

Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features three pages of news, including our **Beauty & Wellness** feature, plus a full page from **Glucojel**.

Glucojel glucofest

GLUCOJEL is giving customers the chance to win their favourite Glucojel products.

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TGA vape bust

A **MAJOR** TGA operation in south-west Sydney has resulted in the seizure of over 30,000 vapes with an estimated street value of \$1.8 million.

Since the introduction of vaping reforms, the TGA has participated in over 53 joint operations nationwide, to disrupt and deter the illegal vaping trade.

Reinstate telehealth now, says PSA

AS FUEL shortages and high prices threaten the sustainability of Home Medicines Reviews (HMRs), the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) is calling on the Federal Government to reinstate telehealth as a matter of urgency.

Pharmacists involved in HMR services say people will die if they cannot access them, particularly those in rural and remote communities, the PSA stated.

PSA national president Professor Mark Naunton said the reinstatement of telehealth is vital to patient health, pointing out it worked effectively and efficiently during the COVID pandemic.

"Credentialed pharmacists are driving hundreds of kilometres every week, visiting homes and aged care facilities, supporting our most vulnerable Australians as they conduct medication reviews," he said.

"These pharmacists are visiting patients battling terminal illness and those living with chronic



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disease, many of them elderly and isolated," he continued.

"The support these patients need, such as medication reviews, is becoming rapidly unsustainable amid the current fuel crisis, unless the government reinstates telehealth," he concluded.

Credentialed pharmacist Karalyn Huxhagen regularly drives long distances to visit patients in rural centres in Queensland, and said the cost of fuel and inconsistent supplies are a constant concern.

"The fuel crisis has made it impossible to deliver medication reviews in Western Queensland, and with no increase to the travel allowance for several years, the cost of travel and accommodation has made the program non-viable," Huxhagen said.

"I cannot maintain a program at a loss - I am a sole contractor who must now close my business and leave patients without the medication support service that has been in place since 1998." *KB*

RAAHS scripts missing key info

THE Federal Department of Health has urged prescribers to ensure Remote Area Aboriginal Health Services (RAAHS) prescriptions are correctly completed after a review of a sample of scripts found several mandatory elements missing.

These included patient address, quantity, route of administration, prescriber's address, and the service's registration number, with the Department warning that RAAHS prescriptions that do not meet legislative requirements may be subject to processing delays or rejection.

In addition to the elements above, RAAHS scripts must be written and signed by a person authorised to write an RAAHS.

The Department has created a new fact sheet on requirements for the RAAHS program - learn more **HERE**.

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* Williams EA et al. (2009). *Alimentary Pharmacology & Therapeutics*; 29(1):97-103, and Mullish BH et al. (2024). *Neurogastroenterology & Motility*; 36(4):e14751. Both studies funded by Cultech Ltd.

Editor's Choice: Ego Pharmaceuticals pledges to sustainability charter

SKINCARE giant Ego Pharmaceuticals has committed to sustainable manufacturing by officially pledging to the Global Self-Care Federation (GSCF) Charter for Environmentally Sustainable Self-Care.

As part of the pledge, the business is focusing on five key pillars, from reducing carbon emissions through the use of increased renewable energy and facility efficiency to recovering and reusing water through advanced onsite systems.

Ego is also working to minimise landfill waste and increase recycled content in its packaging, while also working with suppliers based on strict quality and modern slavery standards.



According to a statement from Ego, "By joining this global movement, Ego is signalling our leadership in sustainable manufacturing while joining the international self-care

community to share innovation and best practice".

Ego is the parent company for brands including Aqium, AZ Clear Action, DermAid, QV, Soov and plenty more.

RoC eyes new products



ROC Skincare has launched two new eye products - the Retinol Correxion Line Smoothing Eye Cream (RRP \$34.99) and the Multi Correxion Revive & Glow Eye Balm (RRP \$56.99).

Puffiness, dark circles, crow's feet and wrinkles are all taken care of by the new cream, formulated with RoC's exclusive retinol formula and mineral complex, which aims to create vibrant, healthier-looking skin.

According to RoC, the smoothing eye cream is "designed for dramatic results but gentle enough for daily use".

Meanwhile, the new cooling stick glides on to brighten and visibly reduce dark circles, while protecting and rejuvenating the delicate skin around the eyes, thanks to hard-working ingredients such as vitamin C and peptides.

A study from RoC found that users noticed an immediate brightening under the eyes, and dark circles and puffiness had reduced within four weeks.

The new RoC products are now available at Chemist Warehouse.

New Laneige collab

KOREAN beauty brand Laneige has launched its new Glazed Craze collection with reusable bottle brand Frank Green.

The range offers three new shades of ceramic usable bottles, paired with matching tinted lip serums (RRP \$30) in the shades Rose Jam, Lavender Frosting and Black Plum Glaze.



Natio launches new CC cream to tackle rosacea



NATIO'S Dream Skin CC Cream with SPF 50+ (RRP \$23.95) colours, corrects, conceals and conditions skin, while protecting it from UV rays.

Ideal for those with rosacea and pigmentation, the CC cream includes pure mineral pigments that neutralise redness, sallow tones, and dark spots, creating a visibly brighter, more even complexion.

The multitasking all-in-one base combines skincare benefits and offers a satin-finish medium coverage, formulated with niacinamide to improve skin texture; marine collagen, which improves hydration and firmness; and antioxidant green tea extract to soothe redness and irritation.

It is available in eight shades to suit a wide range of skin tones.

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Beauty & Wellness
by Pharmacy Daily



Dispensary Corner

LAST month, *Dispensary Corner* was amused to learn that personal trackers had moved into the brave new world of fart detection wearables (*PD* 17 Mar). “Could things get any more... personal?” we wondered.

It turns out they can - and have. The latest trend in digital health is AI-powered smart toilet trackers, which analyse ones and twos to deliver personalised health, nutrition and digestive system insights.

One such product, Kohler Health’s Dekoda, attaches to the toilet bowl, where it “analyses gut health and hydration and detects the presence of blood in the toilet bowl, providing data for building healthy habits”.

In addition, “It passively tracks the frequency, consistency, and shape [of your waste], then decodes that data into practical insights you can use to create habits for a healthy gut”.

If you’re tempted, the Dekoda costs US\$449 (A\$626) plus an annual membership fee of US\$70- \$130 (A\$100-\$181).

More 24/7 pharmacies for SA

THE South Australian Government has invited pharmacies in Adelaide’s North East, Mount Barker and the Western Suburbs to register interest in providing 24/7 services through Tender SA, as it delivers on a key election commitment.

Three new pharmacies will be selected to join those in Norwood, Hallett Cove, Salisbury Plains and Clovelly Park in providing 24-hour access to medicines and healthcare seven days a week, including public holidays.

Since the first 24/7 pharmacy - National Pharmacies Norwood - opened in February 2024, the highly successful initiative has continued to show strong demand, with more than 600,000 customers and almost 250,000 prescriptions dispensed during the extended hours.

Health Minister Blair Boyer pointed out that 24/7 pharmacies provide convenience and reassurance for South Australians needing health advice or medicines in the middle of the night, and help to reduce pressure on hospital emergency departments.

“With the addition of three new 24/7 pharmacies, this will bolster the resources available in the



community when they need care, closer to home and at any hour of the day or night,” Boyer said.

The government is also supporting a subsidy for an extra 120 pharmacists to undertake post-graduate qualifications to expand their services to diagnose and treat a range of 17 mild and acute conditions, including ear infections, gastro, shingles, reflux and hormonal contraception.

Access to the expanded range of pharmacy services will be phased in over the coming months as pharmacists complete training.

“It’s so rewarding to see how many people have been helped by our wonderful pharmacists and have received timely, professional health care when they need it, close to home, since the opening of the 24/7 pharmacies in South Australia,” concluded SA chief pharmacist, Naomi Burgess. *KB*

Street dispensing after ram-raid

ADVANTAGE Pharmacy in the Melbourne suburb of Lalor was destroyed in a ram-raid at around 10.45pm on Tue night, before thieves fled with what police said was “a large amount of medication”.

A white SUV was captured on CCTV reversing twice into the shopfront, and the vehicle, which was allegedly stolen on 14 Apr, was later found torched.

By Wed afternoon, pharmacists were dispensing urgently-needed medicines from the street, while also assisting local nursing homes with their needs, *Nine News* reported.

Officers from Victoria Police have since arrested a 19-year-old man in Lalor, and charged him with numerous offences.

These included aggravated burglary, theft of a motor vehicle, theft, failure to stop a vehicle on police direction, failure to stop a vehicle after a collision, criminal damage by fire, possession of a drug of dependence and a prohibited weapon, unlicensed driving and committing an indictable offence while on bail.



A FUTURE OF POSSIBILITY

Pharmacy Guild of Australia’s Trent Twomey shares what lies ahead for the industry this year.

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