



Optifresh®
Soothing relief from dry eyes.

Available from
API, Symbion, Sigma & CH2
Always read the label and follow directions for use.

Optifresh Plus
Optifresh Tears
Optifresh eye gel

NOW BACK IN STOCK

Petrus

Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features four pages of news, including our **Beauty & Wellness** feature, and a full page from **Chemsave**.

Do the maths

ALIGNING with Chemsave delivers bottom-line benefits for your pharmacy.

If you are looking to buy a pharmacy, consider joining Chemsave's Wealth 100 Club - membership is free.

Learn more on **page five**.

GPs call for release of Qld drug report

THE Royal Australian College of GPs (RACGP) has called on the Qld Govt to publicly release an independent, taxpayer-funded evaluation of the state's drug testing sites.

The Qld Govt controversially closed the drug testing service two months ago (*PD* 09 Apr), and has refused to confirm whether it will release the findings of the evaluation, which was commissioned by the former Labor Government at a cost of \$453,286.

"If the government was confident its decision to close the drug testing sites was based on the best available evidence, this evaluation would be made public," said RACGP Queensland Chair, Dr Cathryn Hester.

Wesfarmers expands



WESFARMERS Health has acquired discount chemist group Pharmacy 4 Less, with the acquisition taking effect yesterday.

The Pharmacy 4 Less group supports 53 franchised community pharmacies under the 'Pharmacy 4 Less' brand, and 12 franchised community pharmacies under the 'Your Chemist Shop' brand, with the majority of stores located in Victoria and New South Wales.

The group, which entered into voluntary administration on 29 Apr 2025, also provides services to around 30 independent pharmacies.

API, Wesfarmers Health's pharmacy wholesale business, services the Pharmacy 4 Less group, with the acquisition underpinning the continuation of this long-standing relationship.

Wesfarmers Health Chief Customer Officer, Richard Pearson, said the acquisition would consolidate wholesale volumes within the division while also supporting Pharmacy 4 Less franchise pharmacy owners, the

communities they serve, and the staff they employ.

"Wesfarmers Health recognises the uncertainty these franchise partners have experienced over the past months and we are pleased to acquire the business," Pearson said.

"With more stable financial support, we see good growth potential for Pharmacy 4 Less's brands and stores and look forward to working with the franchise partners." *KB*

Montu launches prescriber platform

AUSTRALIAN healthtech company Montu has announced the launch of a new clinician-first platform that will equip health professionals with the tools and information they need to prescribe medical cannabis with greater confidence.

The clinician-only portal offers tools designed to help simplify prescribing and help practitioners to easily explore treatment options.

Learn more **HERE**.

EOFY offer for PAs

Pharmacy assistants registering for Pharmacy Connect 2025 before 30 Jun can receive 50% off full price.

This is in addition to the earlybird pricing that already provides a \$100 discount.

Registration details are **HERE**.



Pharmacy Business Sales
Sue Raven
OVER 25 YEARS EXPERIENCE
0407 759 736
sue.raven@srpbs.com.au
www.srpbs.com.au

LISTING NUMBER: #SR73258

North Coast of NSW

Well Established Non PBS Pharmacy specialising in dispensing medical cannabis

- Sales Projected FY 25 \$3,201,520
- Trading 43 hrs per week
- Adjusted Net Profit \$492,000
- Low overheads
- Located in a desirable coastal town

CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENT

FOR SALE

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.



**ARE YOU A HEALTH PROFESSIONAL?
ARE YOUR DETAILS CORRECT?**

As a health professional, did you receive today's special edition?
Click here to change your subscription details via email.



Pharmacy Student of the Year finalists

THE Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) has announced the finalists for its annual Pharmacy Student of the Year (PSOTY) competition, which will be contested at PSA's national conference, PSA25, in Aug.

Finalists will be presented with a real-life clinical situation, where a patient will present with symptoms or a specific medicine or product request.

Using their clinical knowledge and communication skills to identify the most appropriate management, students must tailor their response to provide the patient-centred advice.

A judging panel will assess all finalists before selecting the national winner to be announced at PSA25's Gala Dinner.

The finalists are:

- Cooper Ruthven, University of Technology Sydney
- Arshdeep Kohli, RMIT University
- Maxime Watts, Curtin University
- Seren Horan, James Cook University
- Cooper Heerey, University of Tasmania
- Tayler Holdman, University of Canberra
- Sharon Shaji, University of SA
- Alannah Pilcher, Charles Darwin University.

Finalists will be joined by 2025 NAPSA Pharmacy Student of the Year Wildcard Finalist, Brielle Geard from the University of Tasmania.

Learn more about PSOTY [HERE](#).

Vitamin B6 class action

MELBOURNE-BASED law firm Polaris Lawyers is investigating a potential class action on behalf of anyone who has suffered injuries after taking Blackmores vitamin supplements containing higher than recommended levels of vitamin B6.

Polaris Lawyers represents Dominic Noonan-O'Keeffe as the lead plaintiff in a potential class action against Blackmores.

In May 2023, Noonan-O'Keeffe purchased and started taking Blackmores vitamin supplements to maintain his health, and by Aug was experiencing significant fatigue, headaches, muscle spasms, neuralgia, heart palpitations, visual disturbances and loss of sensation across his body.

Medical specialists identified neuropathy due to excessive vitamin B6 levels.

"We are aware of reports that excessive levels of B6 in over-the-counter supplements may have caused lasting injuries to hundreds of Australians," said Polaris Founder and Director Nick Mann, referring to the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) database of adverse event notifications.

"Consumers of supplements have a right to be confident that the product they purchase will be safe for their use," he said, pointing to the sale of supplements containing levels of vitamin B6 that are well above the recommended daily intake.

"The fact that potentially harmful supplements have been approved for sale by the regulator does not alter the legal obligations of manufacturers to ensure that the products are safe for consumers."

Mann told **Pharmacy Daily** that the firm had received around 100 responses to its call for interested parties, with a number of different brands named.

The TGA has proposed scheduling supplements containing between 5mg and 200mg of B6 (pyridoxine, pyridoxal or pyridoxamine) as S3 Pharmacist-Only Medicines.

It noted that people are obtaining B6 from multiple sources, and while products containing a daily

dose of more than 10mg required a warning about peripheral neuropathy, consumers do not always read the warning.

An S3 scheduling for vitamin B6 will enable safeguards through pharmacist oversight.

A TGA spokesperson told **Pharmacy Daily** that the interim decision following the application to amend the Poisons Standard entry of vitamin B6 (pyridoxine, pyridoxal or pyridoxamine) is "nearing completion and is expected to be released soon".

"Any steps to better regulate vitamin B6 in pharmacies would be welcomed," Mann told **Pharmacy Daily**.

"However, it should have been on the TGA's radar for a long time - it may not be too little, but for people like Dominic, it is too late." **KB**



Transform your Pharmacy

Dream It | Design It | Make It Happen

We design spaces which reflect the way you work, and create efficiencies throughout your pharmacy with particular emphasis on dispensary operations.

pharmacium.com.au
+613 9429 9244

PHARMACIUM



find out how we can help

Medview

There's now a smarter way.



Digital Basket Technology

Smart baskets.
Faster scripts.
Happier customers.

Find out more

Arrotex Xobet topical CS now PBS-listed

ARROTEX Pharmaceuticals has launched topical corticosteroid Xobet (clobetasol propionate 0.05%), which was recently listed on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS).

The treatment is the most potent topical corticosteroid listed on the PBS, and provides a first-line treatment option for atopic dermatitis, psoriasis, lichen sclerosus/planus, alopecia areata, and discoid lupus erythematosus.

"We are proud to bring Xobet to every pharmacy across Australia, making this essential treatment for resistant or severe inflammatory corticosteroid-responsive dermatoses more accessible and affordable for patients," said Arrotex's General Manager of Innovation Monique Jonson.

"With Xobet now PBS-listed, Australians can access a high-quality, consistent product at a fraction of previous costs, ensuring equitable care at every community and hospital pharmacy nationwide," she said.

Editor's Choice: DB Cosmetics unveils luxe-for-less winter fragrances

AFFORDABLE Australian beauty brand DB Cosmetics has released a new collection of winter fragrances, taking inspiration from luxury cult labels.

Each of the six new perfumes cost \$12.99 and are vegan and cruelty-free.

There's Painted Lady, DB's version of Frederic Malle's \$611 Portrait of a Lady; Fancy, a tribute to Fenty's zesty fragrance; and Burning Love, a new take on Kyalai's Burning Cherry.

Meanwhile, Fluidite is a warm vanilla and nutmeg scent similar to Gentle Fluidity Gold from Maison Francis Kurkdjian and Chaos is a new take on Robert Piguet's Fracas.



"We wanted to show that smelling incredible doesn't have to cost a fortune," said Amanda Connors, Global CMO at Total Beauty Network.

"Our new fragrance range is luxurious, long-lasting and crafted with care...It's everything you'd expect from a high-end perfume, without the high-end price."

New Hada Labo range



JAPANESE cult skincare brand Hada Labo Tokyo has released its new Lift range, designed to target deep wrinkles, improve elasticity and plump the skin.

Featured in the range are the 'No Wrinkles' Lotion Super 3D Hydrator to target dullness (\$39.95); 3D Lifting Serum Intensive Skin Age-Repair (\$39.95) to address dehydration; and Anti-Wrinkle Rebuilding Day and Night Cream (\$39.95) for deep nourishment.

Ingredients include a blend of four types of hyaluronic acid, each calibrated by molecular weight to deeply penetrate and hydrate each layer of skin.

Its hero ingredients include 3D hyaluronic acid and soy isoflavones, which are plant-based compounds offering oestrogen-like benefits to the skin.

Well-loved in Japan for its affordable yet effective products, Hada Labo Tokyo claims to sell a bottle of its hyaluronic acid lotion every three seconds.

Hada Labo is now available at Priceline pharmacies.

Smooth hair in seconds

HAIRCARE brand John Frieda has released a new post-shampoo rinse called the Silk Waters range, which aims to reduce breakage and split ends, leaving smooth, shiny hair.

The new range includes the John Frieda Miraculous Recovery Silk Drench Smoothing Water (RRP \$20.99) and the Blonde Gold Spun Silk Illuminating Water (RRP \$20.99)

Both are now available at Chemist Warehouse and Priceline.



Centrum scoops up win at Canstar Blue Awards



CENTRUM has been named Australia's favourite multivitamin in Canstar Blue's 2025 'Most Satisfied Customers Awards'.

The brand was given five-star ratings for overall satisfaction - the

only brand in the multivitamin category to receive the score across all criteria, including packaging, effectiveness, value for money and ease of use.

Centrum's line-up of multivitamins includes Centrum Advance which supports energy, immunity, muscle function and healthy skin; Centrum for Women, which also offers immunity and bone health; and Centrum for Men, which includes vitamin D for muscle function and vitamin B6 and folic acid for heart health.

Canstar Blue's spokesperson, Eden Radford, congratulated Centrum.

"Centrum's award, based on consumer ratings across the multivitamin category, is truly a testament to the satisfaction it delivers to its customers," she said.

WINNER

BEST LIP BALM

CARMEX® CLASSIC JAR

For current winter deals speak to your Pharmabroker sales rep



carmex.com.au



Dispensary Corner

COULD lighting be key to getting gamblers to part with their money?

Research conducted by Flinders University suggests that circadian photoreception, the body's non-visual response to light, could be playing an unexpected role in shaping risky gambling behaviour.

The study looked at participants' economic decisions using a series of casino scenarios under blue-enriched and blue-depleted light to assess the impact of light wavelengths on risk preferences.

"We found that light with more blue wavelengths in it, which is frequently emitted by LED screens and casino lighting, could subtly influence how people perceive losses and gains," says lead author, Dr Alicia Lander.

In short, they found that participants exposed to blue-enriched light became less sensitive to losses, making them more likely to choose risky financial options over safer alternatives.

Research suggests people feel more strongly about losing \$100 than winning \$100.

"But under bright, blue-heavy light such as that seen in casino machines, the \$100 loss didn't appear to feel as bad, so people were more willing to take the risk," said Dr Lander.

"It is possible that simply dimming the 'blue' in casino lights could help promote safer gambling behaviours," she suggested.

Explore hospital pathways



PHARMACY Careers Summit 2025 will feature a dedicated panel discussion: 'The Hospital Pharmacy Journey - Real experiences from those who have walked the path', presented by global healthcare technology company, Omnicell.

The discussion at PCS25 on 04 Jul will centre around how technology and teamwork are shaping the future of hospital pharmacy, with a range of professionals involved in the panel.

The session will be moderated by James Ash, Clinical Solutions Consultant for Omnicell and a registered pharmacist with nearly 20 years of experience across community and hospital pharmacy.

David Luo, Network Pharmacy Applications Manager for the Sydney Children's Hospitals Network, and Susan Trevillian, Director of Pharmacy at Northeast Health Wangaratta, will join Ash for a discussion that aims to inspire and inform those considering a future in hospital pharmacy.

"Omnicell is proud to return as a sponsor of the Pharmacy Careers Summit for another year, reaffirming its commitment to supporting the career growth of pharmacy students, interns and early career pharmacists," said a



spokesperson for the company.

Omnicell provides automated solutions for medication management across hospitals, pharmacies and healthcare settings that are designed to enhance medication adherence, minimise errors, and optimise operational efficiency.

Its aim is to improve patient outcomes and enable pharmacists to focus more on clinical care.

"Pharmacists play a critical role in ensuring medication safety and efficiency, and Omnicell recognises this and is proud to support their work", said the spokesperson.

Learn more about PCS25 [HERE](#). KB

Dr Sandro Demaio to feature at MM2025

ADVANCED Pharmacy Australia (AdPha) has announced its third and final keynote speaker for Medicines Management 2025 (MM2025), Dr Sandro Demaio.

A renowned public health expert and Director of the WHO Asia-Pacific Centre for Environment and Health (WHO ACE), Dr Demaio has experience spanning the frontline and boardroom, as well as the small screen as co-host of international Netflix series *Ask the Doctor*.

Thanks to this wealth of experience, Dr Demaio brings together science, strategy, and global collaboration to build healthier, more resilient communities.

"Sandro's expertise in science, systems thinking, and policy innovation will make an invaluable contribution to MM2025," said AdPha President Tom Simpson.

Dr Demaio's fellow keynote speakers are Olympian and medical doctor Dr Jana Pittman, and leading neuroscientist Professor Joel Pearson.

PHARMACY CONNECT

Don't miss out on savings!
Early Bird ends 30 June.

[BOOK NOW](#)

3-5 SEPT 2025 | HYATT REGENCY SYDNEY
Now featuring a pharmacy assistant stream!

Do The Math(s)!

Chemsave

10 New Members
in the last 20 weeks

= 1 New Member
every 2 weeks!



YOUR BIG SAVINGS CHEMIST

 **WEALTH
100CLUB**

LOOKING TO BUY
A PHARMACY?

**0% DEPOSIT
100% OWNERSHIP**

**BECOME A FREE
CLUB MEMBER TODAY**

A CHEMSAVE
INITIATIVE



VIC, SA, WA, TAS & NT

Michael Story
0425 820 160
michaelstory@chemsave.com.au



NSW, QLD & ACT

Simon Metcalfe
0499 208 182
simonmetcalfe@chemsave.com.au