

Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features three pages of news, plus full pages from:

- Dispense Assist
- Therapeutic Guidelines

Dispensary help

DISPENSE Assist is a low-cost staffing solution with dispensary technicians available 24/7, at rates from as low as \$7.42 per hour, for services that include compounding, DAAs and any other required tasks.

See details on **page four**.

Antibiotics update

THERAPEUTIC Guidelines has published a major update of its antibiotics guidelines.

Designed by clinicians for clinicians, the update supports improved patient outcomes.

Learn more on **page five**.

New PSA leadership in Qld

BRISBANE pharmacist Hannah Knowles has been elected President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) Queensland Branch.

First elected to PSA's Queensland Branch Committee in 2020, and now stepping up from her role as Vice President of the Branch, Knowles is a leader passionate about professional growth, education, innovation and delivering better care for patients.

She has a depth of experience with the PSA, having also been an inaugural member of PSA's Hospital Pharmacy Community of Specialty Interest leadership group, alumni of PSA's Early Career Pharmacist leadership group and co-host of PSA's career-focused podcast *Pharmacy & me*.

"It's an honour and privilege to be elected by my colleagues to represent all Queensland pharmacists," Knowles said.

"I am committed to advancing pharmacist roles across Queensland by championing

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evidence-based practice, expanding clinical scope, and advocating for a workforce supported by meaningful education, research, and recognition.

"I look forward to serving and representing Queensland pharmacists in our engagement with the Queensland Government and other stakeholders on how pharmacists can be supported to better address the key challenges our community is facing with an ageing population and greater demands on our health system than ever before."

Knowles acknowledged outgoing President Shane MacDonald for his steady leadership over the past five years, during which time pharmacist practice has changed dramatically in Queensland.

She is joined by Port Douglas pharmacist James Buckley and Laidley pharmacist Emma Conway as Vice Presidents of the Queensland Branch, and other Branch Committee members. *KB*

NSW Premier to open Pharmacy Connect

THE Premier of New South Wales, Chris Minns, will attend Pharmacy Connect 2025 to address delegates as he officially opens the conference.

The Pharmacy Guild of Australia NSW Branch President, Mario Barone, said it is an honour to welcome Premier Minns to the conference this coming Sep.

"His presence highlights the growing recognition of the role pharmacists play in delivering accessible, frontline healthcare across New South Wales," Barone said.

"With the state's continued investment in pharmacist-led care, including expanded scope of practice trials, Premier Minns' engagement with the sector is both timely and appreciated," he added.

Earlybird registration ends 30 Jun - to see the Pharmacy Connect program, click **HERE**.

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Always read the label and follow the directions for use. 1. Peter RU, Richarz-Barthauer U. Br J Dermatol. 1995; 132(3):441-5. 2. Okokon EO, et al. Cochrane Database Syst Rev 2015(5):CD008138





Nominate rural health champions

RURAL Health Pro has opened nominations for the 2025 National Rural and Remote Health Awards, which recognise the contribution, innovation and dedication of remote, rural and regional health professionals and organisations.

Rural Health Pro is a social enterprise of the Rural Doctors Network, and the awards form part of a commitment to celebrating and supporting the health professionals who serve remote and rural communities, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

There are 10 award categories, and nominations can be peer, organisation, patient or self-nominated.

Nominees will have the opportunity to attend the awards in Canberra on 05 Nov.

For more info, click [HERE](#).

SA Government to fund expanded scope

SOUTH Australian Health Minister Chris Picton has announced a \$2.2 million investment over three years to drive expanding scope of practice, including support for the work of the Office of the Chief Pharmacist and financial support for 120 pharmacists to meet the additional costs of undertaking full scope training.

"We are unashamedly backing community pharmacists to undertake a greater role in our health system," Picton said.

"With additional training we are confident that skilled pharmacists can safely provide a broader range of services for the community, particularly in light of shortages of other primary care services."

The Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) applauded the announcement, with PSA SA and NT President Dr Manya Angley saying, "This is welcome investment in pharmacists operating to full and top of scope and our growing role in providing timely, accessible and

safe care to South Australians."

"As the peak professional body for all pharmacists, we're looking forward to continuing to work with the SA Government and Chief Pharmacist Naomi Burgess to give South Australians better access to care by unlocking the full potential of our state's pharmacists," Dr Angley said.

The SA Government also announced that an additional 24/7 pharmacy has been planned for Adelaide.

Expected to start operating in Aug, TerryWhite Chemmart Hallett Cove will join the three existing 24-hour pharmacies already providing non-urgent advice and care for families, workers and others who need access to healthcare outside usual working hours.

Since they began just over a year ago, more than 270,000 people have visited the 24/7 pharmacies during their extended hours, dispensing more than 105,000 scripts and taking more than 10,000



phone calls from people seeking medical advice.

TWC Hallett Cove owners Pan Boyaci, Thai Ngo and Rob Pietrantuono said the team is excited to extend their support to the community after hours.

"This is a proud moment for our pharmacy and our local community," Pietrantuono said.

"We know that health concerns don't stick to business hours, and we're ready to provide trusted care and advice whenever our patients need it." KB

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Dispensary Corner

LONDON police have turned to the public for help in their search for two suspects who fleeced nearly £60,000 (A\$125,000) worth of products from multiple pharmacies across the city.

According to the police, four people - two men and two women - stole skincare products and fragrances from a pharmacy on Wonderland Road near Southdale Road on 25 May between 5:45-5:55pm.

The group continued their crime spree an hour later, entering a pharmacy on Commissioners Road west of Wellington Road to steal more perfumes.

Roughly 30 minutes after that, a third pharmacy was hit and more fragrances were taken, police said.

In each case, one suspect stole items while the others distracted staff.

Police believe the bandits could be behind similar thefts outside of the city.

Two of the suspects were captured on CCTV, with images supplied to the public.

Anyone with information is being urged to contact the London police.



How young adults quit vapes

RESEARCHERS in the US have reported that almost one-third of young adults aged 18-24 have used vapes in the last 12 months, and among those who have tried to quit, most were unsuccessful.

The team was investigating which vaping quit methods were used by young adults in order to inform treatment development, with social support from friends and family the most common method cited.

They looked at data from a nationally representative sample of over 10,000 young adults, among whom 31% said they had vaped in the previous year.

Of the vapers, 29% said they had tried to quit in that time period, but only 20% were successful.

Social support was the most common quit method reported (30%), followed by tobacco product substitution (11%), which included nicotine pouches and cigarettes.

"Of individuals who used cigarettes as a substitution method to quit electronic nicotine products (ENPs), all had a history of smoking," the authors noted.

Less common quit methods were behavioural support (10%), smartphone or tablet apps (9%), and nicotine replacement therapy (5%), such as gum and patches.

At around 2%, the least frequently used quit method was prescription medications such as varenicline, which has shown promise for helping youth quit (*PD* 24 Apr).

"More frequent use of social support by young adults suggests this may be an important component of future cessation treatment programs," wrote the



authors in *JAMA Network Open*.

"There have been recent promising results supporting the use of a texting program and varenicline in ENP cessation, but our results suggest low uptake of these methods.

"Given the popularity of ENPs among YAs, there is a need for both evidence-based cessation treatments and improved implementation of effective treatments to help reduce ENP use," they concluded.

Read the research [HERE](#). KB

Insights for multi-store owners

THE State of the Nation - Pharmacy event series aimed at multi-store pharmacy owners was in Melbourne on Thu 29 May 2025, hosted by George Tambassis, Guild Victorian Branch President.

The event drew delegates from over 200 pharmacy stores and industry professionals who gained insights into the rapidly evolving pharmacy landscape and how to navigate this new era of opportunity and change.

The event series is a collaboration between Allfin, Lease1, Pharmacy Solutions, and Yield Advisory, with Pharmacist Support Services getting a portion of ticket sales.

"It's incredibly important for pharmacy owners, especially multi-store owners, to stay informed about changes that directly affect their businesses," Tambassis said.

"This event provided a vital platform to discuss the challenges and opportunities ahead," he added.

The next events are in Brisbane on 12 Jun and Sydney on 14 Aug 2025.



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EXTENSIVE ANTIBIOTIC GUIDELINES UPDATE 2025

Designed by clinicians for clinicians

An extensive multidisciplinary update to the Antibiotic guidelines has been released.
Supporting the Australian healthcare community to deliver improved patient outcomes.

The major update includes:

- 100+** Clinical expert contributors
- 200+** Clinical topics
- 1400+** Drug recommendations
- NEW** | Calculators
| Images and diagrams
| Patient information

