

4 ways to help build strong bones



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## Today's issue of PD

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

- Dermal Therapy
- Pharmacy Connect
- Direct Chemist Outlet

## Soothes the scalp

**DERMAL** Therapy's Scalp Relief range provides a two-step solution to help soothe a dry, itchy or sensitive scalp. Containing colloidal oatmeal and Canadian willowbark, with no soap or SLS, the products relieve within minutes. Learn more on **page four**.

## Earlybird closing

**EARLYBIRD** discounts for Pharmacy Connect close 30 Jun, so register now to save up to \$100 on registration. See **page five** for details.

# AdPha welcomes WA health boost

**ADVANCED** Pharmacy Australia (AdPha) has welcomed the WA Government's \$829 million boost to public hospital funding as part of the record \$1.4 billion health investment in the 2025-26 WA Budget, but warned that infrastructure alone is not enough. With pharmacists and technicians essential to multidisciplinary care teams, AdPha President Tom Simpson (**pictured**) said the Government's additional \$3.2 billion in health infrastructure over four years must be matched with workforce investment if real improvements in care are to be delivered.

"More hospital beds are only effective if there are enough people to staff them - without more doctors, nurses and pharmacists, we risk stretching the system even further," he said.

AdPha also welcomed the budget's \$1.3 million for the Enhanced Access Community Pharmacy Pilot (**PD** 20 Jun) but said public hospitals



must now catch up - especially in rolling out collaborative prescribing models like Pharmacist Partnered Medication Prescribing (PPMP).

"The evidence is clear - PPMP improves safety, reduces hospital stays, and frees up time for doctors and nurses," Simpson said.

"It's ten times safer for patients and cuts length of stay by 10%.

"If the Government is serious about reducing ramping and boosting system efficiency, a statewide rollout of PPMP must be part of the strategy.

"It's cost-effective, scalable, and

already proven."

Simpson also welcomed the \$75 million committed to the Stage 1 rollout of the Electronic Medical Record (EMR) program, but warned that its success hinges on the early involvement of pharmacists.

"Digital transformation is only as strong as its foundation, and if pharmacists aren't at the table from day one, we risk building a system that doesn't work for medicines - the most-used healthcare intervention," he said.

"Pharmacy informatics expertise ensures EMRs are safe, interoperable and clinically usable, especially when it comes to medicines management." **KB**

## Pharmacists first

**DIRECT** Chemist Outlet (DCO) puts pharmacy owners first and delivers what matters. Learn more about what DCO can offer on **page six**.

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Reference: 1. <https://compliance.health.gov.au/artg/search=melatonin> cited 09/05/2025.

## TGA acts on unlawful med cannabis ads

**THE** Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has commenced proceedings in the Federal Court of Australia against Atlas, Mamamia, News Life Media and Straight Up PR over alleged unlawful advertising of medicinal cannabis.

The TGA alleges that Atlas unlawfully advertised medicinal cannabis on its website and social media pages, including via a range of euphemisms, such as 'plant medicine'.

The Atlas website also allegedly included several restricted and prohibited representations promoting the use of medicinal cannabis for the treatment of serious diseases, conditions or disorders, which is not permitted unless approval is given by the TGA.

Meanwhile, Mamamia and News Life, on its website 'Body + Soul', allegedly published online articles that unlawfully advertised medicinal cannabis, following a public relations campaign by Atlas.

The articles allegedly included several restricted and prohibited representations.

The TGA alleges that the articles also included testimonials and endorsements from individuals who were prohibited from giving them by the Therapeutic Goods Advertising Code, including a nurse in Mamamia's article and a doctor in News Life's article.

Prof Anthony Lawler, Deputy Secretary of the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing and head of the TGA, noted that the three parties had been warned on multiple occasions in relation to the alleged unlawful advertising of therapeutic goods.

The TGA is seeking declarations and pecuniary penalties against all involved, including Atlas director Dr Shimal Jobanputra.

## Breakthrough for type 2



**INTERNATIONAL** research into the impacts of a first-of-its-kind GLP-1 pill were revealed this weekend in the *New England Journal of Medicine* and at the American Diabetes Association's annual conference in Chicago.

The tablet, known as orforglipron, is taken orally once daily by patients with poorly controlled type 2 diabetes, and works to mimic GLP-1, a natural hormone which plays a crucial role in regulating blood sugar and appetite.

The study compared the efficacy and safety of Eli Lilly's GLP-1 agonist with placebo in more than 500 adults living with type 2 diabetes whose blood glucose levels were inadequately controlled with diet and exercise alone.

The pill became the first oral small molecule (non-peptide) GLP-1 agonist, taken without food and water restrictions, to successfully complete a Phase 3 trial.

Eli Lilly intends to share the findings from the study with the Therapeutic Goods Administration to make it available for eligible Australians with type 2 diabetes.

The company is also conducting additional research into the role of orforglipron may play in the management of type 2 diabetes that is inadequately controlled with other therapies, as well as in the treatment of obesity and other metabolic conditions.

"For over 100 years, Lilly has been at the forefront of diabetes innovation and care to support the health and wellbeing of people with diabetes," Eli Lilly General Manager Tori Brown declared.

"These clinically meaningful findings will accelerate the momentum generated by the research and real-world use of injectable medicines that activate key hormones to regulate blood sugar and appetite," she added. *MS*

## Help shape APP26

**PHARMACISTS** could win a \$1,000 gift card when they fill out a quick feedback survey to help shape APP2026.

The questionnaire will take between three to five minutes to complete, with responses used to help make Australia's largest pharmacy conference and trade exhibition even bigger and better next year.

As a thank you, respondents will have the chance to win one of two \$1,000 Visa gift cards - complete the survey **HERE** by Fri 18 Jul.

Winners will be drawn and notified on Mon 21 Jul.

APP2026 will take place from 12-14 March at the Gold Coast Convention & Exhibition Centre - find out more **HERE**.



## 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.

## New gateway to digital health education

**THE** Digital Health Cooperative Research Centre (DHCRC) has launched the Australian Digital Health Course Directory, a new platform designed to help individuals navigate the landscape of digital health education across Australian universities.

The new platform allows healthcare professionals, students, executives and technology leaders to easily search and compare courses from leading Australian universities, and identify programs that suit their career goals.

"This new platform is a significant step forward in building a skilled and confident digital health workforce across Australia," said Professor Clair Sullivan, Inaugural Council Chair and Director of the Queensland Digital Health Centre at the University of Queensland.

"By providing clear pathways for education and professional development, we can better equip our healthcare system to harness innovative technologies and improve patient outcomes."

Access the directory **HERE**.





## Dispensary Corner

**FORGET** going to a psychic, it turns out a simple 30-second fitness test can tell you how long you will live.

A recent study in the *European Journal of Preventive Cardiology* found that the better your ability to sit and stand, the less likely you will die in the next 10 years.

Researchers looked at how well 4,282 men and women aged between 46-75 could go from a standing position to sitting on the floor before standing back up again, without using their hands, knees, other people or furniture.

Participants were given a final score between 0 to 10 based on their ability to sit and stand.

According to the results, middle-aged and older people who needed no support to sit or stand were six times less likely to die of heart disease and cardiovascular conditions over the next decade.

A perfect score of 10 meant a death rate of just 3.7%, while nearly half of the participants with a score of zero died during the follow-up period of 10 years.

## Sandoz, CSL partner on antibiotic

**SANDOZ** has announced that it has entered into a distribution agreement with CSL Seqirus to distribute Benpen (benzylpenicillin sodium), a vital antibiotic used in the treatment of a broad range of serious bacterial infections.

The agreement takes effect from today, and aims to enhance patient access to the essential antibiotic and continue its reliable supply across Australia.

A global leader in generic and biosimilar medicines, Sandoz has doubled its global manufacturing capacity since 2021, and is now producing up to 240 million packs of antibiotics annually, significantly improving access to critical medicines worldwide.

Earlier this year, Sandoz reinforced its commitment to a sustainable supply of life-saving antibiotics with a €50 million (A\$89 million) investment to expand its Kundl, Austria, facility.

"Antibiotics are the fifth-most prescribed drug type in Australia, underscoring the importance of access to critical medicines like Benpen," said Clint Holland, Sandoz GM for Australia and NZ.

"Our continued investment in our global manufacturing capacity and the expansion of our Kundl facility



demonstrates our unwavering commitment to ensuring a sustainable, reliable supply of these life-saving medicines for patients around the world," Holland said.

CSL Seqirus' Danielle Dowell, Executive Director ANZ Commercial Operations, noted that the agreement underscores both companies' dedication to ensuring the continued availability of essential medicines to Australian patients and healthcare providers.

"In that time, many Australians have been treated with this potentially lifesaving antibiotic.

"We are pleased to be partnering with Sandoz to continue this tradition of supporting clinicians as they improve health outcomes for people experiencing serious conditions," Dowell said.

Benpen is indicated for treating infections caused by benzylpenicillin sensitive organisms, including *Streptococcus pyogenes* and most other Gram-positive organisms. KB

## Hear us out

**LEADING** deafblind organisations are calling for a standardised level of care, among growing fears for patient safety and wellbeing.

Vision Australia, Deafblind Australia, Deafblind Victoria, Able Australia, Charge Syndrome Australasia, and Usher Kids are advocating for hospitals, allied health workers, and medical practitioners to implement systematic practices when treating deafblind patients.

According to Able Australia Chief Executive Officer Lynette McKeown, the complex communication needs of deafblind people are often ignored by healthcare professionals when providing care and treatment.

Today begins Deafblind Awareness week in Australia.

"The nature of deafblindness often leads to the person receiving fragmented information, not being heard, nor understood," she said.

"This is because many healthcare settings, particularly hospitals, are not set up to provide the necessary support for them."

Check out the latest in

# Beauty & Wellness

Every Thursday in *Pharmacy Daily*



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- ✓ 2% Colloidal Oatmeal to soothe & moisturise the scalp
- ✓ 2% Urea to reduce flaking

## STEP 2

- ✓ Relieves dry & itchy scalp in minutes\*
- ✓ 2% Colloidal Oatmeal to soothe & moisturise the scalp
- ✓ 1% Canadian Willowherb to calm irritation
- ✓ 0.6% Menthol for cooling & soothing



\*Data on file

Find out more about Dermal Therapy's Scalp Relief Range here!

[CLICK HERE](#)



# Early bird closes next week!

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