

## Today's issue of PD

*Pharmacy Daily* today features four pages of news, including a photo page from Glucojel's Glucofest, plus full pages from:

- Crampeze
- Willach

## MedView

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## StrongRoom nears a sale

**ADMINISTRATORS** of failed pharmacy software start-up StrongRoom AI are edging close to a sale of the company, with secured debts transferred to myMedKit owner and entrepreneur, Joe Zhou, according to the *Australian Financial Review*.

A new business registered earlier this month as SRSPV by Zhou is now one of two secured creditors of the collapsed software company, with more than 40 other unsecured creditors still in line.

Administrators HLB Man Judd, which took control last month (**PD** 31 Mar), are working to facilitate the sale of StrongRoom AI after the company was accused of fraud by major investor EVP.

The company said StrongRoom misrepresented its finances and lost significant sums of money each month, compared to strong profits and revenues being projected in stock valuations.

Zhou owns a string of pharmacy

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software businesses and brands, including Aceso Group and its platform Ace Pharmacy, which is similar to StrongRoom as it also digitises pharmacy paperwork and works to improve efficiency.

Zhou told the *AFR* that StrongRoom could potentially be a strategic partner for Ace Pharmacy but declined to say he was aiming for a full takeover of the brand.

HLB Man Judd has so far received more than 10 bids for a takeover of StrongRoom AI despite ongoing legal dramas and debts.

The company's assets remain frozen as Federal Court hearings continue to play out. *ML*

## Ease cramps

**WITH** two different formulations for day and night use, Crampeze helps relieve leg cramps and spasms.

See details on **page five**.

## Rethink dispensary

**WILLACH** Consis.C provides the latest in robotic automation for a more efficient dispensary set-up, freeing up space and time within your pharmacy - see **p6**.

## Insights and action

**THE** Pharmacy Guild of Australia has announced the theme of the 2025 Pharmacy Connect conference: 'From insight to action'.

The event, to be held in Sydney from 03 to 05 Sep, will bring together pharmacists, owners, pharmacy assistants, students, interns, suppliers and key industry leaders to discuss issues impacting community pharmacy both now and into the future - learn more **HERE**.

## Send us your polle pics

**WITH** election campaigning in full swing, we'd love to hear about the local candidates who have visited your pharmacy.

Send photos to [info@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:info@pharmacydaily.com.au).

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Adrian Staltari  
TerryWhite Chemmart Playford



## Guild urges Aussies to get vaccinated

**CASES** of influenza and measles continue to rise, despite vaccination offering effective protection against potentially serious illness.

The Pharmacy Guild of Australia is urging Australians to check their vaccination status and take action to get immunised.

"Vaccines work," said Professor Trent Twomey, Guild National President.

"They reduce transmission and reduce your chance of getting sick, and community pharmacies are a convenient and accessible way to get protected," he said.

For patients struggling to afford the cost of a flu shot, the Immunisation Coalition is holding free flu vaccine days on 29 and 30 Apr in Adelaide, Brisbane, Canberra, Melbourne and Sydney.

## Neuropathic pain update

A **GLOBAL** research initiative looking at new evidence and emerging technologies has led to a revision of neuropathic pain treatment recommendations.

Three medication classes are recommended for first line use: alpha-2 delta ligands (gabapentin, pregabalin); serotonin-norepinephrine reuptake inhibitors; and tricyclic antidepressants.

While only demonstrating small benefits, capsaicin and lidocaine patches and capsaicin creams are recommended as second-line treatments due to their high safety and tolerability.

Evidence was inconclusive for spinal cord stimulation, selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors and ketamine.

The team recommended against cannabis-based products, which were found to be ineffective.

Up to 10% of Australians have neuropathic pain - or nerve pain - caused by damage to nerves due to disease, surgery or trauma.



"Neuropathic pain affects people differently, so the guideline supports the provision of high-quality patient-centred care, that considers needs, values and preferences," said Michael Ferraro of Neuroscience Research Australia (NeuRA), who was involved in the international team.

"Treatment choices depend on potential effectiveness, safety, accessibility, comorbidities and use of other medicines," Ferraro added.

Future revisions may include a focus on other non-drug, non-surgical interventions, such as exercise, which are currently lacking, and should be prioritised for future research.

Read the report [HERE](#). KB

## Int'l recognition for Qendo CEO

**JESS** Taylor, CEO of Australian endometriosis patient support group Qendo, has been named the Emerging Leader of the Year at the 2025 Women Changing the World Awards.

The international awards honour women who make outstanding contributions across health, sustainability, humanitarian work, leadership, advocacy, tech, and more.

Qendo's recent campaign for greater access to affordable endometriosis treatments and contraception came to fruition with the progestogen-only pill Slinda and endometriosis drug Ryeqo listed on the PBS from 01 Apr (**PD** 17 Mar).

Taylor said she will continue to focus on scaling Qendo's national support services and leading systemic reform in how we diagnose, treat and talk about pelvic pain.



**PHARMACY**  
CAREERS SUMMIT 25

## PHARMACY CAREERS SUMMIT 2025

The Pharmacy Careers Summit is the must-attend virtual event for pharmacists, interns, and students looking to explore career opportunities. With over 40 expert speakers, a dynamic trade exhibition featuring top pharmacy employers, and invaluable networking, all without travel! PCS25 offers unmatched insights into career advancement.

Free to attend and packed with prizes, this award-winning event is your chance to connect, learn, and take the next step in your pharmacy career.

For every attendee \$5 will be donated to the PSS, **register today!**



### Leaders Panel

## The Big Picture, the future of Pharmacy from Australia's Pharmacy Leaders



**Adjunct Professor Trent Twomey**  
National President,  
Pharmacy Guild of Australia



**A/Prof Fei Sim FPS**  
National President,  
Pharmaceutical Society of Australia



**Tom Simpson**  
President,  
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Wed 23rd Apr 2025

## Glucojel 'Glucofest-ivities' in full swing

THE excitement of Glucofest, a celebration of all things Glucojel, is reaching the pointy end, with National Jelly Bean Day celebrated yesterday and National Gummy Bear Day coming up on 27 Apr.

Pharmacies around the country have revelled in Glucofest-ivities over the last month, with some colourful and creative displays. Customers were given the chance to win a year's supply of Glucojel products, and Gold Cross is thrilled to announce that Eleni Kollias of Melbourne is the winner of the jelly beans - congratulations Eleni!

The Glucojel Bears winner will be drawn on 27 Apr.

Glucojel has been supporting community pharmacy across the country since 1941. Australia's favourite jelly bean is the biggest selling confectionery item in pharmacies, and all profits go straight back into the Guild to support community pharmacies like yours.



GRENFELL Pharmacy, NSW.



REBECCA Baker Pharmacy, Nagambie, Victoria.



THE team at Ron Dunford Chemist, Parkes NSW.



FEELING Jelly at Portland Pharmacy, NSW.



LEETON Discount Chemist, Leeton NSW.



KEIRLE'S Pharmacy, Wellington NSW.





## Dispensary Corner

**WHILE** long-haul passengers may welcome care packs, including an eye mask, ear plugs, toothbrush and comb, when recently given to "corridor patients" in a UK hospital, these comforts only left them bemused.

With hospital bed shortages at crisis levels, patients are increasingly left for hours or even days on trolleys, chairs or temporary beds in hospital corridors, with dedicated "corridor medics" (an actual position title) to staff them.

That the care packs also contained a bottle of water, and "do not disturb" and "wake me for up for food" stickers to put on the eye masks, did little to put patients in a holiday mood.

"You could hear people screaming, shouting, fights happening in A&E, in the reception, police coming past, and then you've got complete strangers just staring because where else are they meant to look?" complained one patient, though this could still account for many a holiday experience.

If the well-meaning efforts of staff didn't go down well with patients, UK Health Minister Karin Smyth was similarly unimpressed, and reportedly said it is "unacceptable" that corridor care had become routine in the NHS and the practice "must end".

Giving patients vanity packages risked "normalising" this type of care, she added.

The bed shortage is driven by so-called 'bed blockers' - patients well enough to be discharged but unable to get care at home.

## PRODUCT SPOTLIGHT

Suppliers wanting to promote products in this feature should email [newproducts@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:newproducts@pharmacydaily.com.au)

### New product launch: APOHEALTH Saline Nasal Spray 30mL

APOHEALTH Saline Nasal Spray 30mL is an affordable alternative to Fess Original Nasal Spray 30mL, which is a non-medicated saline nasal spray for the relief of nasal congestion due to sinusitis, hayfever & allergies, and cold & flu.

Active Ingredients: Sodium chloride 7.04mg/mL.

**Stockist enquiries:** call 1800 276 839 or contact your Vidacorp OTC Territory Manager.

**RRP:** AUD\$9.99

**Website:** [CLICK HERE](#) for more information.

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### Hartley's Gripe Water



Hartley's Gripe Water is a natural blend of herbal ingredients of dill seed oil, peppermint oil, chamomile and coriander oil. These herbs have been used safely in commercial infant preparations for many years.

It helps reduce the occurrence of excess intestinal wind and gas in infants and helps relieve the symptoms of infant colic. It does not contain artificial sweeteners.

**Supplier:** Available from Symbion, Sigma & API.  
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**RRP:** \$10.51 - 200ml bottle.

**Website:** [CLICK HERE](#) for more information.

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The CONSIS C uses state-of-the-art technology in all areas of operations, ordering and reporting software to the mechanical and electronic components and integration with your dispense software.

The sophisticated design maximises storage capacity, with autoloading capability saving you time. Equipped with inbuilt sensors and cameras, it delivers comprehensive diagnostic support. Plus, with Australian service technicians available 365 days per year you can enjoy peace of mind.

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