

Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features two pages of news, plus the **August MIMS Monthly Update**.

StrongRoom AI bounces back

PHARMACY software startup StrongRoom AI is on the road to recovery after its collapse last year (**PD** 31 Mar 2025), with pharmacy franchise owners from TerryWhite Chemmart and Priceline reportedly backing the company to the tune of \$2 million.

According to the *Australia Financial Review*, Joe Zhou, who rescued StrongRoom AI from receivership last Jun, has turned around the company's losses of about \$800,000 per month such that it is now approaching profitability.

This was achieved through simplifying operations and ejecting non-core products.

"I didn't buy StrongRoom AI to flip it," he told the *AFR*.

"StrongRoom AI has a great opportunity ahead of it."

Atopic dermatitis boosts shingles risk

PEOPLE with eczema face an elevated risk of developing herpes zoster (shingles), a large UK study has found, with the researchers suggesting this may have implications for clinical practice and vaccination guidelines.

The team from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine analysed primary care data on over 113 million people listed in a UK database, and found that individuals with eczema had a 28% higher risk of developing shingles after adjusting for other influencing factors such as age, sex, comorbidities, cigarette smoking, and alcohol use.

The effect was more pronounced in younger age groups, particularly in people aged under 50 years.

Health future bright for WA

THE Pharmacy WA Forum 2026 opened yesterday, bringing together over 500 pharmacy owners, pharmacists, industry leaders and other professionals to explore the changes shaping the future of community pharmacy under the theme 'Elevating Practice: Excellence, Innovation, Impact'.

Pharmacy Guild of Australia WA Branch president Andrew Ngeow highlighted the additional accessibility and convenience offered through the state's 700 community pharmacies, with over 400,000 flu vaccinations administered this year to date - most of which were funded by the WA Government.

Meanwhile, over 27,000 Western Australian women have accessed either treatment of uncomplicated urinary tract infection and/or a resupply of oral contraceptive pills.

With the initial cohort of prescribing pharmacists under the Enhanced Access Community Pharmacy Pilot due to graduate over



the coming months, Ngeow said Western Australians will be able to access an even greater range of services towards the end of 2026.

"Providing patients with access to qualified pharmacists who are authorised to assess, manage and prescribe appropriate medicines for a range of conditions remains a priority for the WA Branch," Ngeow said.

The event was officially opened by the WA Minister for Health Meredith Hammat, reinforcing the State Government's commitment to increasing patient access to healthcare in partnership with the community pharmacy sector.

In its 2026/27 state budget, the WA Government has allocated an additional \$4.1 million for training subsidies that will allow at least another two hundred WA pharmacists to enter the Enhanced Access Community Pharmacy Pilot.

Pictured: Guild national president Trent Twomey, senior VP Guild WA Branch Natalie Willis, Meredith Hammat and Andrew Ngeow. *KB*

Vita-D Mini Tablets

Supports bone health, muscle strength and calcium absorption.

NEW

Available in 90's and 250's
Symbion, Sigma, API & CH2

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Dementia action urgently needed

UPDATED data on dementia in Australia has confirmed that it is the leading cause of death, and second leading cause of disease burden.

Recently released figures from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) Dementia in Australia report (available **HERE**) show the significant and growing impact of the condition, and reinforce the urgent need to act on dementia now.

An estimated 446,500 Australians currently live with dementia, a number expected to increase to close to 1.1 million by 2066.

Dementia Australia CEO Prof Tanya Buchanan said the updated report shows the growing impact of dementia and underscores the need to invest in dementia-specific care and support services.

"The report highlights the clear and growing impact of dementia as a chronic disease," Prof Buchanan said.

"The data shows dementia as a burden of disease has increased relative to other conditions for that past two decades but despite this, investment in dementia specific services and supports have not kept pace.

"Dementia is a leading public health issue, but it still doesn't receive the recognition and funding it needs."

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Pharmacist
Launceston, TAS (Job #49524)

- Progressive pharmacy with extensive clinical and professional services.
- Up to \$65/ph + relocation negotiable + PD
- Supportive team environment.

Affordable living with award-winning food & wine, breathtaking national parks, pristine beaches & an enviable work-life balance!

...see more info



Dispensary Corner

WHETHER you are a first-born or second-born sibling may influence your risk of developing certain diseases, according to new research published in *Nature Health*.

The US team analysed two decades of data from the health records of more than 10 million people from over five million two-child families.

Among the 400-plus diseases they analysed, 150 showed significant birth-order links.

First-borns were more often diagnosed with autism and ADHD, tics and Tourette syndrome, as well as depression and anxiety.

They also had higher rates of allergy-related conditions like asthma, allergic rhinitis and food allergies, which backs earlier research showing that younger siblings often have lower rates of allergies and asthma - possibly due to older brothers or sisters bringing more microbes into the home.

Second-born children, meanwhile, were more likely to experience substance abuse, migraines, digestive issues like gastritis, shingles and some joint conditions.

Potential reasons why birth order might influence disease risk include the possibility that first-time parents may watch their first child more closely, leading to earlier diagnoses of conditions like autism and ADHD, while for behavioural risks like substance abuse, younger siblings may also be exposed to older peer groups at an earlier age.

PRODUCT SPOTLIGHT

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

MagZorb Magnesium Glycinate

MagZorb Magnesium Glycinate contains highly bioavailable magnesium glycinate for optimal absorption, and is available in both easy-to-swallow capsules and a great-tasting powder to suit patient preference.

- Developed by Australian pharmacists
- Excellent gastrointestinal tolerance
- Supports muscle function, nervous system health, relaxation and healthy sleep
- A premium magnesium solution designed to build patient confidence, satisfaction and repeat purchases
- Capsules suitable for adults; powder suitable for adults and children aged 4 years+

Active Ingredient: Magnesium Glycinate 500mg

RRP: \$33.00

Stockist enquiries: Available from API, Symbion and CH2.

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

Always read the label and follow the directions for use.



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.

Suppliers: 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.

New Products

- **Pegunigalsidase alfa (Elfabrio)** is a pegylated recombinant form of human alpha-galactosidase-A. The amino acid sequence of the recombinant form is similar to the naturally occurring human enzyme. Pegunigalsidase alfa supplements or replaces alpha-galactosidase-A, the enzyme that catalyses the hydrolysis of the terminal α -galactosyl moieties of oligosaccharides and polysaccharides in the lysosome, where it is thought to exert enzymatic activity and reduce accumulated globotriaosylceramide (Gb3). *Elfabrio is indicated for long-term enzyme replacement therapy in adult patients with a confirmed diagnosis of Fabry disease.* Elfabrio concentrate for infusion contains pegunigalsidase alfa 20 mg per 10 mL and is available in packs of 1 vial.
- **Tafasitamab (Minjuvi)** is an Fc-enhanced monoclonal antibody that targets the CD19 antigen expressed on the surface of pre-B and mature B lymphocytes, and on several B-cell malignancies, including diffuse large B-cell lymphoma (DLBCL) and follicular lymphoma (FL). Upon binding to CD19, tafasitamab mediates B-cell lysis through engagement of immune effector cells like natural killer cells, $\gamma\delta$ T cells and phagocytes and direct induction of cell death (apoptosis). The Fc modification results in enhanced antibody-dependent cellular cytotoxicity and antibody-dependent cellular phagocytosis. *Minjuvi in combination with lenalidomide followed by Minjuvi monotherapy is indicated (with provisional approval) for the treatment of adult patients with relapsed or refractory DLBCL who are not eligible for autologous stem cell transplant (ASCT). It is also indicated in combination with rituximab and lenalidomide for the treatment of adult patients with relapsed or refractory FL (Grade 1-3a). It is not indicated and is not recommended for the treatment of patients with relapsed or refractory marginal zone lymphoma outside of controlled clinical trials.* See lenalidomide and rituximab product information for the contraindications to combination therapy. Minjuvi powder for infusion contains tafasitamab 200 mg and is available in packs of 1 vial. Each vial contains 40 mg/mL of tafasitamab after reconstitution.

New Indications

- **Belzutifan (Welireg)** is now indicated for the treatment of adult patients with advanced renal cell carcinoma (RCC) with a clear cell component following a programmed cell death 1/ligand 1 (PD-1/L1) and a vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF)-targeted therapy.
- **Lutetium (^{177}Lu) vipivotide tetraxetan (Pluvicto)** is now indicated for the treatment of adult patients with prostate-specific membrane antigen (PSMA)-positive metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer (mCRPC) who have been treated with androgen receptor pathway inhibitor (ARPI) therapy, and are considered appropriate to delay taxane-based chemotherapy, or have received prior taxane-based chemotherapy.
- **Odevixibat (sesquihydrate) (Bylvay)** is now also indicated for the treatment of cholestatic pruritus in Alagille syndrome (ALGS) in patients aged 6 months or older.

New Contraindications

- **Cyproheptadine hydrochloride (sesquihydrate) (Periactin)** is now also contraindicated in children under 6 years of age because of the potential for fatal respiratory depression, psychiatric and CNS (central nervous system) events.

*This list is a summary of only some of the changes that have occurred over the last month.
Before prescribing, always refer to the full product information.*