTS have gone fishing in the Arctic Sea and reeled in a potential lifesaver - new compounds that can take down harmful bacteria like E.coli.

Researchers from Finland and Norway, armed with fancy screening methods, tested hundreds of unknown compounds from Arctic invertebrates and found two with potent antivirulence and antibacterial powers.

Imagine these compounds as secret agents, not killing the bacteria outright but making them too weak to cause trouble

Published in Frontiers in Microbiology, the study showed one compound stops E.coli from sticking to gut cells, cutting off its nasty tricks before it starts.

The other slows down bacterial growth, though it's the first agent that really gets scientists excited - less chance for the bacteria to develop resistance, they say.

These compounds hail from strains with mysterious names like To91-5 and T160-2, sounding more like secret codes than scientific discoveries.

The scientists fished them out of the icy waters near Svalbard during a Norwegian expedition.

Now, researchers are finetuning their methods to massproduce these promising oceanfaring compounds, hoping to turn them into the next big thing in the fight against antimicrobial resistance.

Who knew the cure to our antibiotics crisis might just be chilling in the Arctic?

Teaching to breathe easier

EXCLUSIVE

WITH Asthma Week currently underway, regional pharmacists are invited to take part in a crossdisciplinary asthma and hayfever awareness seminar, conducted by part-time pharmacist Sherri Barden from Moama Village Pharmacy.

The seminar will feature informal, panel-style discussions led by Clint Flanigan, owner of the Moama Village Pharmacy in rural NSW.

The event will address key asthma topics, including symptoms, diagnosis, triggers, treatment, and medication management.

The seminar will conclude with practical advice for athletes on managing exercise-induced asthma, especially during sports finals.

The keynote speaker will be Dr Freya Hildebrand, Clinical Director of Medicine, Respiratory and General Physician - Echuca Regional Health.

Asthma Australia and the Zoe Kennedy Foundation are also supporting the event by providing resources for attendees.

One of the guest speakers, Dr Sam Kennedy, is personally connected to the cause as his niece was Zoe Kennedy, who tragically passed



away from asthma at age 14. In addition to raising community awareness, Barden (pictured) recently launched her new business, called Aplus Pharmacy Education, focused on training pharmacists to raise awareness and implement asthma and hayfever management clinics in their own practices.

"I want to empower other pharmacists to provide these vital services," said Barden.

Barden an educator for seven years explained that organising the seminar has been a long-term goal.

"We've supported national health promotions for over a decade. and this seminar is something I've been wanting to do for a while," concluded Barden. JG

Update

Oozing with confidence on wound care

SEPTEMBER is here and it's a busy month of awarenessraising with various special weeks and days taking place.

The Pharmacy Guild of Australia wants the profession to "rip off the Band-Aid" and talk about wounds for the Wound Awareness Week (WAW), on now.

First, the facts: there are about 450,000 Australians living with a chronic wound - nearly two in every 100 people.

The cost to our health and aged care system of dealing with chronic wounds is close to \$6.6 billion.

Now a solution: with the right treatment and advice, many wounds can heal.

WAW is a great opportunity to engage your patients in conversation.

Many aren't aware of wound warning signs, where and when to seek professional advice, or the risk factors.

Your advice and support can help them take preventive measures such as regular foot checks and implementing an effective skin care regime.

So this week, don't underestimate what you can do to help someone heal.

And why not have a bit of fun hosting your own Big Oozie Bakeoff with cupcakes that will taste better than they sound?

Visit woundaware.org for more information.

Final Connect conference tix available

FINAL tickets have been released for the Pharmacy Connect and Pharmacy Assistant National Conference, with both events taking place this week.

Under the theme of 'Connect Today, Shape Tomorrow', the **Pharmacy Connect Conference** will include workshops and a Student Summit along with 60 expert speakers on topics ranging from the future of pharmacy to developing business strategies.

Attendees can also network



with over 1,300 professionals from across the pharmacy sector.

"I gained a lot of knowledge attending and can't wait to attend next year," said one attendee from last year's event.

CLICK HERE to register.



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