

Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features three pages of all the latest news, plus a full page from **Nova Pharmaceuticals' Restin 30s**.

Get better sleep

RESTIN 2mg melatonin modified release tablets help offer a better quality sleep.

Nova Pharmaceuticals is offering pharmacists a special deal - see **page four** for more.

Arrotex launches hayfever drug

ARROTEX Pharmaceuticals has launched ARX-Fluticasone (fluticasone furoate) Nasal Spray, the first generic alternative brand of its kind available in Australia for the treatment of seasonal and perennial allergic rhinitis in adults and children aged two years and older.

While ARX-Fluticasone is not on the PBS at this stage, Arrotex expects the generic option to establish a new, lower price point compared to the innovator brand.

Hayley Tamborini, Chief Commercial Officer at Arrotex Pharmaceuticals, said the medication will provide an additional treatment option for around six million Australians living with allergic rhinitis.

"This launch expands choice for doctors and ensures patients have access to a more affordable therapy, particularly families with young children affected by allergic rhinitis who have previously had few options available," she said.

Med safety standard update

ADVANCED Pharmacy Australia (AdPha) has released a newly updated pharmacy practice standard for medication safety, now available through early view in the *Journal of Pharmacy Practice and Research*.

The most comprehensive update for pharmacists involved in medication safety programs in many years, the standards reaffirm a core message that "medication safety is everyone's responsibility", requiring system-wide effort, senior leadership, and strong interprofessional collaboration.

They also recognise the essential role of medication safety pharmacists as medicines management experts who lead, support, and embed safe practices across health services - from clinical governance and high-risk medicines oversight to digital transformation and system design.

"Reducing harm requires more than good intentions - it demands deliberate, system-wide strategies supported by informed leadership, interprofessional collaboration and strong clinical governance," said project lead Toni Howell, Chair of AdPha's Medication Safety Leadership Committee.

"This is where the role of specialist pharmacists becomes not only valuable but essential."

Howell pointed to medication safety pharmacists' focus on system-level improvements rather than the needs of individuals, such as packaging or labelling changes to high-risk medicines to reduce the risk of overdose, or driving the implementation of medicines stewardship services to optimise patient outcomes.

AdPha President Tom Simpson said the refreshed standards reflect the growing complexity



Hartley's Gripe Water helps reduce colic and wind in infants.

Available from Symbion, Sigma, API & CH2.

Australian made. Pharmacy only. Always read the label and follow the directions for use. **Petrus** PHARMACEUTICALS



of medicines management and the critical leadership role that pharmacists play in addressing preventable medicines harm.

"Medication-related harm continues to challenge even the most engaged health services," Simpson explained.

"These standards set a clear national benchmark for what good looks like - and the level of leadership, collaboration and clinical governance required to achieve it."

He highlighted the essential role pharmacists, pharmacy technicians and assistants all play in medication safety programs.

"The Standards recognise their contribution and set the foundations for safer, more integrated medicines management across Australia's health system," Simpson said.

The standards are available **HERE**.

TGA approves new Comirnaty vax

PFIZER Australia and BioNTech have welcomed the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods (ARTG) registration of the companies' LP.8.1-adapted COVID-19 vaccine - Comirnaty LP.8.1 - for use in individuals six months and older.

Available in Australia from this month, supply of the new vaccine ensures its availability aligns with the anticipated seasonal spike in infections across the country.

The updated vaccine targets strains currently in circulation as recommended by independent global and regional health and regulatory bodies, with the LP.8.1 identified by the World Health Organization as one of the COVID-19 Variants under Monitoring (VUM).

COVID vaccines by Pfizer and BioNTech are based on BioNTech's proprietary mRNA technology and were developed by both companies.

Comirnaty is fully funded by the Australian Government for people aged over six months.



ScriptCapture

3X FASTER DAILY SCRIPT MANAGEMENT

Capture and search scripts instantly

Learn More

DNP
Photo Imaging

Supplied by **JAD**

Trusted by Australian pharmacies.

DNP DST10 'ALL IN ONE' SNAPLAB

The all-in-one photo kiosk
Australia trusts. *Compact & intuitive. Ideal for pharmacy.*





**Wanting to invest
in WA property?**

**Commercial, Industrial or
Residential?**

Contact **Paul Rowe**
Your WA Buyers Agent.

NHarcourts
A Commercial Force

Grants to connect cancer services

THE Australian Government has announced \$1 million in funding for projects that build stronger networks between cancer services in outer metropolitan, regional, rural, and remote communities, and larger metropolitan centres.

This initiative - the Australian Comprehensive Cancer Network (ACCN) Networking for Cancer Equity Grant Program - will bring comprehensive cancer care closer to home for Australians living outside major cities.

By improving coordination across the system and connecting smaller services with larger services, multidisciplinary teams can collaborate, share expertise, and deliver optimal care to people where they live.

For more info, including how to apply for a grant, click **HERE**.

Full scope to free up ED

UNLOCKING full scope of pharmacist practice could divert thousands of patients from NSW emergency departments and hospital beds, reducing wait times and freeing up resources for those who need them most, according to a new report from Deloitte Access Economics.

Expanded community pharmacy services could free up 191,974 hospital bed days, save 81,129 hours of Emergency Department wait time during regular hours, and avoid 156,647 outpatient service events each year, the analysis found.

The potential savings from healthcare system capacity expansion could reach \$158.4 million per year, with a further \$719.3 million in quality of life benefits for families across the state.

Meanwhile, recent polling conducted by Insightfully in Nov 2025 demonstrated strong public support for expanded pharmacist scope, with nine out of 10 NSW voters agreeing pharmacists should



play a bigger role in frontline care, helping to ease hospital pressures and improving access to essential health services.

"The NSW Government has made great progress in allowing community pharmacists to treat conditions such as UTIs and a range of skin conditions," said Pharmacy Guild of Australia NSW Branch President Mario Barone.

"This research shows that there is a great opportunity for community pharmacy to do even more.

"Allowing pharmacists to work to their full scope can help reduce bed block, deliver high quality health outcomes, and expand the capacity of our health system," Barone concluded. **KB**

Intern of the year nominations open

NOMINATIONS are now open for the 2025 MIMS / College Intern of the Year (IOTY) Award, the Australasian College of Pharmacy has announced.

The award celebrates College interns who have gone above and beyond during their intern pharmacist year, demonstrating excellence and commitment in the field of pharmacy through the College Intern Training Program.

"This award recognises interns who make a real difference in their communities and exemplify the values of our profession," said Amanda Seeto, College CEO, highlighting the positive impact of previous winners.

Nominations are welcomed from preceptors, employers, colleagues or self-nomination.

Entries close Fri, 23 Jan 2026 - click **HERE** for more info.

Independent
Pharmacies
Australia **ipa**

Retail Excellence Conference 2026

GOOD COMMUNITY HEALTH

SUN 8 - TUES 10 FEB 2026 | MELBOURNE ALBERT PARK • EARLY BIRD ENDS 11 JAN 2026

We're bringing our retail leaders together for the **Retail Excellence Conference (REC) 2026**. This event will feature fast-paced, retail-driven programs designed to upskill and ignite the teams that shape the customer experience, deliver community connection and drive retail performance across Independent Pharmacies Australia members.

**Register to
save NOW**

ipa Independent
Pharmacies
Australia

+ Advantage
Pharmacy

+ alliance
PHARMACY

pharmacy
Catalyst

Chemist **DISCOUNT
CENTRE**



Dispensary Corner

THE recent boom in women's strength training and weightlifting has given the term "girl power" a whole new meaning - and it seems a whole new market for anabolic steroids.

A 2024 systematic review of international studies found about 4% of adult women had used anabolic steroids at least once, up from 1.6% in 2014, reported Australian researchers in *The Conversation*.

Among women bodybuilders, the rate increases to nearly 17% - or around one in six - prompting calls to realign harm minimisation efforts, which are currently targeted at men.

While acknowledging the physical and mental health benefits of the activity, the authors from UNSW and the Uni of Queensland stated that the increase in steroid use may be cause for concern without effective harm reduction via education, health promotion and health services engagement.

While the biggest long-term risks are heart disease, stroke, liver damage and mental health problems, the authors noted that women may face unique and irreversible side effects, including facial and body hair growth, deepening of the voice, and effects on fertility.

Solutions proposed by the authors include better health education written for women by women, and promoting it through social media - which is where many women learn about the drugs.

PRODUCT SPOTLIGHT

Suppliers wanting to promote products in this feature should email advertising@pharmacydaily.com.au

Mag-Sup powder - a better way to absorb magnesium

Mag-Sup powder is a high absorption magnesium supplement for use in magnesium deficiencies. It contains magnesium aspartate which has increased bioavailability compared to other forms of magnesium. Magnesium aspartate has better oral absorption than magnesium citrate, magnesium glycinate, magnesium chloride and magnesium oxide.

- High dose, once a day
- Rapidly absorbed
- Natural forest berry flavour
- Up to 300mg elemental magnesium per day
- Contains no artificial preservatives, colours or flavours

Available in 200g packs equivalent to 40 doses.

Supplier: Available from Symbion, Sigma, API & CH2. Contact your Clear Sales representative on 1800 640 043 for special deals.

RRP: \$21.57

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



Clinically tested care for cracked heels



Dermal Therapy Heel Balm Platinum offers pharmacists a clinically tested solution for customers with extremely dry, cracked heels.

Formulated with 30% urea and 9 rich emollients, it provides deep hydration and supports effective skin regeneration, with visible results in just one day.

As Dermal Therapy's most advanced heel balm available in market and podiatrist recommended, it provides a trusted solution for customer care.

Stockist enquiries: Contact 1300 555 597

RRP: 28g - \$6.99 / 75g - \$15.99 / 125g - \$21.99 / 200g - \$25.99

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

No gimmicks. Just everyday value.



Restin[®]
Melatonin 2mg

Because sleep quality matters.

Rest assured.

Why pay more?



Contact us for your deal now.
orders@novapharm.com.au

R210725aS3v1.0 Ask your pharmacist about this product. Always read the label and follow the directions for use.
Read the warnings before purchase.

*Primary insomnia is insomnia without an underlying medical cause or any other clear cause.