

Today's issue of PD

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

- Differin
- Glucojel

Retinoid action

DIFFERIN Acne Treatment contains the potent retinoid Adapalene to treat and prevent acne and restore the skin's natural texture and tone.

It is the first and only acne-fighting retinoid available over the counter.

See details on **page five**.

All treat, no tricks

CUSTOMERS have a chance to win the ultimate Halloween treat haul - a year's supply of Glucojel jellybeans and bears.

Get your Spookojel POS and t-shirts now - learn more on **page six**.

Get your copy now

THE 8th edition of Raven's Recruitment's Pharmacy Salary and Market Report for 2025 is available, providing up-to-date salary benchmarks, employment trends and workforce insights across pharmacy in Australia and NZ.

It also covers issues such as accommodation, expanded scope and work-life balance.

Register **HERE** to get your copy of the report.

Pharmacists, doctors join forces on med cannabis

THE NSW branches of the Royal Australian College of GPs (RACGP), the Pharmacy Guild of Australia, the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) and the Australian Medical Association (AMA) have called on the NSW Government to act on rogue operators prescribing and dispensing medicinal cannabis.

In a joint letter to NSW Health Minister Ryan Park, the peak bodies have warned of poor regulatory oversight, major conflicts of interest around prescribing and dispensing, inappropriate prescribing, and a focus on profit over quality healthcare.

The group noted that the number of patients using medicinal cannabis products has grown dramatically, from 18,000 in 2019 to more than a million by Jan last year.

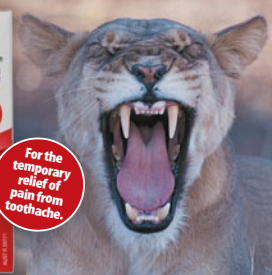
Yet questions remain around its efficacy and safety, and despite being legalised almost 10 years ago, only two medicinal cannabis products have been registered with the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) and included in the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods (ARTG). None of the 500 unregistered and unapproved medicinal products currently available have been evaluated, with the bodies arguing that product manufacturers should be responsible for investing in rigorous trials to provide evidence of their safety and efficacy.

The health organisations noted that most cannabis clinics rely on telehealth rather than face-to-face consultations, and said

Don't suffer the pain of toothache.

Available from Symbion, Sigma, API & CH2

Always read the label and follow the directions for use.



there is evidence of "rogue clinics circumventing proper procedures and best practice".

They outlined a process where a patient registers online, briefly consults a nurse, and is then referred to a doctor, where a prescription is nearly always provided.

"Patients are apparently learning the answers they need to guarantee a script," they said.

Another major concern was the "closed-loop" prescribing and dispensing model, whereby the telehealth prescriber sends the prescription to a dispensary owned by the same operation.

This leads to an incentive to prescribe and dispense as many of these products as possible - and if the patient opts to use their regular pharmacy, a surcharge is applied.

The letter also pointed to strong concerns regarding inappropriate prescribing, with reports some clinics are prescribing these products to people being treated for opioid dependence and mental health issues.

The representative health organisations have welcomed the TGA's upcoming review of the safety and regulatory framework for medicinal cannabis products, and in the mean time have asked to meet with the NSW Health Minister and his department to discuss policy solutions.

"The current system for prescribing and dispensing medicinal cannabis is not working as it should for patients, pharmacists, or prescribers," said NSW Guild President Mario Barone.

"Aggressive marketing tactics undermine the integrity of the health system, and the proliferation of online clinics and vertically integrated models fragment care, bypassing a patient's regular healthcare providers.

"Community pharmacists are committed to supporting patient health," Barone continued.

"Prescribing and dispensing arrangements must put patient safety, clinical evidence, and continuity of care first." KB

NEW

MAXOFEN

Paracetamol 500mg & Ibuprofen 200mg

Ask your pharmacist about this product. Always read the label and follow the directions. Read the warnings before purchase. Incorrect use could be harmful. M010725aS31.0

MAXimise your day.
Minimise your pain.



Guild, APC welcome RN prescribers, but “more work to do”

PRESCRIBING rights have been extended to registered nurses (RNs), with those who are suitably qualified being able to administer, obtain, possess, prescribe, supply and/or use scheduled medicines in partnership with authorised health practitioners.

The Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (NMBA) has published the *Registration standard: Endorsement for scheduled medicines - designated registered nurse prescriber* and supporting

guidelines for RNs applying for and holding the endorsement.

“This standard is one of the biggest changes to nursing regulation in decades,” said NMBA Chair, Adjunct Prof Veronica Casey.

“More nurses prescribing will give Australians greater access to safe, affordable healthcare and medicines,” she continued.

“Designated RN prescribing puts patients first without compromising public safety.”

At present, there are no approved

programs of study for prescriber RNs, and it is likely the first cohort of graduates will not emerge until at least mid-next year.

The Pharmacy Guild of Australia has welcomed the news, stating that “every health professional should be empowered to practice to the full extent of their training, skills and experience”.

Guild National President Professor Trent Twomey said the move would dramatically increase access to timely healthcare.

“Ensuring patients can access the healthcare they need, when they need it, is crucial in creating healthier communities,” Professor Twomey said.

“Nurses are highly skilled, and this recognises the importance of all healthcare professionals working to the full extent of their training and experience.”

Professor Twomey noted that early intervention by frontline healthcare professionals reduces later complications and takes

pressure off other parts of the health system - yet 28% of Australians reported waiting too long to see a GP.

“There is more work to do,” Professor Twomey said.

“We need to bring consistency across states and territories and increase public awareness that other primary healthcare providers can treat, diagnose and prescribe where appropriate.

“In the long term, these changes will free up GPs and hospitals to focus on the most acute and complex cases,” he concluded.

The Australian Pharmacy Council (APC) has also welcomed the announcement, stating it supports the safe expansion of scope for all health professionals.

“Safely advancing workforce capability increases accessibility for consumers and reduces demand on higher-level and emergency healthcare services by providing



timely care in local settings,” said APC CEO Bronwyn Clark.

With work on the proposed national endorsement for scheduled medicines for pharmacists currently underway (PD 18 Sep), Clark highlighted the role of accreditation bodies like the APC in ensuring patient safety.

“As the healthcare system evolves, it is essential that all prescribers - regardless of profession - are supported by robust governance, national consistency, and a shared commitment to safe, person-centred care,” Clark said. KB

Proudly produced by



Dive into our latest podcast episode featuring **Amanda Fairjones**, a pharmacist with diverse experiences in rural pharmacy - “From passion and advocacy comes the evolving role of pharmacists; A story of value and support”.

Proudly brought to you by



YOUR PHARMACY CAREER PODCAST



Listen on your favourite Podcast app

ARE YOU A HEALTH PROFESSIONAL? ARE YOUR DETAILS CORRECT?

As a health professional, did you receive today's special edition?
Click here to change your subscription details via email.



WA EACPP training begins

THE first cohort for the Western Australian Enhanced Access Community Pharmacy Pilot (EACPP) has officially begun training, marking a key step in expanding community-based health care across WA.

Forty community pharmacists from all over the state have started their accredited Graduate Certificate training through James Cook University, in partnership with Curtin University.

Around 30 percent of participants are based in regional WA, including Albany, Carnarvon, Derby, and Port Hedland, bolstering the objective of improving healthcare access of Western Australians in regional and remote areas.

The training is subsidised by the

government, with those in regional areas receiving higher training subsidies of up to \$12,000.

The EACPP is on track for trained pharmacists to start providing care to the community by late next year, subject to training completion.

"We are giving community pharmacists more clinical skills so they can treat simple conditions safely and locally - helping to ease the load on GPs," said WA Health Minister Meredith Hammat.

"The pilot reflects our commitment to making the most of our highly trained pharmacy workforce and strengthening care in the community."

A public consultation will soon be launched on proposed regulatory amendments to support the pilot.

New etanercept biosimilar on PBS

SANDOZ Australia has launched its etanercept biosimilar, Erelzi, on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) today, providing a third biosimilar option in addition to originator product Enbrel (Pfizer).

The drug is used to treat specific types of joint inflammation and skin conditions, namely rheumatoid arthritis, juvenile idiopathic arthritis, ankylosing spondylitis, non-radiographic axial spondyloarthritis, psoriatic arthritis and plaque psoriasis.

"Biosimilar medicines are essential to ensure patients and healthcare providers have

affordable choices to high-quality medicines, supporting long-term sustainability of the healthcare system," said Natalie Armstrong, Sandoz's Head of Marketing.

"With the availability of government funding for Erelzi, we're proud to be a driving force of change in the expansion of access to a trusted and equivalent treatment option for Australians living with autoimmune conditions."

Sandoz suggested that a healthy competitive market that includes multiple biosimilar brands is expected to result in a lower cost for access to biological medicines through the PBS.



Australasian Pharmacy Professional Conference and Trade Exhibition

Tier 1 registration closes 31 October

Register now and save up to \$250!

Book now

Brought to you by



The Pharmacy Guild of Australia



Scope in focus

Professor Trent Twomey

TO MARK World Pharmacist Day 2025, the Guild brought its larger-than-life consultation room to Brisbane.

We wanted to share with the public - our patients - how community pharmacy is stepping up to deliver more services than ever before.

Change is coming quickly.

A year ago, treatment for everyday conditions was only available in Queensland.

Now almost every state and territory has made progress towards increasing community pharmacists scope of practice - most recently, Tasmania.

The key thing is to start thinking about how you can make the most of changes being introduced across the country.

A well-designed consultation room is absolutely crucial to this.

It enables pharmacies to offer professional services in a private setting.

Most pharmacies already have consultation rooms for offering vaccinations, so it is just a matter of tweaking and potentially planning larger changes in the future.

Wherever you are on your



journey, there are resources on myGuild to assist.

There are simplified clinical requirements, 360 degrees videos of different sized models, and significant discounts.

Simple measures include having space for two chairs (one for the patient and one for the support person), positioning yourself closest to the door, and placing the bed so that you can examine them on the right hand side.

Getting these things right at the start will make your journey towards offering treatment for everyday health conditions or management of long-term health conditions easier.

Professor Trent Twomey is the National President of the Pharmacy Guild of Australia.

Send him your questions around scope of practice to scope@guild.org.au.

PHAA to enact First Nations voice

MEMBERS of peak body for public health, the Public Health Association of Australia (PHAA), have voted to create an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander voice to help guide its work.

The proposal known as the First Nations Collective Co-Design Project was passed at the association's annual general meeting on Dharawal Country/Wollongong on 16 Sep.

"A huge amount of work by myself and nine other Indigenous people - all volunteers - went into the two-year project to co-design the Indigenous governance model for the PHAA Collective," Truwulway woman Dr Alana Gall,

who is based at Southern Cross University and led the Co-Design Project Team.

"To see it accepted by most of the PHAA membership gives me hope post the failed Voice referendum, and makes all the hard work worth it," Dr Gall added.

The next step of the Collective project will be determined by the Collective members.

The PHAA said it "remains steadfast in its support of the Uluru Statement from the Heart movement, which was supported by more than six million people, and the movement's goals of a Makarratta, Treaty".



Dispensary Corner

YOU know what's good for breakfast? Protein. And coffee.

And so Starbucks has come up with a new 'proffee' menu to capitalise on the market for this morning pick-me-up duo.

The global coffee juggernaut has added protein cold foams and lattes and protein-boosted milks to its permanent menu in the US, with 15 to 36 grams of the essential macronutrient stuffed into each 473 mL 'grande' beverage.

"Consumers are prioritising protein in the morning, are open to paying a premium for protein-enhanced drinks, and younger generations are driving that shift - all pointing to protein coffee as a trend with strong tailwinds," Rebecca Rickert, head of consumer insights at Empower, told *New York Post*.

A potential downside to proffee is that some products are laden with calories and sugar that can undermine the feeling of fullness that protein provides, not to mention sabotage any weight loss hopes that have been pinned on the caffeine.

Nutritional party poopers (sensible people) suggest sticking with lean protein, fruits, vegetables and whole grains that offer fibre and a range of nutrients instead.



PRODUCT SPOTLIGHT

Suppliers wanting to promote products in this feature should email advertising@pharmacydaily.com.au

Introducing new Duofilm Skin Tag Treatment

Treats skin tags in as little as one application

- An aerosol can with an extreme cooling agent (dimethyl ether) causes the skin tag tissue to freeze and eventually fall off.

Detachable metal applicator

- For targeted application in difficult-to-reach areas.

No direct contact with surrounding skin

- Contains 12 protective foam discs to prevent damage to surrounding skin.

Find out more: Call (02) 8878 9777 to talk to your Pharmabroker representative.

RRP: \$34.99

Website: [CLICK HERE](#) for more information.



Revive Tears - PBS-listed



Revive Tears lubricating eye drops provide long lasting and soothing relief against burning, irritation and discomfort due to dry eye.

The product moisturises, comforts and refreshes dry, tired and strained eyes.

Revive Tears helps lubricate, hydrate and protect dry eyes.

Suitable for use with contact lenses.

Contains hypromellose 3mg/g.

Suppliers: Available from Symbion, Sigma, API and CH2.

RRP: \$4.32 (available in 10ml packs)

Website: [CLICK HERE](#) for more information.

Differin treats acne

with a potent retinoid: Adapalene.

Differin is the first (and only)¹ acne fighting retinoid available over the counter.

Adapalene works in three ways:^{2,3}

1 Treats

acne deep in the pores at the source, to reduce redness and underlying inflammation

2 Prevents

new acne from forming by increasing cell turnover

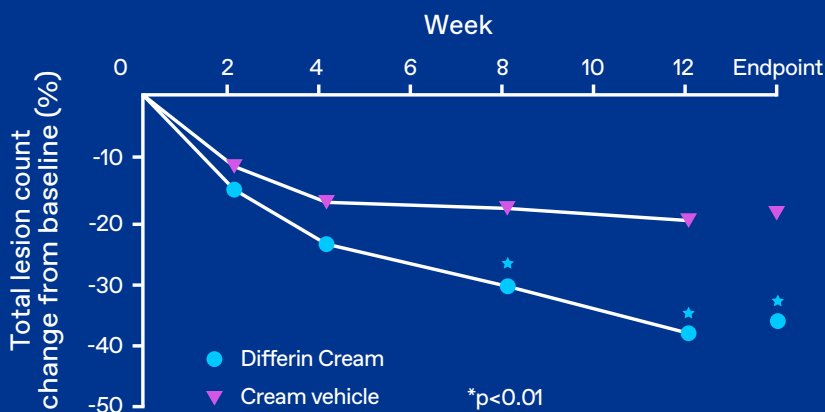
3 Restores

your skin's natural texture and tone

Acne visibly improves after just 2 weeks.⁴



Improvement in total lesion count with Differin Cream vs vehicle observed from 2 weeks.^{4,5}



Differin Cream is clinically proven to:

- Reduce visible signs of acne within 2 weeks
- Shows significant reduction within 12 weeks ($p < 0.01$)⁴

In a meta-analysis of 5 pivotal studies⁵, adapalene 0.1% gel was shown to be:

- As effective as tretinoin (0.025%) cream in reducing total lesion count at 12 weeks
- Superior in local tolerability compared to tretinoin (0.025%) cream⁵

Who can be recommended Differin?

- Differin is indicated for the treatment of mild to moderate comedonal and papulopustular acne (blackheads, whiteheads & pimples) of the face, chest or back
- Can be recommended from 12 years to adult
- Breastfeeding – can be used however should not be applied to the chest
- Pregnancy – don't use

ASK YOUR PHARMACIST ABOUT THIS PRODUCT. ALWAYS FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS FOR USE.

Apply a thin film to the affected areas once a day before bedtime and after washing. Avoid the eyes, lips and mucous membranes. The affected areas should be dry before application.

1. ARTG listing as at 15th October 2023. 2. Differin® Gel & Cream Consumer Medicines Information 2020. 3. Gollnick H et al. J Am Acad Dermatol 2003; 49(1 Suppl): S1+ S37). 4. Lucky A et al. Cutis 2001; 68 (4 Suppl): 34–40). 5. Cunliffe WJ et al. A comparison of the efficacy and tolerability of adapalene 0.1% gel versus tretinoin 0.025% gel in patients with acne vulgaris: a meta-analysis of five randomized controlled trials. Br J Dermatol. 1998 Oct; 139 Suppl 52:48–56. Galderma Australia Pty Ltd. 1 Denison St, North Sydney, Australia 206. AU-DIC-2500001

DO THINGS
DIFFERIN®

**GLUCOJEL™**

The Original Pharmacy Jelly Bean



WIN THE ULTIMATE HALLOWEEN HAUL, A YEAR'S WORTH OF GLUCOJEL!*

We're back with another competition for your customers! Just by purchasing their favourite pack and scanning the QR code, they can win a year's worth of Australia's favourite jelly beans and bears!

Stock up for the spooky season today with Glucogel's exclusive events deal!

CAPTURE ADDITIONAL PURCHASES BY OFF-LOCATING.

Order your free POS today! Visit goldx.com.au/glucogel

**DUMP BIN****CLIP STRIPS****COUNTER UNIT****FLOOR STAND****FLOOR DECAL****COUNTER MAT****SHELF STRIP****T-SHIRTS****WOBLER****SPOOKOJEL
WOBLER****SPOOKOJEL
A4 POSTERS**