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Today's issue of PD

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

- Nova Pharmaceuticals
- Therapeutic Guidelines
- Direct Chemist Outlet

Emergency med

NOVA Pharmaceuticals' emergency contraception Novella-1 is available to order for dispensing by pharmacists. See **p3** for a special deal.

Antibiotics update

THERAPEUTIC Guidelines has published a major update of its antibiotics guidelines for clinicians to support improved patient outcomes. Learn more on **page four**.

Recall: Weleda teething powder

WELEDA Australia is recalling one batch, (B)231302, of Weleda Baby Teething Powder due to a packaging fault that may have introduced glass fragments into the powder, posing risks such as discomfort, injury or choking.

Consumers are advised not to use the product, and to return it to the place of purchase for a refund or replacement or contact Weleda Australia for further assistance. See more **HERE**.

PATY state finalists announced

THE Pharmacy Guild of Australia National President, Professor Trent Twomey has announced the 2025 Pharmacy Guild of Australia/Maxigesic Pharmacy Assistant of the Year Award (PATY) state finalists, with 24 pharmacy assistants invited to take part in the next round of judging.



The PATY2025 state finalists will participate in virtual state judging, which will take place in June, with state/territory winners convening for an in-person national workshop during the 2025 Pharmacy Connect conference from 03-05 Sep in Sydney, where the judging and overall winner announcement will take place.

"This prestigious award was established to acknowledge pharmacy assistants who demonstrate exceptional dedication to patient care and show proactive commitment to their professional development," Prof Twomey said.

As well as hosting the PATY activities, Pharmacy Connect 2025 will offer a dedicated program pharmacy assistant stream, bringing attendees from all areas of the pharmacy industry together, while still offering opportunities for tailored learning.

"The program is being structured to ensure all attendees, from owners and executives to interns and pharmacy assistants, gain valuable professional

development," said Kos Sclavos, Pharmacy Connect convenor.

"Our pharmacy assistant stream provides targeted skills development and career growth opportunities, reinforcing the important role they play in the sector."

The finalists from each state/territory are as follows:

- ACT: Stephanie Crowe, Bronte Robinson, Chloe Stewart
- NSW: Kylie Daunt, Yasmin Elmawey, Lisa Johnston
- NT: Kristin Bonica, Melissa Dass, Kym Robinson
- Qld: Sarah Butler, Carlee Duncan, Emily Hayes
- SA: Jordan Oschmanns, Jade Pisani, Katerina Roberts
- Tas: Tenielle Chilcott, Dakota Lee, Jess Markota
- Vic: Jessica Brown, Antonietta Caruso, Codi Patterson
- WA Sashe Austin, Ella Bennett, Yoli Humphries.

To learn more about the program and register, click **HERE**. *KB*

A different script

THE Direct Chemist Outlet brand is growing and offers clout, support and buying power, with 127 pharmacies.

To learn more about Direct Chemist Outlet and what it can offer, see **page five**.

Australians spent \$1.3 billion more at pharmacies last year

What's driving the trend?

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*CommBank iQ Market Monitor iQ. Health industry spending between April 2024 and March 2025.

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Dispensary Corner

MANY pharmacists might see themselves as underpaid, which is likely why police in NSW started asking questions when one began driving to work in a Ferrari.

A Sydney pharmacist's \$20m empire of sports cars and mansions was recently seized in a PBS fraud bust, with the Australian Federal Police accusing the man of cheating taxpayers out of millions.

Police have frozen the pharmacist's assets, which include his mansion, a retail property, seven BMWs, two Ferraris, two Lamborghinis and a McLaren, all of which are now being taken away on the back of a truck (pictured).

The investigation began in Feb 2023 after a referral from the Department of Health & Aged Care raised concerns over suspicious PBS claims made between 2014 and 2023.

The man's charges will see him face decades in prison, with the feds accusing him of fraud estimated at more than \$10m.



APC 'bridging now to next' for NRW2025

WITH National Reconciliation Week 2025 commencing 27 May, the Australian Pharmacy Council (APC) has issued a statement embracing this year's theme, "Bridging Now to Next."

"The theme calls on all Australians to reflect, flourish, and move forward together, guided by the lessons of the past and the promise of a more united future," a spokesperson said.

"At APC, reconciliation is not just a commitment - it is embedded in our actions."

APC took a significant step in Mar 2025 by appointing Director of Indigenous Policies and



Programs, Dr Aunty Jane Havelka, strengthening the APC's capacity to "listen deeply, act meaningfully, and embed First Nations perspectives across pharmacy education and practice".

"'Bridging Now to Next' reminds us that reconciliation is a shared journey," said the spokesperson.

"It is about walking together,

acknowledging the truth of our history, and building a future grounded in respect, equity, and opportunity for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples."

APC draws on inspiration from this year's theme artwork - native plants that regenerate after fire, thriving through adversity - symbolising resilience.

"In that spirit, we reaffirm our commitment to reconciliation through education, policy, and partnership," the spokesperson said.

"Together, we are building the bridge from now to next - with purpose, with respect, and with hope." KB

NSW reforms to allow GPs to prescribe ADHD medication

IN A move hailed as a breakthrough by ADHD advocates, GPs in NSW can now diagnose and treat people with ADHD.

At present, most people seeking a diagnosis, management and ongoing prescription medication for ADHD must see a specialist, which can be extremely expensive and entail long waiting lists.

In NSW the situation is compounded by industrial action on the part of psychiatrists (PD 16 Jan).

The initiative will enable GPs to provide ongoing ADHD prescriptions for children and adults who are on stable doses of

medication, without the need of a formal arrangement.

A smaller number of GPs will be able to diagnose and initiate medication where appropriate.

In both instances, GPs will be required to undertake accredited training, funded by NSW Health, and receive mentorship and access to resources.

NSW is the third state to implement reforms to make it easier for people to access treatment for ADHD.

In Queensland, GPs can prescribe certain ADHD medications for children without a prescribing approval, and

Western Australia has proposed to allow patients to receive a diagnosis and treatment from specialist GPs with specific skills and additional training in ADHD diagnosis and management.

In welcoming the NSW Government's announcement today, Professor David Coghill, President of the Australasian ADHD Professionals Association, said: "This is not about replacing specialists; it's about equipping GPs to do what they do best: deliver timely, patient-centred care and to ensure that they can do this within a safe, supported evidence-based framework."

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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.

The major update includes:

- 100+** Clinical expert contributors
- 200+** Clinical topics
- 1400+** Drug recommendations
- NEW** | Calculators
| Images and diagrams
| Patient information

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