

## Today's issue of PD

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

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## Free Sydney train travel for PSA25

**PEOPLE** attending the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia national conference PSA25, taking place 01-03 Aug, can benefit from free travel on the Sydney train and metro network - including the Airport link - on 31 Jul and 01 Aug.

The 48 hours of free rail travel is recognition of the disruption caused by recent industrial action by rail unions.

## APC on the stage at LLLP

**THE** International Life Long Learning in Pharmacy (LLLP) Conference, taking place this week in Sydney, will feature the Australian Pharmacy Council (APC) speaking in six sessions - a record number of speaking engagements for APC at a single conference.

The conference takes place every two years and brings together educators from around the world, with APC CEO, Bronwyn Clark, saying she is especially excited to see the work of APC's Indigenous Health Strategy Group shared on the global stage.

"The LLLP conference is one of the premier pharmacy education conferences in the world, and selection into the program is highly competitive," Clark said.

"The presentations not only highlight the impact of what we do, but also how that impact is made possible - through meaningful collaboration across the education and assessment sector.

"Having work that APC has led accepted across three of the five conference themes is a reflection of the breadth of our work, and a real tribute to our team."

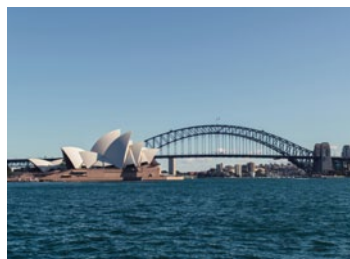
Sessions presented or co-presented by APC are:

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- Dancing in the dark: Living Indigenous ways of knowing, being, and doing;
  - Building pharmacy profession capability to deliver culturally safe care for First Nations people - the journey of the LIPPE Strategy;
  - Enhancing training for provisionally registered pharmacists (interns): Key insights for workplace-based assessments;
  - Empowering pharmacists: The key role of entrustable professional activities;
  - DEI Down Under: How accreditation supports the development of socially accountable pharmacists;
  - Preparing students for collaborative practice: Understanding the consumer's perspective.
- LLLP takes place 07-10 Jul at Park Royal, Darling Harbour. *KB*

## SA pharmacists can give u5s free flu vax

**PARENTS** in South Australia can now take their children aged six months to five years to pharmacies to get their free flu shot under the National Immunisation Program (NIP).

As of this week, the state government will provide pharmacists with the free child-specific flu vaccine and also cover any service fees.

Previously, children under five had to go to their GP or local council clinic to get their free flu shot.

The Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) has welcomed the decision, calling it "a vital step to improve access and protect more young children from serious illness".

PSA SA and NT President, Dr Manya Angley, said the announcement improves equity of access, regardless of where people choose to get vaccinated.

Children under five are one of the groups most at risk of flu complications, and currently only one in five is vaccinated, leaving many vulnerable as cases climb across the state.

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## Dispensary Corner

A MEDICAL clinic in Scotland has been surprised with an unusually high amount of “inappropriate or unsolicited” urine samples and has specifically asked local residents to stop sending them in.

In addition to being unrequested, the clinic in Fraserburgh, Aberdeenshire, noted that the samples often came in non-medical household containers instead of the right sterile containers.

The main source of the problem appears to be older patients who want to be tested for urinary tract infections without first consulting with their doctor.

Each unsolicited sample handed in requires time and medical supplies to test in practice, then staff need to contact the patient for information, interpret the results, and potentially send the sample away for further testing, one doctor explained.

And it's not just the Scots who are taking the piss - there are reportedly several clinics in the UK that have had to put up signs asking patients not to bring in unsolicited urine samples.

“We really, really want patients to speak to a clinician for a proper medical assessment before we ask them to bring a sample in,” an anonymous doctor was reported as saying in *The Times of London*.

“When they do, we will issue them with sample bottles to return, rather than random domestic containers which can sometimes be inappropriate.”

## Getting the best as an intern

“MY ADVICE for all interns is to have a plan A, a plan B and potentially even a plan C - you want to broaden your horizons to all possibilities,” Khanh Nguyen, National Intern Training Program & Vaccination Manager at the Australasian College of Pharmacy (ACP), told delegates at the Pharmacy Careers Summit 2025.

With final year pharmacy students starting to look for intern positions next year, the panel on *Setting yourself up for a successful intern year* provided valuable advice.

Nguyen launched the session with what to consider when applying for an intern position.

She suggested prospective interns consider where they will be living, whether they are willing to relocate to a regional or remote area, or even go interstate, where they might have to adapt your learnings to different legislation.

The preceptor, an intern's nominated supervisor, “will be your biggest asset throughout your internship”, Nguyen said.

“You want to ensure that they are going to provide you a safe and productive learning environment, and they're going to make a world of difference overall to your internship,” she added.

As such, Nguyen said, it is important to understand what the preceptor's expectation of an intern is and ask some questions: has the preceptor supervised an intern before; what are the intern's duties; and what are their expectations of the intern?

“Don't be afraid to ask for a position description, which might give you some more clarity on the role itself,” she advised.

“And if you're provided an interview opportunity, don't be afraid to interview them as well.”

Having obtained and started settling into an intern position, Emily Thorp, PSA's Acting Manager Training and Assessment, suggested interns “find their pace, get into the rhythm and look after themselves”, noting that for many, it might be their first full-time job.

“And then start working on increasing the level of responsibility - talk to your preceptor not just about what level you're currently at, but how to achieve that next level,” Thorp said.

Leon Yap, President of Professional Pharmacists Australia, recommended interns become familiar with the award or agreement they will be covered by in their new workplace, and the minimum pay and conditions they will be entitled to.

Interns should expect regular feedback, both formal and informal, said Ben Emery, Intern Program Manager at Monash University.

He also sought to assure interns that it “is not a judgement of who you are - it's an opportunity to shape who you're becoming as a pharmacist” and best approached with curiosity, not defensiveness.

Register for PCS25 and catch up with this and other sessions [HERE](#).

## Harper re-elected NAPSA President

THE National Australian Pharmacy Students' Association (NAPSA) Committee was announced at the Annual General Meeting last week, with Sebastian Harper from Griffith University re-elected to lead the student peak body.

Joining Harper on the executive committee are:

- Mia Avram (Monash);
- Michael Bejjani (Sydney);
- Hope Beljak (Griffith);
- Ellen Bolger-Rowe (Charles Sturt);
- Jessie Kristo (Sydney);
- Immanuel Mansour (UNSW);
- Joanne Yu (Monash).

“This is such an exciting time to be studying pharmacy and an exciting point to take on this leadership position,” Harper said.

“I am looking forward to continuing NAPSA's work advocating for pharmacy and pharmacy students across the country,” he added.

Andrew Ngeow, the Guild's WA Branch President, attended the AGM and congratulated the new committee members.

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