

Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features four pages of news, including our **Beauty & Wellness** feature, plus full pages from:

- Chemsave
- Therapeutic Guidelines
- Pharmacy Connect

Do the maths

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

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More details on **page five**.

Antibiotics update

THERAPEUTIC Guidelines has published a major update of its antibiotics guidelines for clinicians to support improved patient outcomes.

Learn more on **page six**.

Game plan for pandemics

THE Australian Government and Advanced Pharmacy Australia (AdPha) have broadly welcomed and endorsed the World Health Organization's (WHO) new Pandemic Agreement, which lays out a coordinated global response against future outbreaks.

The framework follows three years of negotiations and work to identify and close gaps and inequities which emerged as part of the WHO's overall response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Adopted at the WHO's 78th World Health Assembly, the agreement will boost collaboration to ensure a stronger and more equitable response to a future outbreak.

"The Agreement is a victory for public health, science and multilateral action," said WHO Director-General, Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus.

"It will ensure we, collectively, can better protect the world from future pandemic threats.

"It is also a recognition by the international community that our

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citizens, societies and economies must not be left vulnerable to again suffer losses like those endured during COVID-19."

Australian Foreign Minister Penny Wong and Health Minister Mark Butler said the framework is an important step forward.

"The next pandemic is not a matter of 'if', but 'when'," Minister Butler said.

"We have a collective responsibility to protect public health in all of our countries."

AdPha said the framework will bolster Australia's ability to prevent, prepare for and respond rapidly, saving lives and safeguarding the economy.

"This agreement comes at a crucial time," said AdPha President, Tom Simpson (**pictured left**), who was in Geneva as part of the International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) delegation.

"We now have the opportunity to reflect on the lessons from COVID-19 and embed them into how we prepare for the future."

Simpson added that hospital pharmacists faced the pandemic head on and worked tirelessly to ensure patients had access to critical care.

The formal WHO agreement is now set to be signed next year. *ML*

Expand your network

TURN inspiration into action at Pharmacy Connect 2025.

The program has now been released, and for the first time features a pharmacy assistant stream.

Details are on **page seven**.

Australians spent \$1.3 billion more at pharmacies last year

What's driving the trend?

Read CommBank Health Insights



Systane

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References: 1. Silverstein et al. Clin Ophthalmol. 2020;14:3167-3177. ©2025 Alcon Laboratories Pty Ltd. AUS: 1800 224 153; Auckland NZ: 0800 101 106. ANZ-SYX-2500001.

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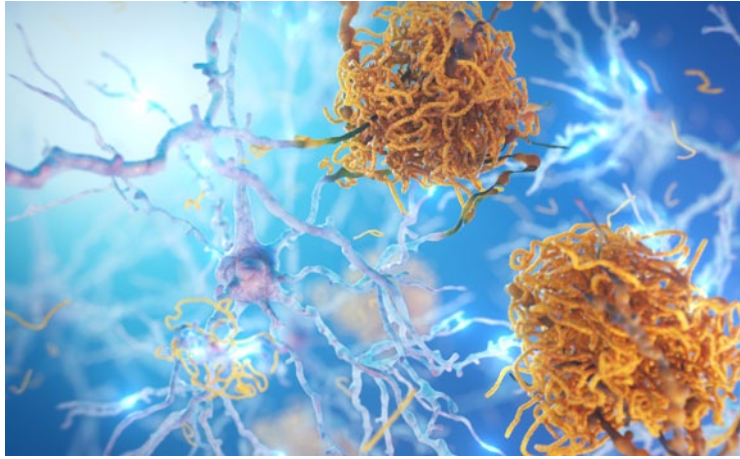


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Alzheimer's drug approved



THE Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has registered Kisunla (donanemab, Eli Lilly) for the treatment of adults with early symptomatic Alzheimer's disease who have a specific genetic profile and the confirmed presence of amyloid plaque in the brain.

The drug works to remove the build-up of amyloid plaques (pictured above), a protein in the brain that can lead to memory loss and impaired cognition, and is the first treatment registered in Australia that works to address the underlying cause of the neurodegenerative disease.

"The registration of donanemab is very exciting - as clinicians, we've been waiting a very long time to be able to offer patients a treatment of this nature," said Professor Michael Woodward, Head of Dementia Research and Senior Clinician, Memory Clinic at Austin Health in Melbourne.

"Donanemab is for people in the early stages of Alzheimer's disease with a defined genetic profile, where symptoms like memory lapses and mood changes are present alongside the build-up of amyloid plaques in the brain," Prof

Woodward continued.

"There is an important window of opportunity when it is possible to detect, diagnose and treat Alzheimer's disease with the goal that patients can maintain their independence for longer."

It is estimated that 600,000 Australians are currently living with Alzheimer's, which is the nation's third leading cause of death.

Approximately 450,000 are in the early stages of the disease and may be eligible for treatment with the drug.

"The availability of donanemab is a major development at a time when more and more Australians and their families are being impacted by this insidious disease," Prof Woodward said.

Eli Lilly has lodged an application with the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC) to get the drug listed on the PBS.

In the meantime, doctors will be able to prescribe the medicine on private prescription.

Eli Lilly is also working closely with specialist centres to build confidence and capabilities to translate clinical trial experience with Kisunla into medical practice. *KB*

Rural pharmacy challenges overlooked

THE Remote and Isolated Pharmacists Association of Australia (RIPAA) has welcomed new initiatives expanding pharmacist scope of practice for Tasmania and Victoria, but warns remote and isolated pharmacies are not currently being adequately supported to provide these services.

RIPAA acknowledges that pharmacist prescribing and expanded pharmacy services are a vital step forward in addressing healthcare disparities in rural and remote communities, where access to doctors and specialists can be limited.

"By enabling pharmacists to treat common conditions and prescribe medications, patients in these areas can receive timely, convenient care closer to home, reducing travel burdens and wait times," a spokesperson said.

However, they pointed out that pharmacists in remote and rural areas face barriers that limit their full potential.

"By way of example, very few remote and isolated (MM5-7) pharmacies took part in the Queensland Community Pharmacy Scope of Practice pilot, with workforce constraints and funding barriers preventing the pharmacies that are best positioned to do more for their communities from being involved," the spokesperson said.

"Remote and isolated pharmacies are not currently being adequately supported to address these issues.

"Pharmacists who practice in these locations are concerned as to whether and to what extent pharmacist prescribing will reach the underserved communities that need it the most."

Even with a subsidy for the cost of the consult, as per the Victorian initiative (*PD* 20 May), there are still concerns as to whether smaller rural and remote pharmacies will be able to implement these services.

"It is important to emphasise that the cost of delivering healthcare services varies between metropolitan versus rural and remote areas, and there is currently no effective mechanism for the delivery of these pharmacy services that accounts for that difference," the RIPAA spokesperson told *Pharmacy Daily*.

"Any assistance in consultation funding also needs to go hand-in-hand with training considerations for isolated and remote pharmacists, as these populations have worse health outcomes and fewer health workers."

RIPAA highlighted challenges facing rural practices that need to be addressed, including sustainable funding models - beyond the initial training subsidies - to support rural prescribing services; workforce shortages; additional investment needed for infrastructure and technology; and professional support, mentorship and peer support.

"RIPAA's concern is that without better support to address these challenges, expanded pharmacy services may only be made available in metropolitan centres and regional hubs where access to healthcare is relatively better," they said.

"RIPAA is calling on both state and federal governments to work together to support community pharmacies in thin rural markets to deliver expanded services."

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Editor's Choice: Cult brand CARMEX wins best lip balm award

In partnership with CARMEX

FROM its humble beginnings on a kitchen stove, the classic CARMEX lip balm is a well-known skincare staple loved by many around the world, including even beauty influencers.

The iconic yellow CARMEX jar has been the centre of every lip balm in-store display since its invention in 1937.

With a clinically proven formula, the lip balm hydrates and relieves dry lips fast, and protects with long-lasting results.

And as demonstrated by the latest *Mamamia* YouBeauty Awards, it is also a favourite product amongst Australian consumers.



This year, CARMEX is thrilled to announce that its Classic Jar was crowned Best Lip Balm.

CARMEX will be celebrating this achievement with a media campaign across social, digital and podcasts - and, of course, in-store.

With a long history of being stocked within Australian pharmacies, CARMEX looks forward to an excellent year ahead for the Classic Jar, and thanks all who help put it in front of shoppers.

For further info, click [HERE](#).

Natio's self-tan range



AUSTRALIAN skincare brand Natio has released a new collection of plant-based self-tanner formulas and application tools so consumers can glow all year round - without the UV rays.

The new range combines skincare with self-tan, with ingredients including nourishing plant oils and actives, as well as natural sugarcane-derived DHA to create a radiant glow and hydrate the skin.

Products in the range include: Radiant Glow Facial Tan Water (\$29.95); Bronzing Glow Gradual Tanning Lotion (\$19.95); Blurring Contour Body Buffing Brush (\$16.95); and Self-Tan Application Mitt (\$9.95).

"It's all about feeling great in your own skin," explained Natio Product Development Manager, Keith Barnett.

"In creating our Natural Tanning range, we wanted to give customers products that not only deliver beautiful, sunkissed-identical results, but also promotes a commitment to skin health and self-love," he added.

Available in Priceline and selected pharmacies from today.

New brand on the block

A NEW celebrity skincare brand called al.ive has launched, featuring seven products blending Australian native botanicals with science-backed ingredients.

Founded by South Australian interior designers and *The Block* contestants Alisa and Lysandra Fraser, al.ive features a silky gel cleanser, daily defence serum, restorative serum, hydrating gel serum, moisturiser, exfoliator and face oil.



Korean skincare brand AHC returns to Australia



KOREAN skincare brand AHC has returned to Australia with a new look and a new lineup of advanced skincare products, designed to target skin ageing, hydration, firmness and brightening.

AHC was developed in 1999, inspired by aesthetic and dermatological clinics, and is well-known for its professional-grade skincare solutions and high-performing ingredients.

Featured in the new range are three different collections to address different needs:

AHC Colla-Juvenation Lift 4 targets advanced lifting and firming; AHC Gluta-Ctivation Bright 3 aims to brighten and even skin tone; and AHC Hyaluro Deep Volume 5 provides intense hydration and skin plumping.

Each range features a different eye cream, serum, treatment gel, essence and emulsion catering to different skin types.

AHC is now available at Priceline in-store and online.

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Dispensary Corner

THE popular ice-bath trend, backed by many celebrities and fitness gurus, has come under fire for potentially contributing to a painful and sometimes dangerous side effect.

A health coach, who goes by @joeinbalance on Instagram, has slammed the fitness craze, which sees people plunge into freezing temperatures in order to reap several benefits, including mood improvement and enhanced workout recovery.

In a video that has been viewed over 4.4 million times so far, Joe warned the practise is "the most dangerous health trend out there" and alleged that doing the plunges regularly for a year resulted in him developing kidney stones.

The condition is caused by waste products in the blood that form a stone-like lump in the kidneys, and if untreated, can lead to serious urine infections and blockages, which raises the risk of kidney failure.

Joe claims that the cold exposure puts unnecessary stress on the immune system, causing waste products to build up in the blood, as well as increasing urination and dehydration, which promotes the formation of kidney stones.

He said that he no longer gets kidney stones after stopping the ice baths three years ago.



Purpose-built patient care

COMPLETE Care DriveThru Bellambi officially opened its doors last Friday, marking a significant advancement in community pharmacy services for the Wollongong area.

Local member and NSW Minister for Health, Ryan Park (pictured right), attended the opening ceremony.

The Complete Care Pharmacy model aims to transform traditional pharmacy practice through enhanced clinical services and a focus on patient outcomes.

"This new pharmacy facility demonstrates our commitment to improving healthcare accessibility in the local community," said Ziad Sultan (pictured left), owner of Complete Care DriveThru Bellambi.

"Together with my fantastic team, we're creating a genuine health destination where patients can access a range of health services."

The purpose-built facility features a number of key innovations:

- dedicated triage desks to streamline patient services;
- a private consultation pod for confidential pharmacist-patient discussions;
- clinic room equipped for Nurse Practitioner consultations;
- state-of-the-art automated dispensing technology;
- convenient drive-through service for prescription pick-up.

"Ziad and his team have worked tirelessly to develop a pharmacy that combines innovative healthcare solutions, tailored health spaces and the convenience of drive-through service with



ensuring the local community receives exceptional patient care," said Complete Care Pharmacy founder, Kristina Fox.

Bellambi is part of a growing network of pharmacies adopting the Complete Care model across the country. KB

Diphtheria vax for Germany travel

GERMANY is experiencing a resurgence of diphtheria, with the national public health agency issuing an urgent vaccination warning.

The highly infectious disease, once largely eradicated, emerged in vulnerable people including immigrants and homeless people, and was mostly the cutaneous rather than respiratory form.

However, it has now spread beyond these groups due to declining vaccination rates, with respiratory cases becoming more common.

The agency has recommended increased vaccination, enhanced surveillance, and improved diagnostics to combat the outbreak and prevent further spread.

People travelling to Germany have been advised to stay up to date with their diphtheria vaccinations.

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EXTENSIVE ANTIBIOTIC GUIDELINES UPDATE 2025

Designed by clinicians for clinicians

An extensive multidisciplinary update to the Antibiotic guidelines has been released.
Supporting the Australian healthcare community to deliver improved patient outcomes.

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