

Friday 27th June 2025



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Today's issue of *PD*

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

- TerryWhite Chemmart
- Direct Chemist Outlet

Winning HEARTs

TERRYWHITE Chemmart has announced the winners of its 2025 HEART Awards.

Find out who took home the National Pharmacist of the Year title on page three, and discover the winners of the Early Career Pharmacist of the Year and Community Innovation Award by heading to page four.

Pharmacists first

DIRECT Chemist Outlet (DCO) puts pharmacy owners first and delivers what matters. Escape corporate control and learn more about what DCO can offer on page five.

Pharmacy Portal is here

PHARMX has launched its new Pharmacy Portal, a centralised platform designed to streamline operations for pharmacies



Pharmacies can easily manage active, pending, and inactive connections; stay updated with real-time connection requests and new supplier alerts; enjoy centralised access to all purchase and invoice records; set budgets and track real-time order spend

Gateway platform.

to stay on target; and much more.

"The Pharmacy Portal strengthens our core offering while laying the

foundation for the next phase of our product roadmap," explained Pharmx Chief Executive Officer, Tom Culver.

"As we continue to evolve the platform, the Portal will immediately deliver day-to-day value to our pharmacy customers through modern, user-centric technology built on our marketwide Gateway infrastructure," he added.

Pharmacy Portal is designed to deepen platform loyalty for the 99% of Australian pharmacies already connected to Pharmx, while also boosting visibility and engagement with Pharmx's 170-strong supplier network.

The launch marks the first pharmacy-facing solution under Pharmx's refreshed brand identity, following its acquisition by Canada's Jonas Group in 2023 (*PD* 24 Aug 2023).

The new platform also comes soon after the introduction of Pharmx's supplier portal (*PD* 04 Apr), which connects global and local suppliers with the entire Australian and New Zealand pharmacy market.

Learn more and set up a free account **HERE**. *JM*

Time to Connect

TIME is running out for pharmacy assistants to secure 50% off full registration for Pharmacy Connect, which takes place 03-05 Sep in Sydney.

The offer can be combined with earlybird pricing - register **HERE** by midnight AEST 30 Jun.



There's now a smarter way.





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Find out more

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

IS YOUR job killing you?

Swedish scientists set out to find the answer, and as it turns out, there are several jobs that increase your risk of developing type 2 diabetes, which can lead to deadly heart problems.

Teachers, shop workers, receptionists, NHS staff and air stewards are most likely to be diagnosed with the condition.

While these positions may seem totally different at face value, they all have in common one key factor - and that is, they involve frequent in-person or phone interactions with customers or clients.

The research team - from the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm - said the "emotional demands" and "confrontation" involved with these jobs resulted in high levels of stress, which we all know takes its toll on a person's health.

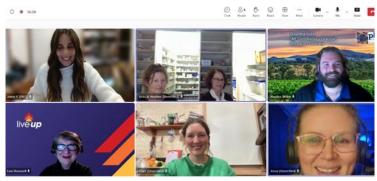
The scientists based their findings on employment and health data from three million Swedes aged 30-60, with no prior history of diabetes.

Experts compared the jobs these people had in 2005 and if they developed type 2 diabetes over the next 15 years.

They found those with high exposure to the emotional demands and confrontation of working with people were up to a quarter more likely to develop type 2 diabetes, versus those who reported low exposure.



Pharmacists for connection



SEVEN pharmacies across Western NSW are participating in a new pilot program designed to improve engagement with older individuals at risk of isolation, loneliness or chronic disease.

The Stay Well Connected initiative was created in response to data from the Western NSW Primary Health Network (PHN), which found that social isolation and loneliness significantly affect the mental and physical health of older adults (65+) in the region.

Participants will complete the Pharmacist Training Program on Loneliness, created by the founder of Pharmacy Addressing Loneliness and Social-isolation (PALS), Jenny Kirschner, launched in partnership with the PSA.

Topics include defining loneliness, its prevalence, health impacts, and identifying at-risk groups, with pharmacists to also be trained on

the use of the LiveUp directory
- funded by the Department of
Health and Aged Care - to find local
social groups and activities.

Pharmacists will implement their training by initiating conversations with older adults and using local knowledge and tools to suggest relevant community activities.

Kirschner, along with LiveUp's Lisa Maunsell and Western NSW PHN's Hayden Welsh hosted the participating pharmacists on a webinar yesterday (pictured) to discuss the program.

"It's inspiring to see pilots like Staying Well Connected involving pharmacists at the heart of social prescribing," said Kirschner.

"Pharmacists hold a unique and trusted position in their communities, making them ideally placed to help address loneliness through everyday interactions and meaningful connections." *JM*

Pop-ups matter

PHARMACEUTICAL Defence Limited (PDL) has highlighted the importance of popup warnings in protecting pharmacists and patients.

In an alert issued yesterday to its pharmacist members, the organisation is reminding pharmacists not to overlook or quickly dismiss pop-up warnings during dispensing.

"PDL pop-up warnings are integrated into most dispensing software and serve as a vital checkpoint to raise awareness of high-risk scenarios during the dispensing process," the notice read.

The alerts are based on frequently reported incidents to the PDL, with the aim of preventing future errors.

They are triggered by factors such as 'look-alike' and 'sound-alike' medicines; highrisk medicines where errors involving incorrect strength can lead to significant harm; and medicines where brand substitution is not advised.

"PDL encourages pharmacists to exercise professional accountability and treat popups as risk filters, rather than interruptions or screen clutter."

Additionally, PDL has issued an alert specifically for Queensland pharmacists.

It reminds them that, as of 01 Jul, any pharmacist delivering prescribing services under the Extended Practice Authority is required to have their name appear on the Queensland community pharmacist prescriber register.

A fact sheet can be found **HERE** explaining the registration requirements for prescribing pharmacists in Qld.

New app aims to support healthy minds

MENTAL Health Foundation Australia has launched a new mobile app designed to provide first aiders and communities in Australia and New Zealand with accessible, real-time mental health resources.

Developed in collaboration with Infosys, the Supportive Mind app offers actionable

self-care solutions, including wellness tips delivered via push notifications; personalised activity recommendations; mood tracking and insights; walking challenges; and fundraising campaigns.

The app will initially launch through pilot programs in the education, corporate, and community sectors.

Pharmacy

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EDITORIAL

Deputy Editor - Matt Lennon
Journalists - Adam Bishop, Myles
Stedman, Janie Medbury
Editor-at-large - Bruce Piper
Associate Publisher - Jo-Anne Hui-Miller

Editorial Director - Damian Francis

ADVERTISING AND MARKETING Head of Sales & Marketing Sean Harrigan

advertising@pharmacydaily.com.au

GENERAL MANAGER & PUBLISHER
Matthew Vince

ACCOUNTS

accounts@traveldaily.com.au

Suite 1, Level 2, 64 Talavera Rd Macquarie Park NSW 2113 Australia Tel: 1300 799 220 (+61 2 8007 6760)

info@pharmacydaily.com.au



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Congratulations to all of the finalists and winners for these awards. Your work across Australia is a testament to your Dedication to Care for your communities.





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