

Today's issue of PD

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

- Dispense Assist
- Glucojel

Dispensary help

DISPENSE Assist is a low-cost staffing solution with dispensary technicians available 24/7, at rates from as low as \$8.94 per hour, for services that include compounding, DAAs and more.

Also available is a new bookkeeping service - see **p5**.

Back the bid

GLUCOJEL has teamed up with Netball Australia in its bid for the game's inclusion at the Brisbane 2032 Olympics.

By pledging their support, your customers could win a year's supply of beans, some Diamonds gear and more.

Now is the time to order your POS - see **page six** for details.

Bumper night as more Guild winners revealed

STATE finalists of the Pharmacy Guild of Australia's National Pharmacy Awards were announced yesterday across Queensland, Victoria and South Australia.

Presented at the Queensland Parliamentary Reception last night, the Sunshine State winners included TerryWhite Chemmart Cairns Central, which was named Community Pharmacy of the Year; Molly McGuire of TerryWhite Chemmart Wilsonton, who was declared Community Pharmacist of the Year; and Abbey Marshall, as Student Pharmacist of the Year.

"These award winners represent the very best of our profession - innovative, compassionate, and deeply committed to their communities," said Queensland Branch President Chris Owen.

"They're not just dispensing medicines - they're delivering frontline healthcare, mentoring the next generation, and redefining what it means to be a pharmacist in today's health system."

In Victoria, Camperdown Pharmacy was awarded Community Pharmacy of the Year; Ahmed Ibrahim of Pharmacy World East Fawkner was named Community Pharmacist of the Year; and Byrony

Forrest of Blooms the Chemist Essendon achieved the Student Pharmacist of the Year title.

"Regional pharmacies like Camperdown are doing far more than dispensing medicines - they're delivering frontline healthcare, supporting aged care, managing chronic conditions, and stepping in when other services are stretched or unavailable," Victoria Branch President George Tambassis said.

"These awards recognise the deep commitment of pharmacists to their communities and the evolving role they play in keeping Australians healthy," he added.

Finally, the National Pharmacy Awards in South Australia saw Amcal St Clair Pharmacy take out Community Pharmacy of the Year, while Timothy Siv of TerryWhite Chemmart Clare was named Community Pharmacist of the Year, and Erin Fawcett from Star Discount Chemist Magill won Student Pharmacist of the Year.

In addition, Nick Panayiaris was recognised for his enormous contribution to the pharmacy industry and the community, and was awarded the Barry Schultz Medal.

"Local community pharmacies



are stepping up in ways that go far beyond dispensing," SA Branch President Matt Gillespie noted.

"They're managing chronic conditions, supporting aged care, and providing care when other services are stretched or unavailable.

"These awards recognise the deep commitment of pharmacists to their communities and the evolving role they play in keeping Australians healthy."

The ACT (**PD** 16 Oct) and NSW (**PD** 24 Oct) winners were announced earlier this month, with WA, Tasmania and NT to come.

The overall national winners will be announced at next year's Australasian Pharmacy Professional Conference & Trade Exhibition (APP2026) on 12 Mar. *JM*

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Forging new paths

“FULL scope prescribing isn’t for every pharmacist, but it’s for every pharmacy,” says Kate Gunthorpe, one of the first pharmacists in Australia to practice at full scope.

“Our time and expertise are valuable - and this evolution allows us to provide accessible, high-quality care for every community,” she explained.

In the latest episode of *Your Pharmacy Career Podcast*, hosted by Krysti-Lee Patterson, Gunthorpe (pictured) shares her journey from starting out in community pharmacy as a high school student to becoming a national leader in pharmacist prescribing and change management.

Now a Pharmacist Implementation and Change Specialist at TerryWhite Chemmart, Gunthorpe’s passion for medicines and patient care led her to embrace new opportunities, from working in hospital oncology to joining the Pharmacy Guild and later driving full scope implementation across the TerryWhite Chemmart network.

Recognised as a respected thought leader, she is highly sought after for her insights into community pharmacy practice - particularly in prescribing, scope of practice, and public health.

Gunthorpe also thrives on tackling the challenges faced by patients, the healthcare system, and the profession itself.

“Kate’s journey shows how pharmacists can create new career paths that didn’t even exist a few years ago,” said Patterson.

Listen to the podcast [HERE](#).



AdPha expands aged care support

ADVANCED Pharmacy Australia (AdPha) has announced it is expanding its support for the aged care sector through a new partnership with leading Aged Care Onsite Pharmacist (ACOP) provider Choice Chemist.

The partnership has also seen the launch of a dedicated AdPha Credentialed Pharmacists Specialty Practice Group (SPG).

AdPha Chief Executive Kristin Michaels said the new partnership comes at a critical time in aged care, amid a rapidly evolving pharmacy landscape.

“Safe and appropriate medicine use in aged care was a key finding of the Aged Care Royal Commission - and with new funding to embed pharmacists onsite, we must ensure they are equipped to deliver the best possible care for older Australians,” Michaels said.

“AdPha is proud to offer unique structures to provide that support, and we’re pleased to partner with Choice Chemist/Choice Aged Care to realise the new Credentialed Pharmacists SPG, also bolstering our existing Transitions of Care and Primary Care SPG and Geriatric Medicine SPG with new members in the process.

“Specialisation is crucial to the ongoing expansion of pharmacy practice,” she added.

Through the partnership, Choice pharmacists will add their experience and expertise



to AdPha’s growing Speciality Practice program, with three new SPGs also announced: Precision Medicine, Gastroenterology, and Anticoagulation Stewardship.

Choice Chemist CEO Michael Bonner said the partnership will lift standards across the sector.

“AdPha sets the national benchmark for clinical pharmacy.

“Through this agreement we’ll integrate its landmark standards into our Pharmacy Care Academy Australia training programs and future workforce initiatives.

“Today’s agreement also strengthens our standing as an employer of choice, conferring access to AdPha’s full suite of member benefits, including access to ANZCAP recognition and AdPha Learning, strengthening professional development and opportunities for our rapidly growing team.” KB

Pictured: Michael Bonner, Choice Chemist CEO; Kristin Michaels, AdPha CEO; Melissa McDonald, Eva Tilley residential aged care CEO; Shaynal Chand, Clinical Pharmacist, Choice Chemist; and Nick Sharp-Paul, AdPha COO.

APC seeks capability framework feedback

THE preliminary consultation phase of the Australian Pharmacy Council’s (APC) Pharmacist Capability Framework project has concluded, with the draft framework and accompanying papers are now available for consultation.

The APC was engaged by the Pharmacy Board of Australia to develop the framework (PD 27 Mar), which describes the entry-to-practice capabilities of newly registered pharmacists and

underpins the future education of pharmacists, ensuring they can adapt to a changing environment.

The APC will host the next phase of the project with public consultation on the draft Capability Framework throughout Nov and Dec.

Written feedback submissions are invited through an online submission link, and will be open from 03 Nov to 15 Dec 2025.

The draft framework and consultation papers are [HERE](#).

A new weapon in AMR battle

CHEMISTS from Monash University and the University of Warwick in the UK have discovered a promising new antibiotic shown to be active against bacterial pathogens that exhibit antimicrobial resistance (AMR).

The newly discovered antibiotic - called pre-methylenomycin C lactone - was said to be ‘hiding in plain sight’ as an intermediate chemical in the natural process that produces the well-known antibiotic methylenomycin A.

“Methylenomycin A was originally discovered 50 years ago and while it has been synthesised several times, no one appears to have tested the synthetic intermediates for antimicrobial activity,” explained co-lead author Professor Greg Challis.

“By deleting biosynthetic genes, we discovered two previously unknown biosynthetic intermediates, both of which are much more potent antibiotics than methylenomycin A itself,” he said, adding that this suggests a fresh paradigm for discovering new antibiotics.

When tested for antimicrobial activity, one of the intermediates - pre-methylenomycin C lactone - was shown to be over 100 times more active against diverse Gram-positive bacteria - including *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Enterococcus faecium* - than the original antibiotic methylenomycin A.

Importantly, the researchers did not detect resistance to pre-methylenomycin C lactone in *Enterococcus* bacteria under conditions where vancomycin resistance is observed.

Vancomycin is a “last line” treatment for *Enterococcus* infection, so the finding holds great promise for vancomycin-resistant *Enterococcus*.

Read the paper [HERE](#).

Editor's Choice: Chemist Warehouse scores new Messi fragrance

FOLLOWING the overwhelming success of his debut fragrance, globally renowned football superstar Leo Messi has launched a second fragrance, Messi Platinum Eau de Parfum.

Described as "a bold expression of quiet confidence and refined strength", the fragrance opens with a clean surge of bergamot peel and freshwater accord, brightened by the subtle edge of green coconut.

At its heart is aromatic lavender bud, violet leaf and clary sage, with a dry-down of vetiver root, teak wood and mineral amber.

Encased in a custom-moulded bottle with a striking platinum finish, Messi Platinum is



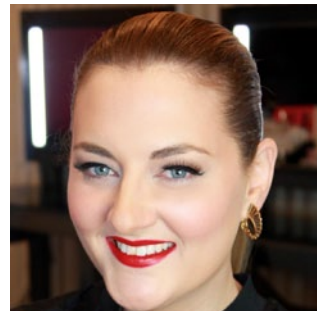
designed for evening wear and elevated moments.

"I have always been passionate about fragrance, and I am extremely excited to produce my very own signature scent," Messi said.

"This is a truly unique and inspirational fragrance, in a personalised bottle, for all fans around the world."

Available now, exclusively at Chemist Warehouse within Australia at \$74.99 for 100mL.

DB Cosmetics backed by celebrity makeup artist



PHARMACY favourite DB Cosmetics has teamed up with global award-winning makeup artist Shev Kelly (pictured), whose career spans runway shows, editorial shoots, TV and live events. While Kelly works with a range of global designer brands, DB Cosmetics has become her go-to brand in her kit for professional-quality, affordable cosmetics.

"I can honestly say DB Cosmetics has some of the best quality makeup I've used," Kelly said.

"I love having DB in my kit as I know I can create flawless looks that rival the designer brands I also work with."

The makeup artist shared her top five DB Cosmetics picks, including Bombshell Lipglass in shade 'Make a Fuss' (RRP \$14.99) and Absolute Brow Pencil 'Taupe' (RRP \$14.99).

"This shade suits both blondes and brunettes - it even works on my clients with super black/brown hair," Kelly enthused.

Fans can follow DB's social channels for the latest celebrity makeup tips from Kelly, and tune into Channel 7's *The Voice*, where she appears in the beauty brand's new TV commercial quality.

A Glasshouse Christmas

GLASSHOUSE has released a limited edition Midnight in Milan candle set (RRP \$139), just in time for the festive season.

Included is a soy candle and rechargeable lighter.

The fragrance is indulgent and luxurious, featuring notes of blackcurrant, saffron, jasmine, amber and rose.



A skincare range to support menopausal women



EMEPELLE is a clinically proven skincare line aimed specifically at women who are going through menopause and experiencing dry,

dull skin as a result.

Emepelle's products feature the exclusive MEP Technology, a non-hormonal molecule that activates oestrogen-deficient skin to stimulate collagen and improve firmness.

The three-product range includes the Emepelle Serum (RRP \$277) to rejuvenate the skin, featuring niacinamide, peptides and hyaluronic acid.

It also includes a night cream (RRP \$293) to restore the skin, boosted by retinols, niacinamide, peptides, emollients and humectants for intense hydration.

Lastly, the eye cream (\$190) helps reduce fine lines and wrinkles, using caffeine, mango seed butter, antioxidants and peptides.

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Dispensary Corner

THOSE who are adverse to spicy food may one day be able to bring an artificial tongue with them when dining out in order to test how hot a dish is, rather than risking their tastebuds.

It sounds far-fetched, but researchers in China have developed a tongue-like device that can work out exactly how spicy something is - and apparently, it was pretty simple and cheap to make.

The researchers created a flexible "artificial tongue" by mixing milk proteins with a conductive gel.

When spicy compounds like capsaicin touch it, they bind to the milk proteins and cause a measurable drop in electrical current - the stronger the spice, the bigger the drop.

The device accurately gauged heat levels in various peppers and spicy foods, matching human taste-tester ratings.

"Our flexible artificial tongue holds tremendous potential in spicy sensation estimation for portable taste-monitoring devices," said lead author Weijun Deng, from the Shanghai Institute of Technology.

The scientists believe their creation also has potential for use in patients with sensory impairments such as ageusia - a loss of the sense of taste.



Reframing COVID: Know & Go

A **NEW** report released this week - *It Only Takes Five: Reframing COVID-19 for Australians* - calls on pharmacists and other healthcare professionals to help patients recognise their risk of serious illness due to COVID, and to act early to prevent this.

Led by health communicator Sophie Scott, Adjunct Professor at the University of Sydney, and supported by Pfizer Australia, the report highlights how delayed treatment continues to drive preventable complications and prolonged recovery.

With cases expected to rise in Nov and Dec, timely testing and treatment can make the difference between being unwell for a few days or for many weeks.

The report recommends people aged 50 and over, or those living with chronic conditions, should 'Know & Go' - know if you are at risk of serious illness, and at the first sign of symptoms, go early for testing and treatment.

Experts consulted for the report include GP Dr John Gullotta; Professor Kate Laver, a Flinders University researcher focused on improving independence and quality of life for older Australians; and Mary Swift from the Council of the Ageing.

According to the experts, many people are still unsure about whether they can get subsidised antiviral medicines through the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS), and there is little awareness that these medicines work best when started within five days of getting sick.

"This confusion about both eligibility and timing means some people are missing out on treatment that could help them recover faster," the report notes.



The experts also highlighted that for many people in their 50s and 60s, COVID is downplayed as "just another virus" that will pass with time, and they "don't want to be a burden", leading to reluctance to seek medical help.

Professor Laver noted the importance of familiar and trusted health professionals recommending a treatment plan personalised for the patient's needs, providing a "powerful motivator" for a speedy recovery.

Read the report **HERE**. KB

CDC 13th birthday giveaway winner

HAYFEVER is not always a bad thing, as Mani Ramar from Gosnells in Perth discovered when she won a \$13,000 prize as part of Chemist Discount Centre's 13th birthday celebrations.

The catalogue competition was run in-store during Sep to mark 13 years of Chemist Discount Centres, with customers who purchased a Nasonex or Claratyne product entered into the draw to win.

Ramar will use the money to visit family overseas - and take the kids to Disneyland.



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