

Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features three pages of industry news, plus a full page from **Differin**.

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 - more on **p4**.

Moama seminar

REGIONAL pharmacists are invited to take part in a cross-disciplinary asthma and hayfever awareness seminar tonight from 7pm.

Discussions will be led by Clint Flanigan, owner of the Moama Village Pharmacy in southern NSW - more **HERE**.

PSA joins global action on AMR

THE Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) has joined 75 pharmacy organisations from around the world in calling for urgent action to tackle the rise of antibiotic and other antimicrobial resistance (AMR).

The *FIP Copenhagen Declaration on Antimicrobial Resistance* outlines clear priorities to address AMR, including global partnership building, promoting vaccination and rational antimicrobial use, protecting medicine supply chains, and advancing evidence on stewardship and outcomes.

PSA CEO Adjunct A/Prof Steve Morris said the joint statement "marked an urgent call for the health and agricultural sectors to act in halting the rise of AMR".

"PSA is proud to join with colleagues from around the world for collective action to tackle the enormous challenge of antimicrobial resistance," he said.

"Antimicrobial resistance is a multifactorial problem requiring

bold multifactorial responses.

"As Australia's peak body for pharmacists, PSA is committed to playing our role in slowing the emergence of antimicrobial resistance and promoting innovation that drives more rational medicine use."

A/ Prof Morris pointed to a strong body of work from PSA to minimise AMR in Australia.

"PSA has been a leading Australian voice for rational antimicrobial use," A/Prof Morris said.

"This has included development of evidence-based practice guidelines for treatment of uncomplicated cystitis, changes to Cautionary and Advisory Labels to provide more appropriate directions to patients, and through provision of leading education for pharmacists that drives rational medicine use," he explained.

"I look forward to driving the principles outlined in this statement into PSA's advocacy and into PSA's products and services." KB



Ferro-Max CTM

with Vitamin C to aid absorption.*

Available from Symbion, Sigma, API and CH2.

For use when iron deficiency or iron deficiency anaemia has been diagnosed by your doctor and a therapeutic iron supplement is recommended. Always read the label. Follow the directions for use. If symptoms persist, worsen or change unexpectedly, talk to your health professional. *Vitamin C has been shown to enhance the absorption of iron when taken together.



Cheaper medicines legislation passes

THE *National Health Amendment (Cheaper Medicines) Bill 2025* has been passed by both houses of parliament, with a \$25 cap on PBS prescriptions to take effect from 01 Jan next year.

The measure is expected to save Australians around \$200 million per year, and adds to the \$1.5 billion in savings introduced in the Labor Government's last term.

"The reason why we have focused so much on cheaper medicines is that it's obviously good for household budgets, but it's also good for health - we were hearing too many stories of people not filling the scripts that their doctor had said was important for their health because of costs," Minister for Health and Ageing Mark Butler told *ABC News Breakfast* yesterday.

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Dive into our latest podcast episode featuring **Ivan Grauer**, a highly experienced and respected pharmacist for nearly five decades - "Building Relationships in Pharmacy; An insightful conversation".

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Attack Asthma campaign launch

ASTHMA Australia has launched its new *Attack Asthma* campaign during Asthma Week 2025, which runs until 07 Sep.

The campaign aims to support primary care clinicians to shift families from reactive to preventative management, with new research revealing a worrying paradox: while 94% of parents say they feel confident managing their child's asthma, most live in constant fear of the next attack.

The research also found that many families manage their child's asthma symptoms as they arise, with an over-reliance on SABA relievers and a failure to follow treatment plans.

As asthma remains the leading cause of disease burden in children aged 0-14, more than half (58%) of parents admit their child does not use their preventer daily and two-thirds of parents dismiss asthma-like symptoms as a lingering cold or allergies.

"When families are managing asthma crisis by crisis, childhood gets put on hold," said Anthony Flynn, Head of Health Knowledge and Translation at Asthma Australia.

The peak body is calling on health professionals to support families to embed a preventative approach and encourage regular reviews and participation in treatment decisions.

"Primary care clinicians have the power to transform how families experience childhood asthma," said Dr Chris Pearce, GP and Asthma Australia Board Member.

"By initiating preventers earlier and establishing regular six-monthly reviews, we can help families move from surviving each flare-up to confidently managing their child's condition."

Access the Asthma Australia Health Professionals Hub [HERE](#).

IPA recognises suppliers

INDEPENDENT Pharmacies Australia (IPA) hosted its *imPACT* Partnership Forum and Awards Night last week, showcasing the critical role that supplier partners play for IPA's vision for independent pharmacy.

The awards component saw seven of the network's "most committed and enthusiastic" suppliers receive prizes across a range of innovative categories:

- Pioneering Award - Herbs of Gold
- Accountability Award - iNova
- Collaboration Award - Natio
- Tenacity Award - MCoBeauty
- Partnership Excellence - Emily Huynh, Blackmores
- Healthcare Service Excellence Award - Sanofi Pasteur.

Aero Healthcare won the Supplier of the Year award, which recognises a partner demonstrating excellence across every dimension of IPA's awards program, and celebrates suppliers who consistently build strong partnerships with the IPA team and support members to grow and thrive.

"IPA understands the intrinsic role that supplier partners play in delivering value for our members and with this in mind, IPA's *imPACT* Awards Night was an opportune



time to showcase and celebrate the dedicated suppliers within our community," said Darragh O Se, GM Merchandise and Marketing.

"We'd like to formally congratulate all the winners."

In delivering his address, IPA Managing Director Steven Kastrinakis spoke of IPA's vision of continuing to prioritise an elevated and streamlined operating model to demonstrate the network's role as a national brand with local impact.

"We recognise the importance of nights like this to share our strategic vision and celebrate the success we've all had," Kastrinakis said.

"As a pharmacist, I value the opportunity to offer industry updates and share insight on how community pharmacies are increasingly being recognised as an essential part of the frontline healthcare system." KB

PHAA hails tabling of Aus CDC legislation

LEGISLATION tabled today in parliament to make the interim Australian Centre for Disease Control (Aus CDC) permanent has been hailed by the Public Health Association of Australia (PHAA) as "a momentous and welcome step forward for health", and "testament to decades of persistent advocacy".

"We're thrilled because this decision by the Albanese Government to deliver on its promise to legislate to create the Aus CDC is the fulfilment of something that Australia has needed for decades," said PHAA CEO, Adj Prof Terry Slevin.

"Subject to the passage of the

Australian Centre for Disease Control Bill 2025 through the Senate, the timetable of the new agency opening its doors on 01 Jan 2026 can now be met.

"We look forward to Parliament finalising the details in the next few months so that the new Aus CDC can get cracking, and be ambitious in its goals," he added.

Prof Slevin pointed to issues such as the threat of bird flu, chronic disease prevention, public health misinformation, and falling immunisation rates, with the Australian CDC a key central, credible source of information.

"We look forward to reviewing the detail of the bill," he said.

Safer aseptic meds preparation

ADVANCED Pharmacy Australia (AdPha) has renewed its partnership with NSW Health to deliver targeted education and training for Australian healthcare workers involved in aseptic production.

The collaboration will assist in the implementation of the *NSW Health Policy Directive: Preparation of Pharmaceutical and Advanced Therapeutic Products*, which provides guidance on safe and compliant preparation of these products across public health facilities.

To support this, the new Pharmaceutical and Advanced Therapeutic Production Credential has been developed as an evidence-based training program, ensuring all practitioners are skilled in the safe preparation of these products, and operating to the highest professional standards.

Using a multi-modal learning approach, the program is designed for pharmacists, technicians and healthcare personnel across Australia who undertake aseptic compounding or preparation of pharmaceuticals and advanced therapeutic products.

"We're pleased to deepen our collaboration with NSW Health, reflecting our shared commitment to elevating pharmacy practice through comprehensive training, which will be available to practitioners across Australia," said AdPha VP and NSW Board Director, Dr Kate O'Hara.

"This new credential is an important step toward maximising the safe administration of these complex medicines, for those who need them."

The initiative builds on the success of the 2023 collaboration between AdPha and NSW Health, which produced a foundational education package focused on this area of practice.



Dispensary Corner

SOMETIMES you'll see on the news a story about a woman going into labour and the baby simply not waiting, with the birth taking place somewhere like the side of the road en route to the nearest hospital.

UK woman Chiara Musetti went one better by giving birth to her baby girl Siena in the back seat of her BMW while her husband was racing to hospital at 120kph - navigating flooded roads no less.

Siena was born just two-and-a-half hours after contractions began when chaos ensued.

The delivery took place just a few minutes before reaching Furness General Hospital in Cumbria, in the UK's Lakes District in the upper northwest.

Appropriately, Musetti said her baby "popped out" as her husband, James Spence, flew around a roundabout.

Making things even more hairy were the frequent stops the pair had to make from their home in Windermere to make sure the car could get through treacherous waterlogged roads.

"We were about 10 minutes from the hospital when my waters broke, then I knew the birth was going to happen pretty quickly," Musetti told the *UK Independent*.

"About five minutes later her head started coming out.

"I had to sit up in the chair, take my seat belt off and pull my leggings down - she just fell out and I had to catch her in my arms," she recounted.

Baby Siena was born happy and healthy, and is "doing well".

PRODUCT SPOTLIGHT

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

New product launch: APOHEALTH Allergy & Hayfever Nasal Spray 120 dose

APOHEALTH Allergy & Hayfever Nasal Spray 120 dose is an affordable alternative to Dymista Allergy Nasal Spray, which is used for the treatment of moderate to severe allergic rhinitis (hayfever) symptoms such as sneezing, runny, itchy, and/or blocked nose.

Active ingredients include Azelastine (as hydrochloride) 125ug/spray / Fluticasone propionate 50 ug/spray.

Stockist enquiries: Call 1800 276 839 or contact your Vidacorp OTC territory manager.

RRP: AUD\$33.99

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

Always read the label and follow the directions for use.



Mag-Sup powder - a better way to absorb magnesium

Mag-Sup powder is a high absorption magnesium supplement for use in magnesium deficiencies. It contains magnesium aspartate which has increased bioavailability compared to other forms of magnesium. Magnesium aspartate has better oral absorption than magnesium citrate, magnesium glycinate, magnesium chloride and magnesium oxide.

- High dose, once a day
- Rapidly absorbed
- Natural forest berry flavour
- Up to 300mg elemental magnesium per day
- Contains no artificial preservatives, colours or flavours

Available in 200g packs equivalent to 40 doses.

Supplier: Available from Symbion, Sigma, API & CH2.

Contact your Clear Sales representative on 1800 640 043 for special deals.

RRP: \$21.57

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

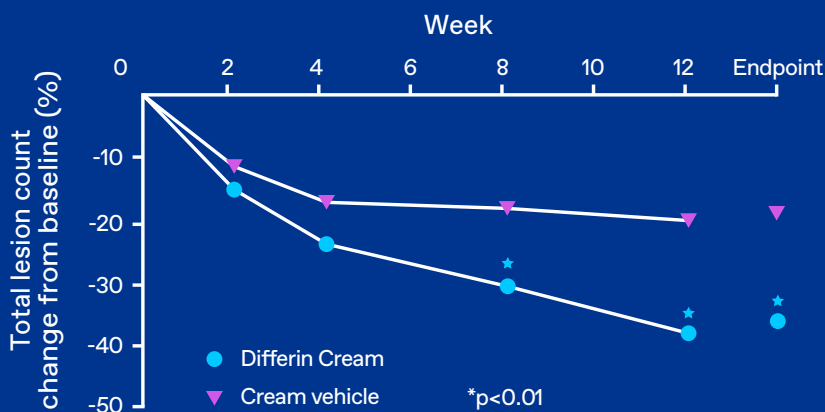
3 Restores

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

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