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Today's issue of PD

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

- Glucojel
- Bushman

Glucojel Glucofest

GLUCOJEL is running a competition giving your customers the chance to win a year's supply of their favourite Glucojel products, so make sure you are fully supplied with beans and bears.

See more on **page three**.

Ward off mozzies

MOSQUITO-BORNE

diseases including Buruli ulcer and Ross River virus are on the rise.

Stock up with Bushman insect repellents ahead of the Easter holidays - more on **p4**.

Be alert for measles symptoms

AN UPSURGE in measles cases this year has prompted measles alerts in most Australian states and territories, with a renewed warning from Victoria issued yesterday.

While cases were initially recorded in people returning from overseas, the number of people who acquired their infection locally is increasing.

Health professionals have been urged to be alert for measles in patients presenting with a compatible illness, irrespective of their travel history.

Symptoms include fever, cough, sore or red eyes (conjunctivitis), runny nose, and feeling generally unwell, followed by a red rash.

The rash usually starts on the face before spreading down the body.

Symptoms can develop between seven to 18 days after exposure.

If measles is suspected, the person should be given a face mask and advised to get tested.

"Initial symptoms of measles may be similar to those of COVID

and influenza," explained Dr Tarun Weeramanthri, Victorian Chief Health Officer.

"If a symptomatic person tests negative for COVID and/or influenza but develops a rash, they should be advised to continue isolating and be tested for measles," he said.

Health authorities note that anyone born during or since 1966 who does not have documented evidence of having received two doses of a measles-containing vaccine, or does not have documented evidence of immunity, is at risk of measles.

Unvaccinated infants are at particularly high risk of contracting measles, while young infants, pregnant women and people with a weakened immune system are at increased risk of serious complications from measles.

People who have been in a known exposure site and are not fully vaccinated for measles may be eligible to receive the MMR vaccine if they present within 72 hours. *KB*

New 5-in-1 test

PHARMACISTS will soon be able to access and stock Australia's first five-in-one combination rapid antigen test in time for the flu season.

The newly developed test from Sonictec can check for COVID, Influenza A & B, RSV and Adenoviruses using a single self-administered swab.

"By knowing exactly which virus they are dealing with, Australians can take smarter steps to protect their families and communities," said Sonictec's General Manager and R&D Director, Frank Fan.

The new five-in-one test delivers rapid identification of viruses in minutes, enabling informed isolation and care.

Sonictec said with winter approaching and respiratory viruses on the rise, the test arrives at a critical time to reduce the burden on the healthcare system and protect vulnerable communities.

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References: 1. CELEBRES RELIEF[®] (celecoxib) Product Information. 2. Ekman EF et al. Am J Orthop 2002; 31(8):445-451. 3. Petri M et al. J Rheumatol 2004; 31(8):1614-1620. 4. Ralha LV et al. Revista Brasileira de Medicina 2008; 65(11):378-387. 5. Bertin P et al. J Int Med Res 2003; 31(2):102-112. 6. Cheung R et al. Clin Ther 2007; 29:2498-2510.

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Dispensary Corner

WHEN it comes to your destiny, when you were conceived can determine more than just your star sign.

Japanese researchers have discovered that people born in autumn are more likely to be skinnier and have less fat around their organs than those born in late spring.

This is because people who were conceived during colder seasons showed higher brown adipose tissue activity, the team wrote in *Nature Metabolism*.

Active brown fat means increased calorie burn, a lower BMI and less visceral fat - the bad fat around body organs linked with cardiometabolic problems.

A key factor in determining brown adipose tissue activity is parental exposure to a large temperature range over a 24-hour period, and lower average temperatures in the time immediately before conception.

They also suggested that it is the father's exposure to colder temperatures that has the effect - cold exposure leaves a signal in sperm that triggers the development of an embryo that is better adapted to metabolism and cold temperatures.

"The new findings emphasise once more the critical role of the preconception environment in shaping offspring metabolism and offer perspectives for understanding the coexistence of two global health challenges - obesity and global warming," said epigeneticist Raffaele Teperino in an editorial accompanying the study.

Falls fear predicts future risk

PEOPLE'S concerns about falling may predict them actually taking a fall in the future, according to a new international study led by Neuroscience Research Australia (NeuRA).

Falls are the leading cause of injury-related hospitalisations, responsible for 400 every day.

A review of 53 studies involving 75,000 participants confirmed that concern about falling independently predicts future falls.

"Many older Australians develop concerns about falling, and this concern itself increases their risk of future falls," said study lead Prof Kim Delbaere from NeuRA.

"While we already knew having had prior falls was a risk factor for developing concerns about falling, this research found falling can be both a cause and consequence of falls."

"These findings fill a critical evidence gap and further support the inclusion of concerns about falling in risk assessments in national and international guidelines," Prof Delbaere said.

She noted that falls are not an inevitable part of ageing, with evidence showing that 30% of falls are preventable.

The first step, she said, is to have a conversation with older adults about their concerns.

"After identifying concerns about falling, it is important to support people with targeted, multidisciplinary interventions such as exercise, cognitive behavioural therapy and occupational therapy, to help reduce the risk of falls," she said.

Future bright for young pharmacists

THE Pharmacy Guild of Australia National President Professor Trent Twomey (pictured) says that with Australia becoming a world leader in community pharmacy, there is a bright future and plenty of opportunity for young pharmacists looking to make a difference.

Speaking to *Pharmacy Daily* ahead of the Pharmacy Careers Summit 2025 (PCS25) on 04 Jul, Twomey, who will be presenting there, said it has been a busy and exciting year for Australian community pharmacy.

"From the historic signing of the 8th Community Pharmacy Agreement to the ongoing expansion of Scope of Practice nationally, the Pharmacy Guild of Australia is proud to pave the way for the pharmacists of the future," he said.

"The future is bright with opportunity for young pharmacists looking to make a difference: whether they are diving into the rewarding work of rural and regional pharmacy or joining the strong network of a banner group, there are endless possibilities to shape the career they want.

"And if pharmacy ownership is their dream, they can start building



pathways now to an exciting and vibrant career as the new face of their local healthcare community.

"Australia is rapidly becoming a world leader in community pharmacy," he said, adding that the Guild is there at "every step of the way to keep pharmacists at the top of their game".

"As our Guild National President, I am delighted that once again the Guild is platinum sponsor of the Pharmacy Careers Summit 2025.

"Thank you to Raven's Recruitment for partnering with us for another PCS, and we look forward to seeing you in July," Twomey concluded.

Learn more about PCS25 [HERE](#). **KB**

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