Pharmacy Daily
Thursday 5th Feb 2026

Today's issue of *PD*

Pharmacy Daily today features three pages of industry news, including our **Beauty & Wellness** feature, plus the **February Monthly MIMS Update**.

MIMS Feb update

MIMS has released its monthly update for Feb - see **page four** for details.

Guidelines unclear

PHARMACISTS are calling for "simpler, clearer" guidelines around prescribing the morning-after pill, with new research showing many default to the cheaper LNG option despite it being less effective than UPA.

In findings published in the *Australian Journal of Primary Health*, researchers said pharmacists described the emergency contraception guidelines as "inaccessible, ambiguous and impractical", leading to confusion over when to prescribe which pill.

UNSW tackles pharmacy skills shortage

THE University of NSW is addressing Australia's pharmacy workforce shortage by preparing students for frontline care through its newly launched full-sized simulation pharmacy.

Located within the UNSW Health Translation Hub, the 35,600m^2 facility replicates the pressures and complexities faced by pharmacists, giving students the opportunity to practise patient counselling, clinical decision-making and interprofessional collaboration in a safe and supervised environment.

A unique feature of the simulation pharmacy is its flexible design, which allows fixtures to be reconfigured to recreate both traditional and emerging models of community and hospital pharmacy within a single space.

UNSW students will use the simulation pharmacy as a core part of their training, gaining hands-on experience before undertaking clinical placements and professional practice.

The facility also supports lifelong learning, providing opportunities for practising pharmacists to upskill and integrate with clinicians.

"Facilities like the simulation pharmacy allow students to develop the skills, confidence and professional judgement they need to deliver high-quality, patient-centred care from day one," said Dean of UNSW Medicine and Health Professor Cheryl Jones.

"By embedding hands-on, immersive learning into our programs, we are ensuring graduates are well equipped to meet the evolving needs of patients and health systems across Australia," she added.

UNSW Pharmacy Academic Lead Associate Professor Ramesh Walpola said the simulation space would benefit both students and the wider health workforce.

"This brand-new space will enable our students to bridge the gap into new areas of practice, while also allowing current practitioners to come in, gain experience and take those skills back into the real world," Walpola said.

"It's about building confidence, capability and adaptability - qualities that are essential in today's evolving healthcare landscape," he added. *JM*

Photo supplied by Richard Freeman/UNSW.

Editor's Choice: Summer never ends for suncare brand Bondi Sands

AUSTRALIAN suncare and self-tanning brand Bondi Sands has recently undergone a refreshed brand identity across its packaging to help shoppers search for the ideal product for their diverse skincare needs.

It coincides with the brand's new 'Summer never ends' campaign which rolls out this month across digital, social and retail platforms, featuring new global ambassadors.

These include Australian influencer Sammy Robinson, UK reality TV personality Chloe Burrows and US twins and TikTok influencers Azra and Aisha Mian, who have all been tasked to inspire audiences to embrace a healthy glow while practicing sun care safety.

"Bondi Sands has always celebrated our iconic namesake Bondi Beach, and now we're bringing summer to life as a mindset and attitude - empowering our community to feel confident in their own skin," explained Kym Bonollo, senior director of brand and marketing.

Bondi Sands is stocked in major retailers across more than 30 global markets.

All eyes on Eaoron

SKINCARE brand Eaoron may have launched in Australia more than 10 years ago, but it is much more popular overseas, particularly in China, Vietnam and Singapore.

The brand is currently available at Chemist Warehouse, Priceline and Amcal, and is known for its hydrating range of products.

Earon's moisturising hyaluronic cream (RRP $52.95) can be used in a multitude of ways, including as a daily moisturiser, a primer to smooth the skin for make-up application and a night mask for deep overnight hydration.

The NMN Line Filler Mask (RRP $38.95) is formulated with a combination of ingredients including Oligopeptide to reduce the appearance of wrinkles, witch hazel extract for anti-inflammatory and antioxidant properties, and Leucojum Aestivum Extract to strengthen the skin barrier.

Lastly, the hero product of the range is Hyaluronic Acid Gluthathione Essence ($51.95) formulated with 99.2% anhydrous pure essence and conopeptides to offer hydration and rejuvenation.

Food for the skin

WELEDA'S much-loved Skin Food range now includes the new Skin Food Body Wash Shower Cream (RRP $19.95), gently cleansing the skin while offering instant nourishment and hydration.

Ingredients include chamomile flower and calendula flower and viola tricolour extracts.

Glasshouse says 'oui oui' to *Emily in Paris*

AUSTRALIAN brand Glasshouse Fragrance has collaborated with hit TV sitcom *Emily in Paris* to create a limited edition candle called Oui Oui Emily (RRP $64.95).

The Parisian-inspired fragrance features top notes of lychee, peach, pear and raspberry, with a heart of rose and violet buds, followed by base notes of praline, vanilla, caramel and patchouli.

According to Glasshouse Fragrances, "it's giving confidence, it's giving French couture, it's giving croissant for dinner".

The candle is made with natural lead-free cotton wicks and non-toxic soy blend wax.

Glasshouse was founded in 2005 by Nicole Eckels and has since expanded around the world, including Asia, the UK and beyond.

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Dispensary Corner

A NEW study has uncovered a link between a common health condition experienced by women and dark personality traits, including psychopathy.

A team of researchers from Ashkelon Academic College in Israel found that people who suffer from hyperthyroidism - which is around 10 times more common in women than men - have higher levels of psychopathy, Machiavellianism and sadism compared to those with normal thyroid function.

"These preliminary findings suggest that elevated thyroid hormone levels may be associated with a personality profile marked by greater antagonism and reduced empathic functioning," the researchers said.

The condition is characterised by higher levels of the T_3 and T_4 hormones, which increase central nervous system activity.

"This hyper-aroused state has been linked to emotional instability, impulsive behaviour and heightened aggression," the research team explained.

Pride & Progress 2027

THE one-year countdown for the Pride and Progress in Pharmacy Conference 2027 has begun, scheduled to take place from 04-06 Feb 2027 at Zinc Conference Centre in Melbourne.

Supported by the International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP), the world-first event is dedicated to advancing inclusive pharmacy practice in LGBTQIA+ health.

The conference will be a forum for the sharing of information, resources, research, and innovative care strategies, with a focus on both LGBTQIA+ patients and pharmacists.

Attendees can expect discussions on evidence-based care, cultural safety, gender-affirming practice, HIV prevention, inclusive education, and workforce wellbeing.

Pharmacists, technicians, educators, researchers, students, and health leaders from all pharmacy and other healthcare settings are encouraged to attend.

"The conference is an opportunity to upskill regarding the needs and preferences of this often vulnerable and underserved patient group," said conference chair, Professor Lisa Nissen from the University of Queensland.

"It will connect LGBTQIA+ practitioners and allies, building and strengthening support networks in what is often an isolating practice environment."

The global call for abstracts will open shortly - practictioners can stay up-to-date **HERE**. *JM*

Dementia rising

THE number of Australians living with dementia in 2026 has increased to an estimated 446,500, and is expected to double to more than one million people by 2065.

The new data released by Dementia Australia today also highlights that the condition effects people of all ages, with approximately 29,000 people living with young onset dementia (a diagnosis of any kind of dementia for patients aged 18-65).

This figure is projected to increase to 41,000 by 2054.

"There is a critical demand for a national program to promote brain health throughout our lives as well as a pressing need to provide quality care and support services for people of all ages living with dementia, their families and carers," said Dementia Australia CEO Professor Tanya Buchanan.

The organisation is calling on the Federal Government to invest in implementing the National Dementia Action Plan, a 10-year framework released in late 2024.

Dementia is now the leading cause of death in Australia.

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MIMS Monthly Update

February 2026

New Products

- **Delgocitinib (Anzupgo)** is a pan Janus kinase (JAK) inhibitor that targets the activity of all four members of the JAK family of enzymes consisting of JAK1, JAK2, JAK3, and tyrosine kinase 2 in a concentration dependent manner. In human cellular studies, inhibition of the JAK-STAT pathway by delgocitinib attenuates the signalling of several pro-inflammatory cytokines (including interleukin (IL)-2, IL-4, IL-6, IL-13, IL-21, IL-23, granulocyte-macrophage-colony-stimulating factor, and interferon-α), downregulating the immune and inflammatory responses in cells of relevance to chronic hand eczema (CHE) pathology. *Anzupgo is indicated for the treatment of moderate to severe CHE in adults for whom topical corticosteroids are inadequate or inappropriate.* Anzupgo cream contains delgocitinib 2% and is available in 15 g or 60 g tubes.

- **Landiolol hydrochloride (Rapiblyk)** is a highly selective beta-1-adrenoreceptor antagonist (the selectivity for beta-1 receptor blockade is 255 times higher than for beta-2-receptor blockade) that inhibits the positive chronotropic effects of the catecholamines adrenaline and noradrenaline on the heart, where beta-1-receptors are predominantly located. Landiolol, as other beta-blockers, is thought to reduce the sympathetic drive, resulting in reduction in heart rate, decrease in spontaneous firing of ectopic pacemakers, slowing the conduction and increasing the refractory period of the atrioventricular (AV) node. In clinical studies, landiolol controlled tachycardia in an ultra-short acting manner with a fast onset and offset of action and further demonstrated anti-ischaemic and cardioprotective effects. *Rapiblyk is indicated in adults for supraventricular tachycardia and for the rapid control of ventricular rate in patients with atrial fibrillation or atrial flutter in perioperative, postoperative, or other circumstances where short-term control of the ventricular rate with a short acting agent is desirable; and for non-compensatory sinus tachycardia where, in the physician's judgment the rapid heart rate requires specific intervention. It is not intended for use in chronic settings*. Rapiblyk is contraindicated in severe bradycardia (less than 50 beats per minute); sick sinus syndrome without pacemaker; severe AV nodal conductance disorders (without pacemaker): 2nd or 3rd degree AV block; cardiogenic shock; severe hypotension; decompensated heart failure when considered not related to the arrhythmia; pulmonary hypertension; non-treated phaeochromocytoma; acute asthmatic attack; and severe, uncorrectable metabolic acidosis. Rapiblyk powder for infusion contains landiolol hydrochloride 300 mg and is available in packs of 1 vial.

- **Lutetium (^{177}Lu) oxodotreotide (Lutathera)** has a high affinity for subtype 2 somatostatin receptors (SST_2). It binds to malignant cells which express SST_2. Lutetium-177 is a beta-minus emitting radionuclide with a maximum penetration range in tissue of 2.2 mm (mean penetration range of 0.67 mm), causing death of the targeted tumour cells with a limited effect on neighbouring normal cells. *Lutathera is indicated for the treatment of somatostatin receptor-positive gastroenteropancreatic neuroendocrine tumours, including foregut, midgut, and hindgut neuroendocrine tumours in adults*. Lutathera is contraindicated in patients with kidney failure with creatinine clearance < 30 mL/min; in patients with hypersensitivity to one or more amino acids or congenital abnormality of amino acid metabolism; and in established or suspected pregnancy or when pregnancy has not been excluded. Lutathera solution for infusion contains lutetium (^{177}Lu) oxodotreotide 370 mBq per 1 mL and is available in packs of 1 vial.

- **Pyrazinamide (Pyrazinamide-AFT)** is a prodrug that is converted to the active form pyrazinoic acid (POA) by pyrazinamidase/nicotinamidase encoded by the pncA gene in *M. tuberculosis*. Pyrazinamide is generally active only at an acid pH. The precise mechanism of action is unknown. Possible mechanisms of antibacterial activity include: (1) activation of the sigma factor (SigE)-dependent cell envelope stress response, (2) binding of POA to aspartate decarboxylase (PanD), and (3) POA binding to ribosomal protein S1 (RpsA) of *M. tuberculosis*. Inhibition of fatty acid synthesis may also contribute to the activity of POA. *Pyrazinamide-AFT is indicated in adult patients of more than 12 years of age with active drug-sensitive tuberculosis caused by Mycobacterium tuberculosis. Pyrazinamide-AFT is an anti-tuberculosis agent used in combination with other anti-tuberculosis agents and is commonly used in the first 2 months of treatment*. Pyrazinamide-AFT is contraindicated in patients with hepatic disease, hyperuricaemia and/or gouty arthritis. Pyrazinamide-AFT tablets contain pyrazinamide 500 mg and are available in packs of 100.

- **Vanzacaftor (calcium), tezacaftor and deutivacaftor (Alyftrek)** is a fixed combination of 2 cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator (CFTR) correctors and a potentiator. Vanzacaftor and tezacaftor bind to different sites on the CFTR protein and have an additive effect in facilitating the cellular processing and trafficking of select mutant forms of CFTR (including *F508del*-CFTR) to increase the amount of CFTR protein delivered to the cell surface compared to either molecule alone. Deutivacaftor potentiates the channel open probability (or gating) of the CFTR protein at the cell surface. The combined effect is increased quantity and function of CFTR at the cell surface, resulting in increased CFTR activity as measured both by CFTR mediated chloride transport *in vitro* and by sweat chloride in people with cystic fibrosis (CF). *Alyftrek is indicated for the treatment of those who meet the diagnostic criteria for CF in people aged 6 years and older who have at least one mutation in the CFTR gene that is responsive based on clinical or in vitro evidence.* Alyftrek tablets contain vanzacaftor 4 mg, tezacaftor 20 mg and deutivacaftor 50 mg available in packs of 84 or vanzacaftor 10 mg, tezacaftor 50 mg and deutivacaftor 125 mg available in packs of 56.

New Presentation

- **Adrenaline (epinephrine) (neffy)** is now available as a nasal spray. *neffy is indicated for emergency treatment of type I allergic reactions, including anaphylaxis, in adults and children aged 4 years and older and weighing 15 kg or greater.* neffy nasal spray contains adrenaline (epinephrine) 1 mg per 1 actuation or 2 mg per 1 actuation and is available in packs of 2 single use devices.

- **Amikacin (sulfate)** **(Amikacin Kabi)** is now available as a solution for infusion containing amikacin 500 mg per 100 mL and is available in packs of 10 bottles.

- **Tenecteplase (rch)** **(Metalyse 25 mg)** is now available in 25 mg powder for injection. *Metalyse 25 mg is indicated in adults for the thrombolytic treatment of acute ischaemic stroke (AIS) within 4.5 hours from last known well and after exclusion of intracranial haemorrhage.* Metalyse 25 mg is contraindicated in AIS without disabling neurological deficit; in situations associated with a risk of bleeding such as: history or evidence or suspicion of intracranial haemorrhage including subarachnoid haemorrhage, significant bleeding disorder at present or within the past 6 months, known haemorrhagic diathesis, active systemic non-compressible bleeding, patients with effective anticoagulation (e.g. INR > 1.7), any history of central nervous system damage (i.e. neoplasm, aneurysm, intracranial or spinal surgery), thoracic aortic dissection, severe uncontrolled arterial hypertension, prolonged or traumatic cardiopulmonary resuscitation (> 2 minutes) within the past 2 weeks, severe hepatic dysfunction (including hepatic failure, cirrhosis, portal hypertension (oesophageal varices) and active hepatitis), active peptic ulceration, arterial aneurysm and known arterial/venous malformation, neoplasm with increased bleeding risk, acute pericarditis and/or subacute bacterial endocarditis, acute pancreatitis; and in patients with known hypersensitivity to gentamicin. Metalyse 25 mg powder for injection contains tenecteplase 25 mg and is available in packs of 1 vial.

New Indications

- **Binimetinib** **(Mektovi)** and **Encorafenib** **(Braftovi)** in combination, are now also indicated for the treatment of adult patients with metastatic non-small cell lung cancer with a BRAF V600E mutation.

- **Brentuximab vedotin** **(Adcetris)** is now also indicated for the treatment of adult patients with previously untreated CD30+ Stage IIB with large mediastinal mass and/or extranodal disease, Stage III or Stage IV Hodgkin lymphoma in combination with etoposide, cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin, dacarbazine, dexamethasone.

- **Burosumab** **(Crysvita)** is now also indicated for the treatment of fibroblast growth factor 23-related hypophosphataemia in tumour induced osteomalacia associated with phosphaturic mesenchymal tumours that cannot be curatively resected or localised in adults, adolescents and children 1 year of age or older.

- **Mepolizumab** **(Nucala)** is now also indicated as an add-on maintenance treatment for adult patients with uncontrolled chronic obstructive pulmonary disease with raised blood eosinophils on stable inhaler triple therapy (or, where clinically required, an equivalent regimen).

New Contraindications

- **Cinnarizine and dimenhydrinate** **(Cizinate)** is now also contraindicated in children under 6 years of age because of the potential for fatal respiratory depression, psychiatric and central nervous system events.

- **Ibuprofen and codeine phosphate hemihydrate** **(Nurofen Plus)** is now contraindicated in all trimesters of pregnancy.

- **Mitomycin** **(Mitomycin Omegapharm)** is now also contraindicated in patients with pancytopenia or isolated leukopenia/thrombopenia, haemorrhagic diathesis, acute infections and breastfeeding. During systemic therapy, restrictive or obstructive disturbances to pulmonary ventilation, renal function, liver function and/or a poor general state of health are relative contraindications, and temporal connection with radiotherapy or other cytostatic may be a further contraindication. During intravesical therapy, perforation of the bladder wall is an absolute contraindication, and cystitis is a relative contraindication.

- **Paracetamol and pseudoephedrine hydrochloride** **(Chemists' Own Cold & Flu Relief)** is now also contraindicated in patients with uncontrolled hypertension and severe acute or chronic kidney disease/renal failure.

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.