

Today's issue of PD

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

- Chemsave
- Therapeutic Guidelines
- Direct Chemist Outlet

Be part of Wealth

THOSE who are looking to own a pharmacy are invited to join Chemsave's Wealth 100 Club for free today.

Learn more about the initiative on **page four**.

New guidelines

THERAPEUTIC Guidelines has launched newly updated antibiotic guidelines to support the Australian healthcare community and deliver improved patient outcomes.

The update includes over 1,400 drug recommendations - see **page five**.

TerryWhite Masterclass inspires pharmacists

TERRYWHITE Chemmart (TWC) has kicked off Masterclass, its national pharmacist education program (**PD** 10 Jan), bringing together more than 600 pharmacists and pharmacy professionals in Adelaide.

The event is designed to equip pharmacists to practice at full scope, lead with confidence, and drive improved health outcomes across Australia.

The three-day program will focus on critical topics such as women's health (including contraception, endometriosis, breast cancer treatment and differential diagnosis for vaginal discharge), men's urological health, weight management, and the latest in vaccination hesitancy research and digital health innovation.

Attendees will also participate in a dedicated stream to learn the practical steps toward pharmacist prescribing, as the role of pharmacists in primary care continues to expand.




The program is part of a wider, year-round approach to pharmacist development across the TerryWhite Chemmart network.

"Masterclass is a key pillar in how TerryWhite Chemmart pharmacists, grow clinically and lead in their businesses and communities," said Nick Munroe, Executive General Manager at TWC (**pictured** giving an opening speech on the first day of the event).

"It's about creating a network of pharmacists who are confident operating at their full scope and delivering care that goes beyond

the dispensary."

The Masterclass, which began on Mon, will wrap up tomorrow, concluding with the presentation of the 2025 TerryWhite Chemmart Pharmacist of the Year Awards. *JM*

Pharmacists first

DIRECT Chemist Outlet (DCO) puts pharmacy owners first and delivers what matters.

If you are ready to escape corporate control, learn more about what DCO can offer on **page six**.



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CF drug on PBS

MORE Australians living with cystic fibrosis (CF) can now access subsidised treatment, with Vertex Pharmaceuticals announcing an expanded reimbursement agreement for its CF treatment, TRIKAFTA® (elixacaftor/tezacaftor/ivacaftor and ivacaftor).

From 01 Jul, the drug will be funded on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) for people with CF aged two years and older with at least one responsive CFTR mutation, including many ultra-rare mutations previously without a funded treatment option.

The announcement means around 45 Australians will, for the first time, gain access to a CFTR modulator, which is a treatment that addresses the underlying cause of CF rather than just managing symptoms.

These people were previously unable to access any modulator treatment.

"Vertex has been committed to the cystic fibrosis community for more than 20 years," said Vertex Pharmaceuticals Country Manager ANZ, Sabrina Barbic (pictured).

"Our goal has always been to ensure that all those who can benefit from our medicines get access as quickly as possible, no matter their age or genotype.

"This expanded PBS listing, which enables funded access to Trikafta for additional mutations, many of them ultra-rare, is testament to this," Barbic added.

Australia's new pharmacy stars

THE National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO) has announced the recipients of the 2025 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Pharmacy Scholarship.

Delivered in partnership with Sanofi Australia, the scholarship program is designed to support the next generation of First Nations pharmacists by helping to reduce financial barriers, increase representation in the workforce, and foster culturally safe care pathways for communities.

The 2025 scholarship recipients are Dean Webber, Isaac Burgoyne (pictured), James Sowter, Zoe Forest, and Heidi Robinson.

The students were chosen by a selection panel, based on their commitment to their studies and their ambition to improve community health outcomes as future pharmacy leaders.

"These inspiring students are not just the future of pharmacy; they are the future of culturally responsive healthcare in this country," said Dr Dawn Casey, Deputy CEO of NACCHO.

"At NACCHO, we are committed to fostering the next generation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander pharmacists who will play a vital role in improving health equity



and strengthening care in our communities.

"Congratulations to Isaac, Heidi, Zoe, James and Dean."

"Representation in healthcare is fundamental to achieving true health equity," said Liz Selby, Country Lead at Sanofi.

"By supporting more Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander pharmacists, NACCHO is not only diversifying the profession but ensuring culturally appropriate care reaches all communities.

"Sanofi is proud to continue our partnership with NACCHO, building pathways for the next generation of Indigenous healthcare leaders," Selby added.

The scholarship program, which is now in its fourth year, funds five students annually. *JM*

Stars slam vaping

THE Federal Government has enlisted the help of popular online influencers to spread the message of its latest anti-vaping campaign to Gen Z.

Six well-known Australians, including a singer, a two-time Paralympian, and a TikTok star, have been tasked with educating young people on the dangers of vaping.

The group, which includes Paralympic swimmer Col Pearce, have posted videos to their social media channels that aim to change the narrative on vaping.

"There is an enormous amount of misinformation and online advertising designed to lure teenagers into vaping," commented Health Minister Mark Butler.

"Together with the Albanese government's world-leading vaping reforms, education is a key step to stopping Big Tobacco companies from luring a new generation into nicotine dependency.

"It's pretty clear that teenagers don't watch TV or listen to health ministers, much as I might like them to, which is why we've partnered with influencers that young people listen to: from comedians, to sport stars and gamers, and everyone in between."

The new campaign comes after Cancer Council research found government education targeting vaping has played a part in it becoming less 'cool' or socially acceptable.

Check out the latest in

Beauty & Wellness

Every Thursday in *Pharmacy Daily*





Dispensary Corner

IN SAD news for nap-loving dads around the world, researchers have discovered that daytime dozes could raise the risk of an early death.

A new study presented at the SLEEP 2025 conference tracked the sleep habits of more than 80,000 healthy middle-aged adults, and found that an individual's chances of dying prematurely rose by up to 20% among frequent nappers.

The highest risk of death was seen in people who slept for the longest during the day, with people who nap between 11am and 1pm experiencing a 7% increased risk.

"Our study fills a gap in knowledge by showing that it's not just whether someone naps but how long, how variable, and when they nap may be meaningful indicators of future health risk," said lead researcher, Professor Chenlu Gao.

He pointed out that, while many studies have looked into the connection between sleep and mortality, they have mostly focused on nighttime sleep.

"However, napping is an important component of the 24-hour-sleep-wake cycle and may carry its own health implications," Gao explained.

"Our findings suggest that certain patterns of napping could serve as early indications of declining health."

Experts believe daytime sleepiness may result from disrupted or poor-quality nighttime rest, and could point to bigger issues like sleep disorders, dementia, or heart failure.

New Ozempic-like weight loss drugs in works

ECNOGLUTIDE, a new GLP-1 receptor agonist similar to semaglutide (Ozempic) is similarly safe and effective for weight loss, according to a study by the new drug's developer.

Ecnoglutide is a novel type of weight loss medication that may help lower blood sugar by targeting a specific receptor in the body.

The study, which was published in *The Lancet Diabetes & Endocrinology*, involved 664 overweight or obese adults without diabetes in China who were randomly assigned to receive a once-weekly dose of ecnoglutide (either 1.2, 1.8, or 2.4 mg) or a placebo over 48 weeks.

They found that those taking ecnoglutide lost on average between 9% and 13% (depending on the dose) of their body weight after 40 weeks of treatment, compared to almost no weight change in the placebo group.

The researchers also reported that 77-87% of the participants taking ecnoglutide lost at least 5% of their body weight compared to only 16% of the placebo group.

The authors said their study shows encnoglutide is safe and similarly effective to other GLP-1 receptor agonists, such as semaglutide or tirzepatide (Mounjaro), and could be used in the future for people who have not had success with the medications currently available.

MEANWHILE, Novo Nordisk, the pharma company behind Ozempic and Wegovy, has developed a new weight management medication Amycretin, with promising results in early-phase clinical trials reported in *The Lancet*.

Amycretin is designed to target two specific receptors in the body - the GLP-1 receptor and the amylin

receptor - to help control blood sugar and appetite.

Because this medicine can activate both receptors at the same time, researchers say it has the potential to better manage conditions such as overweight and obesity compared to medicines that target just one receptor.

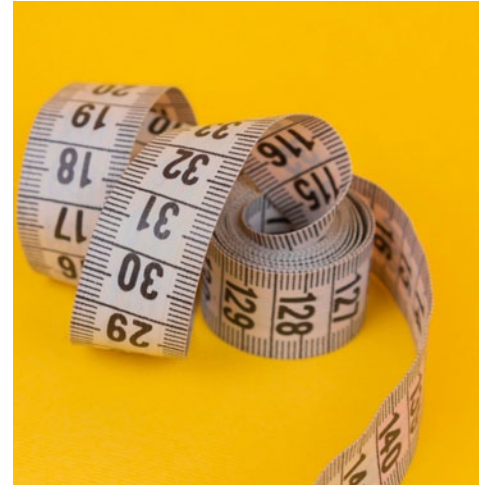
In a trial looking at weekly injections, participants who received the highest doses (up to 60mg) reported body weight reductions of up to 24.3% after 36 weeks of treatment.

However, there was a high frequency of adverse gastrointestinal effects (including nausea and vomiting), although these were mostly mild to moderate and typically resolved by the end of treatment.

A second trial investigating oral amycretin taken daily found that participants taking the highest

dose (100mg per day) lost an average of 13.1% of their body weight after 12 weeks.

Together, these studies suggest amycretin - both as a once-weekly injection and as a daily oral medication - could be a promising approach for treating overweight, obesity, and type 2 diabetes, though larger studies are needed to confirm these findings. *KB*



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EXTENSIVE ANTIBIOTIC GUIDELINES UPDATE 2025

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