

Priceline Pharmacy Menai, NSW
National Store of the Year 2025

Celebrating excellence at the heart of health and beauty

Congratulations to our
Priceline Pharmacy Store
of the Year winners –
where passion meets
purpose, and care goes
beyond the counter.

We're proud of all stores
and their focus on keeping
their communities at the
heart of health and beauty.



Amanda Ward

Pharmacist
of the Year

Priceline Pharmacy
Albury, VIC



Cory Dawson

Retail Manager
of the Year

Priceline Pharmacy
Springfield Orion,
QLD

Shell Le Paige

Beauty Advisor
of the Year

Priceline Pharmacy
Lismore Square,
NNSW





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Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features three pages of news, plus a front cover from **Priceline Pharmacy**, and a full page from **WholeLife Pharmacy & Healthfoods**.

Priceline awards

PRICELINE Pharmacy congratulates the winners of its annual awards, including its National Store of the Year, Priceline Pharmacy Menai.

See the **cover page** for more.

Ready for change?

PHARMACY is changing, and consumers want more than just prescriptions - they are looking for a trusted health and wellness destination.

To find out how WholeLife Pharmacy & Healthfoods can help your pharmacy, see **p4**.

PSA Victoria excellence recognised

FIVE pharmacists have been recognised for their outstanding commitment to excellence in pharmacy practice, exceptional leadership and championing patient care at the 2025 Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) Victorian Pharmacy Awards.

The awards were presented by the outgoing PSA Victoria President Dr Amy Page on Saturday night as part of the Victoria and Tasmania Annual Therapeutic Update (ATU) in Melbourne.

PSA Victorian Pharmacist of the Year was awarded to Sara Murdock, who was recognised for her outstanding leadership in community pharmacy, with over 20 years of service.

Her implementation of accessible vaccination clinics, wellness programs, and interprofessional education initiatives has significantly contributed to public health.

Murdock is also a dedicated mentor, supporting pharmacists

and students through practical guidance and leadership, while she also advocates for health equity and supports vulnerable populations through her long-standing involvement with Rotary.

The PSA Victorian Early Career Pharmacist of the Year went to Dr Wedjan Shahin, who was recognised for her significant contributions to medication safety, pharmacist education, and digital health innovation.

As a PSA-credentialed pharmacist, Shahin has delivered Residential Medication Management Reviews supporting safe and effective medicine use for older Australians.

Awarded to the "quiet achievers" within the pharmacy profession, the PSA Victorian Pharmacist Medal went to Linda Ha for her work as an aged care pharmacist, where she has delivered meaningful improvements to the health and wellbeing of some of Victoria's most vulnerable residents.

Intern Katelyn Beattie has



demonstrated exceptional initiative, clinical insight, and leadership early in her pharmacy career, and was awarded PSA Victorian Intern Pharmacist of the Year.

Finally, the Lifetime Achievement Award went to Joe Demarte who, since qualifying as a pharmacist in 1973, has demonstrated a lifelong commitment to improving pharmacy services and advancing the profession in Victoria and nationally. **KB**

Pictured: Dr Wedjan Shahin, Linda Ha, Sara Murdock and Katelyn Beattie.

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Neurodiversity workplace survey

PEOPLE who identify as neurodivergent, have neurodivergent differences, or work in diversity and inclusion, have been invited to provide input into the development of guidance for collecting neurodiversity data.

Diversity Council Australia (DCA), in partnership with autism peak body Amaze, is conducting a survey to gain insights into collecting workplace data on neurodiversity to better understand and support the neurodivergent members of their workforce.

The feedback will inform the upcoming Neurodiversity Data at Work guide, to be launched in Sep 2025.

The guide will offer practical advice on how measuring and reporting on workforce neurodiversity respectfully, safely and accurately, and support employers to measure neuroinclusion and create positive change in their organisations.

"By co-designing questions with community, we're developing tools to build trust, improve understanding, and help workplaces take more confident, informed steps toward inclusion," said David Tonge, CEO of Amaze.

The survey opens today and can be accessed until 23 Jun. Click [HERE](#) to take the survey.

Acute injury pain surveyed



A SURVEY looking at the experience of acute pain in Australians has revealed that more than two in three Australians (69.3%) have experienced it in the last 12 months.

Conducted by healthcare company Viatris Australia and including over 2,500 adults, the survey found sport (46%), work (38%), kitchen incidents (27%) and running (25%) were among the main scenarios for injury.

The research also suggested that acute pain injuries are impacting productivity in the workplace, with over half of Australians (53%) who have experienced acute pain saying they have called in sick to work because of it.

Meanwhile, almost a quarter (24.2%) say they cannot afford to take time off work, presenting a risk that they will not access appropriate treatment.

Poor acute pain management

can lead to sub-optimal health outcomes, including progression to chronic pain, which cost the economy over \$144 billion in 2020.

Clinical Pharmacist and Australian Pain Society Immediate Past President Joyce McSwann said mischaracterisation of pain can lead to misdiagnosis and delayed treatment, underlining the importance of pairing accessible treatment options with education, so Australians know when and how they can access that treatment.

"If not appropriately treated, the acute pain that everyday Australians experience can develop into chronic pain conditions," McSwann said.

"And with the large number of Australians calling in sick due to acute pain, this underlines the need to ensure convenient and accessible treatment options to support better quality of life, protect productivity levels, and prevent unnecessary burden being placed on the Australian healthcare system," she added.

The findings were released as Viatris' Celebrex Relief (celecoxib 200 mg) became a Schedule 3 pharmacist-only medicine, the first COX-2 inhibitor to be made available without prescription in Australia.

It follows the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA)'s update of the Poisons Schedule to include celecoxib 200mg as a Schedule 3 pharmacist-only medicine in Feb last year. *KB*

Voltaren partners with City2Surf

VOLTAREN has announced that it has entered a three-year naming rights partnership with the world's largest fun run - Sydney's City2Surf.

The partnership starts this year, with the first Voltaren City2Surf on Sun 10 Aug.

Nagraj Iyer, Marketing Director at Haleon Australia and New Zealand, said the association is "a perfect fit for the brand and aligned with the brand's purpose to get Aussies back into the activities and movements they love".

"We've got some great plans in place to make the most of the event, and support all participants with their post-run aches and pains," Iyer added.


Australians spent \$1.3 billion more at pharmacies last year

What's driving the trend?

Read CommBank Health Insights



*CommBank iQ Market Monitor iQ. Health industry spending between April 2024 and March 2025.

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Dispensary Corner

PEOPLE seeking a natural weight loss alternative may be pleasantly surprised to learn that a breakfast staple might just do the trick - at least according to one TV doctor.

Dr Amir Khan, GP and resident doctor on ITV's *Good Morning Britain*, recently revealed a list of foods he believes have "natural Ozempic" qualities.

At the top of the list are eggs, which stimulate the same hunger-suppressing hormone that the popular weight loss jabs trigger.

In a video posted to his nearly 650,000 followers on Instagram, Dr Khan also recommended nuts like almonds, pistachios and walnuts, as well as olive oil and high fibre foods like oats, barley and whole wheat.

He explained that the fullness hormone, GLP-1, works by "[slowing] the rate at which the stomach empties, which keeps us fuller for longer and controls our appetite and food intake".

"It stimulates our pancreas to make insulin, which lowers our blood sugar.

"It also stops the production of another hormone called glucagon that can raise our blood sugar."

In particular, the protein-rich egg white and fibre in nuts and oats are known to stimulate the release of GLP-1 in the gut.

Oats already had their day in the sun last year when the 'Oat-Zempic' trend took over TikTok, with users crediting a DIY drink - which featured a blend of oats, water, cinnamon and lime - as a fast way to shed weight.

Priceline annual awards



PRICELINE Pharmacy Menai was awarded the Store of the Year title at the Priceline Pharmacy Awards, held at the conclusion of its three-day annual franchise conference last week.

Priceline also announced at the conference that it will offer a \$2,000 subsidy to all its pharmacists when they complete Scope of Practice training in their state, with the brand supporting its pharmacists to deliver comprehensive in-store services.

Priceline Pharmacy Menai was recognised for its outstanding commercial performance, exceptional customer service, and strong engagement with brand initiatives.

"This award is the culmination of 10 years of hard work from the entire Menai team", said Franchise Partner of the store, Quinn On.

"This achievement is the result of an enormous collective effort - I couldn't be prouder or more grateful," On added.

Wesfarmers Health Chief Customer Officer Richard Pearson (pictured) said: "The past three

days have been a fantastic opportunity to reflect on our achievements and share our vision for driving the business forward.

"With standout stores like Menai setting the standard, we're confident that the future holds great promise for our brand and store network," he added.

In addition to Store of the Year, nine other awards were presented:

- Pharmacist of the Year - Amanda Ward, Priceline Pharmacy Albury, NSW
- Retail Manager of the Year - Cory Dawson, Priceline Pharmacy Springfield Orion, Qld
- Beauty Advisor of the Year - Shell Le Paige, Priceline Pharmacy Lismore, NSW
- Pharmacy Business Leader of the Year - Nino Tripodo, SA/ NT/ Tas
- Online Achievement Award - Priceline Pharmacy The Avenues, SA
- Customer Care Award - Priceline Pharmacy Goolwa, SA
- Sister Club Award - Priceline Pharmacy Cabramatta, NSW
- Sisterhood Award - Priceline Pharmacy Lismore, NSW. KB

Wellness failing

YOUNG Australians have fared poorly in a five-year global study assessing wellness and mental health based on overall life satisfaction.

Released to coincide with Global Wellness Day today, the joint Harvard University and Global Flourishing Study polled more than 200,000 people over 23 countries on what a 'life well lived' constitutes.

Australia finished 20th with an overall 'flourishing' score of 7.02 out of 10, ahead of the UK, Türkiye and Japan only.

The study defined "flourishing" across six domains: happiness and life satisfaction, mental and physical health, meaning and purpose, character and virtue, close social relationships, and financial stability.

Results showed Australians are falling behind the global average in areas such as physical wellbeing, mental health, and life satisfaction.

"These findings are a wake-up call, particularly with our young people, as it highlights wellbeing challenges in our country," said Well Traveller founder and Australia's Global Wellness Day Ambassador, Katherine Droga.

"It shows flourishing isn't just about income or access - it's also about connection, support, and meaning."

The survey showed flourishing improves with age, highlighting how younger Australians are struggling most.

Indonesia topped the global ranking with a score of 8.47, followed by Mexico and the Philippines, with results based on strong spiritual and family ties and cultural meaning.



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