

Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features two pages of news, plus a full page from **MediChoice**.

Mini-mise pain

MEDICHOICE'S new Ibuprofen Mini liquid capsules provide rapid pain relief in an easy-to-swallow format. See more on **page three**.

Have you renewed your registration?

THE Pharmacy Board of Australia is reminding pharmacists they have until 31 Dec 2025 to renew their general or non-practising registration, and that a late fee of up to \$30 now applies.

Those who do not renew before the deadline will have their registration lapse, their name will be removed from the national register and they will not be able to use the protected title pharmacist.

Ahpra has emailed pharmacists details and links to follow to renew - more **HERE**.

Socks helping to save children's lives

BAMBI Mini Co and Chemist Warehouse have raised over \$160,000 for Perth Children's Hospital Foundation over the last two years, providing vital funds for immunotherapy research.

The money was raised through the sale of kids' socks at Chemist Warehouse, with the option for customers in Western Australia to donate money in-store.

Nicole Verrocchi, whose father-in-law Mario Verrocchi is Chemist Warehouse co-founder, was inspired to start the fundraising initiative when her son Rafael went through treatment for B-cell acute lymphoblastic leukaemia.

The charity has links with various children's hospitals around the country, including

PSA launches CPD standards

THE Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) has launched the PSA Standards for Continuing Professional Development (CPD) for Pharmacists, with the Australian Pharmacy Council (APC) Accreditation Standards for CPD Activities set to retire on 31 Dec 2025 (**PD** 30 Jun).

Developed through extensive consultation with the profession (**PD** 19 Nov), the PSA Standards provide a contemporary framework to guide the quality and educational integrity of continuing professional development activities for pharmacists.

With the commencement of these Standards, CPD providers can apply for accreditation under the PSA Accredited CPD framework, marking a new era in CPD activities for the pharmacy profession.

PSA National President Associate Professor Fei Sim reflected on the process of developing the Standards, noting the "incredible achievement" in getting to this point in only five months since the announcement of the peak



body's intent to take on the role of publishing the standards.

Assoc Prof Sim acknowledged and thanked all those involved, including the individuals and organisations who provided feedback during the consultation period.

"The approval of the PSA standards for CPD for pharmacists marks a significant milestone in PSA's already rich history in upholding quality education standards, now spanning decades," Assoc Prof Sim said.

"We know our education and continuing professional development are core values for our members.

"I want to assure you that these standards will give pharmacists the confidence that the CPD they access is of high quality.

"I sincerely thank everyone who participated in the consultation process," she concluded.

All supporting materials, including application forms and the PSA Accredited CPD Provider Handbook, will be available **HERE** from 05 Jan 2026. **KB**



Cal-600®

Helps build strong bones

Available from API, Symbion, Sigma & CH2



Petrus PHARMACEUTICALS

Calcium 600mg 120 tablets

Use only as directed. Consult your healthcare professional if symptoms persist.

Ahpra issues alert over former doctor

THE Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (Ahpra) has issued a rare public statement about Bill Tolis, a cancelled and prohibited medical practitioner, saying he may pose a serious risk to the public.


Ahpra has stated that Tolis' conduct is currently under investigation, but there are concerns he may be continuing to provide health services, including as a naturopath, despite being banned, and in issuing the warning, seeks to protect the public.

In 2022, the South Australian Civil and Administrative Tribunal found Tolis had engaged in professional misconduct and ordered that his registration be cancelled.

This followed an investigation by Ahpra and the Medical Board of Australia.

The tribunal also ordered Tolis be disqualified from applying for registration for seven years and prohibited from providing any health services, including services as a naturopath, for seven years until 09 Aug 2029.

Ahpra is encouraging anyone who suspects Tolis may have provided treatment, or who has information that he has claimed to be a medical practitioner, is encouraged to contact Ahpra's Criminal Offences Unit.



CAPTURE AND SEARCH SCRIPTS INSTANTLY

Compliance made simple.

Learn More



Dispensary Corner

IT TURNS out that having a terrible sense of smell is not just an inconvenience - it might actually be your body trying to tell you something.

A team of experts from the UK, the US and Germany have called for a poor sense of smell to be considered as a screening factor for a range of diseases.

In a review published in the journal *Clinical Otolaryngology*, the team said that olfactory disorders have not received enough attention in the medical community, despite growing evidence linking it to over 130 neurological, physical and genetic disorders.

Loss of smell can be an early warning sign of several illnesses, the researchers pointed out, including dementia, Parkinson's and heart disease.

Other risks pointed out in the review include reduced ability to detect gas, fire and smoke, or to notice when food is spoiled, while a weak sense of smell has also been linked to higher rates of eating disorders and even poorer mental health.

Gut serotonin promise for IBS

RESEARCHERS from the University of Gothenburg and Swedish probiotic company BioGaia AB have identified specific bacteria present in the gut that can produce serotonin.

While best known as a neurotransmitter in the brain, over 90% of the body's serotonin is found in the intestine, produced by human cells in the gut where it controls intestinal movements via the enteric nervous system, among other roles.

Previous research has shown that the composition of bacteria in the intestinal microbiota affects how much serotonin is produced, but until now it has been unclear whether intestinal bacteria themselves can form biologically active serotonin.

In the current study, the researchers identified two bacterial strains that together can produce serotonin - *Limosilactobacillus mucosae* and *Ligilactobacillus ruminis* - which belong to the former genus known as *Lactobacillus*.

The researchers discovered that people with irritable bowel syndrome (IBS), a disorder of the gut-brain interaction, had lower levels of *L. mucosae* - which has the enzyme required for



serotonin production - in their stool compared to healthy individuals.

"It is incredibly fascinating how the bacteria in the intestine can produce bioactive signalling molecules that affect health," said Professor Fredrik Backhed, one of the leaders of the study.

"Our results indicate that certain gut bacteria can produce bioactive serotonin and thus play an important role in gut health and open new avenues for the treatment of functional bowel diseases such as IBS," Professor Backhed added.

The discovery could potentially aid understanding of how the gut microbiome signals the brain and behaviour, and open the way for the development of innovative probiotic products in the gut health and mental health spaces.

Read the study [HERE](#). KB

DID YOU KNOW

There's a postbiotic that can reduce the frequency of heartburn



Tea and coffee link to bone health

A NEW study from Flinders University has provided insights into how coffee and tea may influence bone mineral density, and potentially osteoporosis, in older women.

The team analysed data from nearly 10,000 women aged 65 and older for over a decade to determine if changes in bone mineral density (BMD) were linked to tea and coffee consumption.

The study found that tea drinkers had a slightly higher total hip BMD compared to non-tea drinkers, and while statistically significant, the difference was modest.

Meanwhile, moderate coffee consumption of about two to three cups per day did not appear to harm bone health, but more than five cups daily was linked to lower BMD, suggesting that excessive intake may be detrimental.

Women with higher lifetime alcohol consumption experienced more negative effects from coffee, while tea seemed particularly beneficial for women with obesity.

The paper is available [HERE](#).

Check out the latest in

Beauty & Wellness

Every Thursday in *Pharmacy Daily*



www.pharmacydaily.com.au

Pharmacy Daily is part of the Business Publishing Group family of publications.

Pharmacy Daily is Australia's favourite pharmacy industry publication.

EDITORIAL

Editor - Karina Bray
Journalists - Adam Bishop, Myles Stedman, Janie Medbury, James Bale
Editor-at-large - Bruce Piper
Associate Publisher - Jo-Anne Hui-Miller
Editorial Director - Damian Francis

ADVERTISING AND MARKETING

Head of Sales & Marketing - Sean Harrigan
Business Development Manager - Kara Stanley
advertising@pharmacydaily.com.au

GENERAL MANAGER & PUBLISHER

Matthew Vince

ACCOUNTS

accounts@traveldaily.com.au

Suite 1, Level 2, 64 Talavera Rd
Macquarie Park NSW 2113 Australia
Tel: 1300 799 220 (+61 2 8007 6760)

info@pharmacydaily.com.au

Pharmacy Daily is a publication of Pharmacy Daily Pty Ltd ABN 97 124 094 604. All content fully protected by copyright. Please obtain written permission to reproduce any material. While every care has been taken in the preparation of the newsletter no liability can be accepted for errors or omissions. Information is published in good faith to stimulate independent investigation of the matters canvassed. Responsibility for editorial comment is taken by Damian Francis.



NEW

Manage pain in a **mini**.



LIQUIFAST: FOR FAST PAIN RELIEF



Available in packs of 20, 40 & 100 liquid capsules



M260925aS21.0 Always read the label. Use only as directed. Incorrect use could be harmful.