



Today's issue of *PD*

Pharmacy Daily today features five pages of industry news, including a photo page from the federal election campaign trail, plus a full page from Dermal Therapy.

Sensitive skin

DERMAL Therapy's range for sensitive skin comprises a gentle, non-irritating skin wash and a hydrating lotion.

See details on page six.

CW Rocky move?

SPECULATION is rife Chemist Warehouse will shift its Rockhampton City franchise to a bigger site, following *The Courier-Mail's* report of the purchase of the Central Queensland city's Kern Arcade by the co-founders of the chain of retail pharmacies.

Coalition vape policy risks youth uptake: PHAA

THE Public Health Association of Australia (PHAA) has expressed dismay over the Coalition's plan to raise \$3.6 billion in revenue over the next four years from vape taxation.

In its costings document released yesterday, the Coalition confirmed that in a departure from the current legislation, which allows for vapes only to be sold at pharmacies, it would allow vapes to be sold at retail stores.

In doing so, the Coalition said it would tax the products and regulate the industry.

However, a PHAA spokesperson said that the money would only be available "if all of Australia's governments dismantled the protective national regime that was legislated unanimously by federal parliament in 2024, and which has been backed by implementation by every state and territory".

"The protective regime is working - it means fewer young people are starting to vape, and are avoiding

nicotine addiction," they said.

"The most disappointing aspect of such a policy proposal is that it would resume the marketing of vaping products to Australian children and young people.

"That will fuel new waves of nicotine addiction, expose millions to serious short- and long-term harms and suffering, and add more pressure on our already over-stretched health system," said the spokesperson.

Shadow Treasurer Angus Taylor told ABC's Afternoon Briefing the policy would not normalise vaping, and denied young people would take it up, thanks to the higher price of vapes.

Rather, he said, the change would "tackle organised crime and render the vape black market obsolete".

"There's already a big vaping tax on Australians by criminal organisations, criminal gangs," Taylor said.

"We would rather have a properly regulated sector with a tax on



it from the government which benefits tax payers."

The PHAA said the proposal has no credible evidence behind it, and would "fly in the face of years of research and carefully constructed policy about the best way to protect the community, especially young people, from nicotine".

"We call on all political parties and candidates to reject any suggestion of dismantling Australia's system for protecting young people's health and wellbeing, free from nicotine addiction," they concluded. KB

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Saving lives when it counts



STAFF at Chemist Discount Centre (CDC) Fawkner in Melbourne had a salient reminder of why pharmacists' work matters when a car crashed into the building a few days ago.

As intern May Morshedy recalled: "It was a regular Sunday at Chemist Discount Centre in Fawkner, when I heard a big bang.

"I rushed outside to see what happened and my heart almost skipped a beat when I saw that a car crashed into our shop's wall, and that behind the wheel there was an unconscious elderly man," she wrote on LinkedIn.

Morshedy ran inside to raise alarm and call for an ambulance, while pharmacist owner Ahmed Ibrahim went to help the driver.

With a bystander's help, Ibrahim pulled the man out of the car.

He had no pulse, and they immediately commenced CPR.

Like many pharmacies, CDC Fawkner had an automated external defibrillator (AED) on the premises (*PD* 28 Mar).

Ibrahim raced to get it, and

quickly put it to use.

"With the CPR and a shock from our AED, after a few long minutes he was alive when paramedics arrived," Ibrahim wrote on LinkedIn.

The family of the man visited the pharmacy later with some flowers to thank them and let them know he was alive and well.

"We were told by the family that his heart stopped for four minutes, and that if it wasn't for the help he received and the AED machine, this man would've been dead," Morshedy said.

"This is not something you see every day, and moments like this remind us of how vital healthcare is," said Morshedy, praising Ibrahim and the team "for their quick thinking, their compassion, and their courage".

Reflecting on the experience, Ibrahim said, "I'm proud we were ready, and proud our pharmacy had the right training and equipment.

"This is what being a pharmacist is really about - saving lives when it counts." KB

Melbourne to host diabetes congress

DIABETES peak bodies have welcomed the opportunity to hold the International Diabetes Federation Western Pacific Region (IDF WPR) Congress 2026 in Melbourne, hailing it as a "major win for Australia's diabetes community".

The Congress is the region's most significant diabetes event and will be held in conjunction with the Australasian Diabetes Congress (ADC).

The events will be co-hosted by Diabetes Australia, Australian Diabetes Society and Australian Diabetes Educators Association.

The event is expected to attract more than 2,500 global leaders in diabetes care, research, education and advocacy to the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre over four days from Aug 18-21 next year.

Delegates will include clinicians, researchers, policy experts, educators and people living with diabetes from across the

Western Pacific, the IDF's largest and most affected region.

With 215 million adults in the Western Pacific now living with diabetes, which is the fastest growing chronic condition in Australia, the Congress will serve as a critical platform for accelerating action, shaping policy and forging new collaborations to improve outcomes for people living with or at risk of diabetes.

Globally, one person is diagnosed with diabetes every three seconds, with more than 300 people diagnosed in Australia every day, said Diabetes Australia Group CEO Justine Cain.

It costs the Australian health system around \$14.6b each year.

"Hosting this Congress sends a clear message: diabetes is a national and global health emergency, and we are committed to working with the world's best minds to deliver impact and innovation," Cain said.



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Multidisciplinary care program for endo

QENDO, a leading voice for those impacted by endometriosis, adenomyosis, PCOS and pelvic pain, has announced the launch of Manage Endo, a multidisciplinary care program designed to transform how these conditions are managed in Australia.

The initiative brings together a team of expert healthcare professionals, including gynaecologists, pain specialists, pelvic physiotherapists, dietitians, psychologists and general practitioners, to provide holistic, patient-centred care.

Manage Endo is built on the understanding that tackling the condition isn't one-size-fits-all and requires a coordinated approach to address its complex nature.

"People with endo deserve more than a standard approach to care," said QENDO CEO Jess Taylor (PD 23 Apr).

"Manage Endo is about

bridging the gaps in the current system and giving people access to a full support team, all working together to support the individual, not just the symptoms," Taylor said.

Manage Endo aims to reduce diagnostic delays, improve treatment outcomes, make multidisciplinary care accessible and affordable, and aligns with the National Endometriosis Action Plan.

Key features of the Manage Endo program include:

- personalised care plans developed by a multidisciplinary team:
- coordination between allied health and medical professionals;
- · education and tools to support self-management and informed decision-making;
- · support for regional and remote communities through telehealth integration.

Learn more about Manage Endo HERE.

All-in-one meningococcal vax

A MENINGOCOCCAL vaccine covering all five common strains of the deadly disease could soon be available in Australia.

Research demonstrating the safety and effectiveness of a combination Men ABCWY vaccine was conducted by the Wesfarmers Centre of Vaccines and Infectious Diseases, alongside national and international collaborators.

They found the combination vaccine to be highly effective in providing universal protection against the rare but serious disease.

The introduction of the Men ACWY vaccine to the National Immunisation Program (NIP) in 2018 saw a significant reduction in cases caused by the W and Y strains, and the B variant has become the most common cause of meningococcal in Australia, according to paediatrics professor Peter Richmond, Head of the Vaccine Trials Group at the Wesfarmers Centre.

"There is no single vaccine

available that covers the five common strains - A, B, C, W and Y - and while meningococcal B vaccines have been shown to be safe and effective in children and young adults, the low incidence of the disease means it hasn't been considered cost-effective for inclusion on the NIP," Professor Richmond said.

"Parents wanting full protection against all five strains of disease must purchase a separate Men B vaccine privately at a significant cost of at least \$100 per dose, with each child needing two or three doses depending on age of vaccination - something that may be out of reach for many families.

"Thanks to the success of this research, the combination vaccine was recently approved by the FDA for use in the US for older children and young adults aged 10 through to 25 years, and we hope to see it licensed in Australia in the near future," Professor Richmond said.

The research is published HERE. KB



Pharmacy Banner Group Career Express Presentations



One of the highlights of PCS25 is the Pharmacy Banner Group Career Express Presentations, a fast-paced and dynamic session where leaders from Australia's major pharmacy banner groups share the incredible career opportunities within their networks.

From internships and pharmacist positions to pharmacy ownership pathways, you'll gain valuable insight into each group's unique offering and how to map out your next career move. If you're looking to maximise your prospects and navigate your way into a pharmacy banner group, this is essential viewing.

Register by 1st May to score +100 bonus points on the PCS25 Leaderboard, and go in the draw to win one of ten Glucojel prize packs!















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Pharmacy visits on the campaign trail

IN THE lead up to the election tomorrow, pharmacists throughout the country have received plenty of visits from Members of Parliament, local candidates and Senators as they hit the campaign trail.

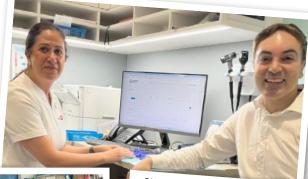
We asked you to share your pollie pics - here are some of the photos you shared.

Keen to demonstrate the expanding scope of pharmacists, point-of-care testing featured in a few visits. Meanwhile, our Federal representatives were happy to show leadership - and bravery - by rolling up

their sleeves for vaccination.



LOCAL MP Libby Coker and Federal Health Minister Mark Butler visited Priceline Torquay.



CHEMIST Discount Centre Bass Hill hosted Dr David Saliba, Member for Fairfield, with pharmacist Narmine Daniel conducting a health check as part of their POCT service.

WHILE not on the campaign trail himself, Senator David Pocock visited Capital Chemist Charnwood for his flu vaccination by pharmacist and owner Rebecca Richardson.



Spyropoulos and team were delighted to host PM Anthony Albanese and Peter Khalil MP, as well as Health & Aged Care Minister Mark





IT WAS a busy time for CDC Bass Hill, with Jihad Dib MP also fronting up for a health check.

showcased their brand-new POCT services.



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Dispensary Corner

TRAVEL expert Jessie Chambers from Global Work and Travel has lifted the lid on some untold health-related secrets of flying and cabin crew training.

If you hear crew uttering the words 'code brown', it is subtle slang used to describe a situation that is exactly what it sounds like - and it isn't pretty.

Similarly, 'air pocket' means there is a particularly flatulent passenger on board unable to, or choosing not to, contain it.

Chambers urges travellers to avoid fizzy drinks, legumes, onions, and high-fibre foods before flying, as the lower pressure causes gases in your digestive system to expand by up to 30% - and that gas has to go somewhere.

Finally, we all know how technologically advanced planes are, but who knew the loo was one of the most advanced parts?

The vacuum system used to suck down contents is so powerful, it can actually leave a sore, red mark on your rear if you're still sitting on the seat when the button is pressed.

Advocating for ADHD

ADHD Support Pharmacist founder Susan Nguyen (pictured) is passionate about offering compassionate care for individuals living with the disorder and shared her insights in a recent episode of Raven Recruitment's Your Pharmacy Career podcast.

In her service, Nguyen aims to provide tailored consultations and educational resources for ADHD patients and caregivers.

"There is a gap in this space and if anything, it's a condition that has a lot of stigma," Nguyen told podcast host Krysti-Lee Patterson.

"There's also not much known about it."

ADHD Support Pharmacist is particularly close to Nguyen's heart, as she also lives with ADHD.

One of the reasons why she launched the consultancy was due to a lack of counselling services around medication.

"There's so much stigma around stimulants, we think they're habitforming medication," she said.

"When we hand it out, it's met with suspicion. It's demoralising."

There needs to be better education around the disorder and pharmacists need to be comfortable treating it in the same way that they treat diabetes for



example, she added.

"Now that I know so much more about ADHD, people try so hard and the last thing they need is that judgement from a healthcare professional who is meant to be there for them," said Nguyen, who also co-owns Carmen Drive Community Pharmacy.

In addition, Nguyen talked about the importance of creating inclusive, supportive workplaces, particularly for those employees who are neurodivergent.

"If you give them the support and create the right environment for them, they will thrive, they will be superstars," she said.

As well as running her own pharmacy and the ADHD service, Nguyen also runs consultation service Travel Healthy.

Click **HERE** for the full interview.

PRIME pharma awards open

ENTRIES have now opened for the 2025 Pharmaceutical Research Innovation and Marketing Excellence (PRIME) Awards, which celebrate the work and achievements of the pharmacy and life science sector in the past 18 months.

Presented by Aus Doc, the winners will be named at a gala event on 06 Nov at the Sofitel Sydney Wentworth in the Sydney CBD.

Eighteen categories are now open for submissions, each to be judged by an esteemed panel of industry leaders.

Categories include Best Public Health Initiative; Best In-field Customer Solution for both Individuals and Teams and Pharma Company of the Year as voted by GPs.

The evening will also recognise Excellence in Education, Patient and Customer Support; Creativity in Communication; Best Use of Data and Insights, and more.

There are also sponsorship opportunities available to get your brand seen on the night.

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