

Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features two pages of news, plus full pages from:

- Pharmacy Connect 2026
- StirlingFildes

Last chance to win

PHARMACY Connect is offering the chance to win a prize package comprising two nights' accommodation at the Hyatt Regency Sydney and full conference registration.

Entries close Fri 31 Jul - learn more on **page three**.

Introducing SF+

STIRLINGFILDES has evolved, with SF+ offering a multi-channel pharmacy growth platform that makes it simpler for brands to reach more pharmacies and grow with confidence.

Learn more on **page four**.

Chronic pain under-recognised, under-funded

THE latest National Pain Report from Chronic Pain Australia has revealed that millions are living with chronic pain that remains largely invisible across Australia's health system.

Released to mark National Pain Week, which runs from 26-31 Jul, the report highlights a disconnect between the widespread impact of chronic pain and the lack of recognition, measurement and action within the health system.

One in five Australians live with chronic pain, making it one of the nation's leading causes of disability.

The report noted that 42% of people surveyed had stopped working because of chronic pain, and 72% said cost is preventing them from accessing healthcare.

Those experiencing chronic pain also reported waits of many years for a diagnosis, feeling ignored or dismissed when seeking healthcare, and developing mental health issues.

Despite the large number of people affected by the condition,

Chronic Pain Australia said it receives only a fraction of the recognition, funding and policy attention afforded to other major chronic health conditions.

"The National Pain Report provides some of the strongest evidence available of what Australians living with chronic pain experience every day - it should be a catalyst for recognising chronic pain as a national health priority," Chronic Pain Australia chair Nicolette Ellis said.

The Pharmacy Guild of Australia has responded to the report, saying the findings reinforce the need for a more coordinated and patient-centred approach to chronic pain management, with pharmacists standing ready to provide support.

"No one should feel dismissed or left to navigate chronic pain alone," Guild president Professor Trent Twomey said.

"Whether it's reviewing medications, supporting the safe

use of pain treatments, providing advice on self-management strategies or helping patients access additional healthcare services, pharmacists are making a meaningful difference every day."

The National Pain Report is **HERE**.



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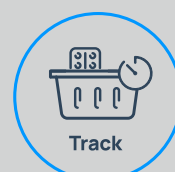
Kids' homeopathy recall extended

THE TGA has advised that Key Sun Laboratories has recalled nine additional batches of Key Sun Kids Homeopathic Products, due to the risk of a small metal wire being present in the lozenge.

The recall follows one involving four batches earlier in the month, with the company also experiencing a similar issue last year (**PD** 16 Dec 2025) - learn more **HERE**.

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Dispensary Corner

MOST of us have probably heard the advice you should drink a glass of water with meals so you fill up more quickly and eat less, but it turns out that this may actually produce the opposite effect.

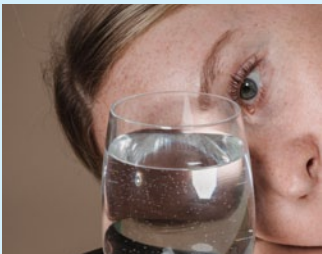
Researchers from Cornell University in New York and Penn State University in Pennsylvania put the theory to the test by combining data from two experiments involving 86 adults.

The participants ate as much beef chilli or chicken tikka masala as they wanted along with water, and were filmed so researchers could measure how much they drank, including the number of sips they took, their sip size, their drinking speed, and how often they switched between bites of food and sips of water.

Surprisingly, people who drank more water ate more food, not less, and people who alternated more often between food and water also ate more.

For every extra 100g of water participants drank, they ate 39 more grams of food, which is around 49 more calories.

The researchers believe this could be because water provides lubrication and prevents a dry mouth, making food more enjoyable.



AdPha welcomes renewed push for VAD equity

ADVANCED Pharmacy Australia (AdPha) has welcomed the reintroduction of legislation that will allow telehealth consultations for voluntary assisted dying (VAD), ultimately helping remove barriers that prevent equitable access to end-of-life care.

The proposed amendment to the Commonwealth Criminal Code would exclude VAD from the definition of "suicide" and will be introduced by the Greens and independent MP Kate Chaney as a private member's bill when Parliament resumes in Aug.

AdPha has consistently advocated for this reform, arguing that the current Commonwealth Criminal Code unnecessarily restricts the use of telehealth in VAD, creating significant barriers for patients and clinicians, particularly in rural and regional Australia.

AdPha president Assoc Prof Tom Simpson said the proposed reform

was "a practical and compassionate step towards improving access to lawful healthcare".

"The current legislation was never intended to prevent legitimate clinical care, yet it now forces seriously ill patients and their healthcare teams to navigate unnecessary legal barriers at one of the most difficult times of their lives," Assoc Prof Simpson said.

"As a VAD-credentialed pharmacist, I've seen first-hand how the current law disrupts communication between healthcare professionals."

Assoc Prof Simpson explained that under the current Commonwealth Criminal Code, if a doctor was to phone seeking urgent advice after a patient had been unable to take the full prescribed VAD medication, a pharmacist would run the risk of falling foul of the law if they provided that information via telephone or video.



"It places clinicians in an impossible position - choosing between providing timely, patient-centred care and complying with an outdated Commonwealth law.

"This reform won't change who is eligible for voluntary assisted dying or the safeguards that already exist - it simply removes an outdated barrier that disproportionately affects patients in rural, regional and remote communities.

"The law should support good clinical care, not stand in its way," he concluded. *KB*

MSF calls for greater access to HIV preventive lenacapavir

MEDECINS Sans Frontières/Doctors Without Borders (MSF) is putting pressure on US pharma company Gilead Sciences to make the critical HIV prevention medicine lenacapavir more widely available in low- and middle-income countries.

The twice-yearly pre-exposure prophylaxis is nearly 100% effective in preventing HIV and could be a gamechanger for communities affected by HIV, especially those who face stigma and additional barriers accessing health care, like men who have sex with men, transgender individuals, sex workers, and people caught in conflict or humanitarian crises.

However, MSF contends that

Gilead has priced the medicine out of reach, severely restricting its supply to certain countries, while also refusing to sell it directly to MSF for its medical programs.

The drug sells for US\$28,000 a year per patient in the US, though it can be produced for less than \$40, and while more affordable generic versions are set to become available as early as next year, only select manufacturers will be allowed to make them.

Gilead currently completely controls who can receive lenacapavir, where it is available, and on what terms, MSF claimed.

And many of the countries that hosted the lenacapavir clinical trials that led to its approval and sale around the world - including

Brazil, Argentina, Mexico and Peru - are excluded from obtaining generics, a situation MSF said is "unacceptable".

MSF is now asking that lenacapavir be available for no more than US\$40 per person per year in all low- and middle-income countries, and has called on governments to take "any and all necessary steps to override Gilead's monopoly on this product", including using legal tools provided under World Trade Organization rules.

Lenacapavir was recommended by the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee in Nov 2023 for PBS listing in Australia, but Gilead has not yet proceeded with the listing.



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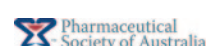
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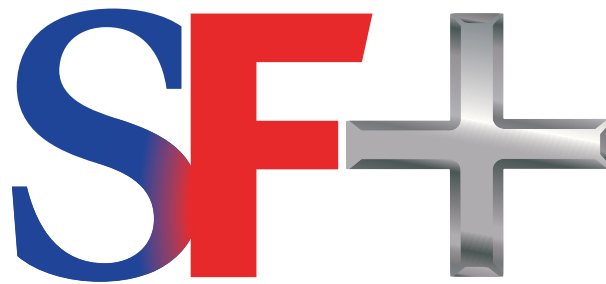
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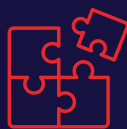
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