

Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features two pages of news.

APP2026 comp closes on Fri

THE Guild is offering APP2026 attendees the chance to win a package including full conference registration with Sat night street party ticket, return economy class flights to the Gold Coast and three nights at The Star Gold Coast.

Entries close Fri 16 Jan at 5pm AEST.

Click [HERE](#) for details.

Formula recall



NESTLE Australia has recalled select batches of Alfamino infant formula as a precautionary measure due to the potential presence of cereulide.

Cereulide is produced by the microorganism *Bacillus cereus* in one of the ingredients supplied for the batches concerned.

The following batches are affected by the recall:

- 51070017Y2
- 51080017Y1
- 51480017Y3
- 51490017Y1
- 52030017Y1

The product is sold through select pharmacies and hospitals, and parents who have purchased any of these products should not feed this product to their child and return the product to the retailer where it was purchased for a full refund.

Learn more [HERE](#).

Pharmacists in the making



DIRECT Chemist Outlet (DCO) will be hosting its popular Little Pharmacist Experience in participating stores around the country on Sat 17 Jan, with over 4,000 families already booked in.

The free, one-day community event is designed to educate children and families about the role pharmacists play in everyday healthcare, and gives kids a hands-on introduction to what happens behind the counter.

After donning their white coats, kids get to role play pharmacists and their parents become script-bearing patients, with real pharmacists guiding the children through questions and checks.

While kids learn the importance of responsibility and attention to detail, parents and carers learn more about the services available at their local pharmacy, often without the need for appointments or long wait times.

Each child receives an official Little Pharmacist Experience certificate, celebrating their

participation in this memorable school holiday activity.

"The pharmacy is often the most accessible healthcare touchpoint in the community," DCO general manager Rhianna Davis said.

"This event is about helping families understand the role pharmacists play in their health and wellbeing".

Beyond education, the event also aims to inspire, and by introducing children to healthcare roles in a positive, approachable way, DCO hopes to spark curiosity and interest in future careers in health, science and community care.

"This event is about opening doors," said DCO brand manager Ryan Fehily.

"By helping families understand the role their local pharmacist plays in healthcare, we're strengthening the connection between pharmacies and the communities they serve.

"Hopefully, this event inspires the next generation of health care professionals," he concluded.

FIP emergency healthcare module

THE International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) is holding an online training session that aims to prepare pharmacists for working with the WHO Interagency Emergency Health Kits (IEHK) before being deployed to an emergency or disaster.

The IEHK are commonly used by aid organisations when

responding to emergencies and contain only 80 medicines.

The challenge, said the FIP, is to use the limited number of medicines rationally and efficiently to provide rapid care to the affected population.

The session will be held on 20 Jan, and be available afterwards on demand - learn more [HERE](#).

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First PFIC drug listed on PBS

IPSEN Australia has announced the listing of Bylvay (odevixibat) on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) for the treatment of patients six months and older with progressive familial intrahepatic cholestasis (PFIC).

PFIC is a group of rare genetic disorders in which bile acids build up in the liver, causing damage which may result in liver failure.

It typically manifests and is most aggressive in infants and young children.

The disease impacts patients' daily lives through debilitating symptoms including severe pruritus which can result in skin mutilation, loss of sleep, irritability, poor attention and impaired school performance.

Bylvay is a once-daily, oral, ileal bile acid transport inhibitor that reduces reabsorption of bile acid back to the liver.

It is the first and only medicine specifically approved and reimbursed for treating PFIC in Australia and is a welcome alternative to surgical interventions for patients and their families.

"Children with PFIC often endure relentless itching that affects their daily quality of life," said paediatric gastroenterologist, Professor Winita Hardikar, head of liver and intestinal transplantation at Victoria's Royal Children's Hospital and director of the Liver Foundation.

"This includes regular, nightly sleep disturbance, which can have a negative impact on the whole family.

"The reimbursement of Bylvay as a once-daily oral therapy represents a welcomed new option in how we approach this disease and offers hope for patients and families in Australia living with the devastating impact of PFIC," she concluded.



Dispensary Corner

THERE is now an egg-cellent solution for patients looking to come off weight loss jabs like Ozempic and Wegovy.

According to Adam Collins, Associate Professor of Nutrition at the University of Surrey, eggs can help prevent people from regaining the weight they lost while on the appetite-suppressing drugs.

"Long-term studies of GLP-1 drugs show that once people stop taking them, they regain more than half of the weight they lost," Collins wrote in an article for *The Conversation*.

"This rebound may be even stronger than other dieting methods because of how GLP-1 drugs interact with appetite hormones," he explained.

Eggs are a simple solution and affordable, Collins pointed out, because their protein "triggers the release of the body's own GLP-1, while also suppressing the hunger hormone ghrelin".

They have also been repeatedly shown to help people feel fuller for longer and eat less at later meals.

HPV vax gives herd immunity

SWEDISH research has revealed that women growing up in areas with school-based human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination programs were less likely to have serious pre-cancerous changes in their cervix - even if they themselves were unvaccinated.

The study evaluated health data on over 800,000 women in Sweden born between 1985-2000 who had not received an HPV vaccine to look for changes in the rate of high-grade cervical lesions as vaccination policies changed in the country.

While HPV vaccination is known to greatly reduce the risk of serious cervical changes in people who are vaccinated, it is less clear whether it also protects those who are not vaccinated.

Four different vaccination phases were compared: opportunistic vaccination (1985-1988), subsidised programs (1989-1992), catch-up programs (1993-1998), and school-based vaccination (1999-2000).

The researchers found that unvaccinated women born in 1999-2000 who grew up in the



era of a school-based vaccination program had about half the risk of developing a serious cervical lesion compared to unvaccinated women born from 1985-1988, when vaccination was less common.

While acknowledging that it was an observational study and there may be other factors involved, the researchers said school-based HPV vaccination programs play an important role as a cost-effective strategy to reduce cervical disease and cancer risk not only in vaccinated individuals, but across entire populations.

"This finding shows that the herd effect can be achieved through high-coverage HPV vaccination," they concluded.

Read the paper [HERE](#). KB

Nurse banned for illegal botox

QUEENSLAND nurse Thia Sullivan has been banned from nursing for two years after investigations from Ahpra determined she had unlawfully and inappropriately injected a formulation of botulinum toxin into a patient without consulting a doctor or obtaining a prescription.

Sullivan also created false records in relation to the cosmetic treatments and provided false and/or misleading information and documents to Ahpra investigators on three separate occasions in Sep 2019 and Mar 2020, and despite being suspended from practice continued to do so.

After a hearing at the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal in Sep last year, Sullivan was reprimanded, had her registration cancelled and is banned from reapplying for registration as a nurse until 29 Sep 2027.

She is also prohibited from providing any health service, including cosmetic injectables, until she is re-registered.

Check out the latest in

Beauty & Wellness

Every Thursday in *Pharmacy Daily*



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