

Celebrating pharmacists making a difference

This **World Pharmacist Day**, we celebrate our pharmacists for the care they provide every day and the passion that drives them to make an extraordinary impact in their communities.



Veronica Nou
Morris Care &
Advice Pharmacy

Refugee and Human
Rights Activist



Karen Carter
Narrabri Pharmacy

Winner Excellence in
Professional innovation
Guild Pharmacy of the
year 2024



Jack Buckley
Life Pharmacy Forbes &
Flannery's Pharmacy

The 'Flying Pharmacist'.
Bringing healthcare to
remote communities.



Ian Shanks OAM
Fullife Pharmacies &
Fullife Foundation

Medal of the
Order of Australia
(OAM) for service
to the community
through charitable
organisations

Visit ipagroup.com

#WPD2025 #IPAHereforGood

Here for Children

Help us raise much needed funds to support children and families fighting cancer. **Together, we can make a lasting impact.**

Donate now

my room
CHILDREN'S CANCER CHARITY



Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features three pages of news, a cover wrap from **Independent Pharmacies Australia**, plus full pages from:

- **Attain**
- **Glucojel**

Here for good

INDEPENDENT Pharmacies Australia is celebrating its pharmacists for World Pharmacists Day tomorrow - see the **cover page** for more.

Ready to own?

ATTAIN Business Brokers and Medici Capital have created a program to guide you through the journey to pharmacy ownership - more on **page four**.

All treat, no tricks

CUSTOMERS have a chance to win the ultimate Halloween treat haul - a year's supply of Glucojel products. Get your Spookojel POS now - see details on **page five**.

Trust in pharmacists high, but cost barriers remain

NEW research from Patients Australia and Healthengine released yesterday reported that cost-of-living pressures are impacting on healthcare decisions - including medication purchases - for three in four (75%) Australians, with young adults and women most affected.

The seventh *Australian Healthcare Index* is based on a national survey of over 8,000 people, and reveals a healthcare system under mounting pressure, with deepening generational and gender divides in access to care.

Among the outcomes were that more than one in three Australians (35%) have skipped or reduced prescription medications because of cost, an increase on last year's 30% and up from 22% in 2022.

This is despite recent government reforms, such as 60-day dispensing and a reduction in maximum PBS script costs from \$42.50 to \$30.

"These findings suggest that recent policy changes have provided some relief, but affordability remains a barrier for many, particularly younger Australians," the report noted. "The upcoming PBS co-payment reduction to \$25, scheduled for 01

Don't suffer the pain of toothache.

Available from Symbion, Sigma, API & CH2

Always read the label and follow the directions for use.



For the temporary relief of pain from toothache.

Jan 2026, will likely be a welcome step, especially for those who continue to delay or ration essential medicines due to cost."

In good news for pharmacists, trust remains strong and 69% of those surveyed reported having a regular pharmacist or pharmacy - up from 64% in 2024.

Among those who said they would recommend their pharmacist to others, the top reasons provided were helpful staff (69%), reasonable prescription wait times (58%), weekend opening hours (54%), and good communication from the team (52%).

However, long wait times for prescriptions was the main reason why 13% said they would not recommend their pharmacist.

"The sharp rise in concern about prescription wait times is notable and may point to increasing delays in service, rising consumer expectations for faster dispensing, or both," the report stated.

Data also highlighted the broader role of pharmacies in healthcare, with most respondents seeking over-the-counter medicines (64%), and around a quarter visiting for medication advice (26%), health or beauty products (25%), or



vaccinations (24%).

The report also revealed that almost half of respondents (49%) are visiting their GP less often due to high out-of-pocket costs, and more than half of Aussies (58%) have missed or delayed dental treatment because of cost-of-living increases.

Young Australians are the most severely affected by rising costs, with 86% reporting they have altered healthcare decisions due to financial pressures.

This is significantly higher than older age groups (52%), highlighting a generational divide.

It also showed that women are more likely than men to delay care across multiple areas including dental, mental health, diagnostic tests, and allied health services, which may compound existing health risks.

The report is available **HERE**. KB

There's now a smarter way.

Medview

Digital Basket Technology



Think outside the basket.

Find out more

Sudocrem
HEALING CREAM
ZINC OXIDE 15-29 % W/W

A barrier formulation to help protect skin against nappy rash. Protects and provides soothing relief of nappy rash symptoms. Suitable for use by infants, children and adults with incontinence.

SOOTHES AND PROTECTS

100g e

teva

Soothes & Protects against irritation caused by incontinence

Always read the label and follow directions for use.

teva

Differin treats acne

with a potent retinoid: Adapalene.

Acne visibility improves after just 2 weeks.¹



Differin Acne Treatment Gel & Cream Available now over the counter

1. Lucky A et al. *Cutis* 2001; 68 (4 Suppl):34-40. ASK YOUR PHARMACIST ABOUT THIS PRODUCT. ALWAYS FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS FOR USE. Galderma Australia Pty Ltd. 1 Denison St, North Sydney, Australia 2060. AU-DIF-2300001



Priceline advocates for wound care

PRICELINE Pharmacy joined peak bodies and government representatives at a national roundtable addressing Australia's chronic wound epidemic, hosted by Wounds Australia at Parliament House earlier this month.

The event was held during Wound Awareness Week, and highlighted the vital role pharmacists play in care, with Priceline Pharmacy Clinical Services Manager Dr Brett MacFarlane (pictured with Professor Fiona Wood) advocating for expanded pharmacist scope to include wound care services.

"Priceline Pharmacy is the first retail pharmacy chain to sponsor the Wounds Awareness Week, reinforcing its commitment to empowering pharmacists and pharmacy assistants to deliver frontline wound care advice and support in communities across Australia," a spokesperson for Priceline said.



Early detection vital in AF

THIS week marks Hearts4heart's Atrial Fibrillation Awareness Week (22-28 Sep), and with half a million Australians affected by the condition, leading heart physicians have urged pharmacists and other health professionals to get involved in its early detection.

Dr Geoff Lester, a vascular and internal medicine physician, said: "Pharmacists in Australia are playing an increasingly vital role in the early detection of heart conditions, offering an accessible first point of care for communities.

"A simple pulse check can help identify risk factors and guide timely referrals to a GP or hospital before problems become critical," he told **Pharmacy Daily**.

Dr Lester - whose own experience of cardiovascular emergencies at a young age led him to study medicine - is a director of the Hearts4heart charity, and wants all Australian adults to learn how to take their pulse.

"This can be a simple way to identify an irregular heartbeat in 30 seconds, one of the possible signs of atrial fibrillation," he explained, noting that for those unable to find their own pulse, a local pharmacist or GP can assist.

"This straightforward measure can help identify potential issues early and guide people to appropriate medical care before problems become serious."

Atrial fibrillation (AF) is a heart condition in which the heart's upper chamber - the atria - beats erratically, and occurs when there is a disturbance to the heart's electrical system, resulting in an



irregular pulse or heartbeat.

This means the heart is not pumping blood around the body as well as it should, often leading to increased risk of stroke - more than 110 Australians fall victim to stroke every day, with one in four attributed to atrial fibrillation.

"Atrial fibrillation should no longer be considered a heart condition that impacts only people over the age of 65," Dr Lester said.

"The younger you are, the more you're likely to think atrial fibrillation won't impact you, and the more likely you are to ignore the early symptoms like a rapid heartbeat or palpitations, dizziness, tiredness or shortness of breath."

An estimated 500,000 Australians are affected by atrial fibrillation - but up to 30% are unaware they have the condition.

"Many people are unaware they have atrial fibrillation until they have a medical incident," said cardiologist Dr Warrick Bishop.

"With early diagnosis and appropriate medical management, together with lifestyle changes and regular exercise, AF-related strokes are largely preventable," concluded Dr Bishop. KB

Kindness key in First Nations care

ABORIGINAL patients who received hospital care were four times as likely to rate their care as 'very good' if they said health professionals were 'always' kind and caring, according to a report from the Bureau of Health Information (BHI) released today.

The Insights Series - Aboriginal people's experiences of hospital care: 2019 to 2024 is based on survey data from more than 12,000 Aboriginal people, with the report providing insights into the experiences of care of thousands of Aboriginal people who were admitted to a NSW public hospital.

In 2024, most of those who responded to the survey provided positive ratings of care - more than eight in 10 (86%) said their overall care was 'very good' (60%) or 'good' (26%).

However, Aboriginal patients reported significantly less positive experiences than non-Aboriginal patients for most survey questions, and were seven percentage points less likely than non-Aboriginal patients to rate their overall care as 'very good'.

Other measures impacting positively on the overall rating of care were having 'very well organised' care, support from Aboriginal health workers, and admission to rural, rather than urban hospitals.

Read the report [HERE](#).

NEW

MAXOFEN

Paracetamol 500mg & Ibuprofen 200mg



MAXimise your day.
Minimise your pain.

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





Dispensary Corner

WITH several years of using Ozempic for weight loss under our belts, it's clear some people tend to respond better than others - and Japanese researchers have shed some light on whom.

They followed 92 people with type 2 diabetes who were newly prescribed GLP-1s and tracked their weight, body composition, diet, blood sugar, cholesterol and eating behaviours over a year.

The team considered three types of eating linked to weight gain: eating because food looks or smells good; eating when stressed, sad or bored; and restricting food to lose weight.

Most participants lost weight and body fat and saw improvements in cholesterol and blood glucose levels.

In terms of eating behaviour, at the three month mark, most reported eating less in response to emotional triggers and external cues, such as smell or appearance.

However, at one year, emotional eating had returned to earlier levels, while eating triggered by external cues kept declining - and ultimately it was the so-called external eaters who lost the most weight and saw the best blood glucose control.

The authors said that doesn't mean the drugs won't work for emotional eaters - but they may need more than a "miracle shot" to see real results.

Commenting on the implications of the study for obesity treatment, the authors stressed the importance of addressing underlying issues.

PRODUCT SPOTLIGHT

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

Say goodbye to dry, rough and cracked heels

Dermal Therapy Heel Magic is a convenient, easy-to-use stick designed to repair and relieve rough, dry and cracked heels.

Enriched with shea butter, urea and vitamin E, it deeply nourishes and restores skin hydration.

Clinically tested to deliver visible results in three days, its mess-free applicator makes heel care simple and effective.

Heel Magic keeps feet feeling smooth, soft and hydrated.

RRP: AUD \$14.99

Stockist number: Contact 1300 555 597

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



Hartley's Gripe Water



Hartley's Gripe Water is a natural blend of herbal ingredients including dill seed oil, peppermint oil, chamomile and coriander oil. These herbs have been used safely in commercial infant preparations for many years.

The product helps reduce the occurrence of excess intestinal wind and gas in infants, and helps relieve the symptoms of infant colic. It does not contain artificial sweeteners.

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

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

RRP: \$11.27 - 200ml bottle

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

PHARMACY OWNERSHIP READY PROGRAM



VIDEO SERIES

**AVAILABLE
NOW**

Guiding you through the Journey to Pharmacy Ownership

\$385 for 90-day video rental & workbook

Includes access to pre-recorded Pharmacy Ownership
Ready videos from industry experts
so you can watch on demand at a time that suits you.

TOPICS & SPEAKERS



Frank Sirianni
Medici Capital

- Key Insights from my 45+ years in Pharmacy
- Are You Ready & Pharmacy Economic Update
- Due Diligence
- Partnerships in Pharmacy
- Key Financial Metrics



Natalie Sirianni
Attain Business Brokers

- Buying a Pharmacy - The Process
- Improving Pharmacy Value
- Pharmacy Market Update & Tips for Making Offers

Barry Thatcher
Thatcher Finance
Finance Masterclass



Sarah Stoddart
Vitality Law Australia
The Legal Essentials &
Pros & Pitfalls of Partnerships



Christian Sirianni
Medici Valuations
Pharmacy Valuations &
Understanding Financial Statements



Anthony Tassone
Pharmacy Guild of Australia
Community Pharmacy Update



Alexander Look
Pharmacist & Pharmacy Proprietor
My Journey to Pharmacy Ownership



ORDER NOW

<https://iattain.vhx.tv/>

 events@iattain.com.au



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



WOBBLER



**SPOOKOJEL
WOBBLER**



**SPOOKOJEL
A4 POSTERS**