

Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features two pages of industry news, plus a full page from **Light by Oexa**.

See the Light

LIGHT is the complete platform for modern pharmacy, helping you grow services and deliver care with confidence.

Have a chat with the Light team at PSA26 - see **page three** for more.

Alzheimer's blood test next step

A **BLOOD** test to detect signs of Alzheimer's disease well before symptoms appear has been cleared by the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) for clinical trials, which are expected to commence in the next six to nine months.

The test works by detecting a protein called phosphorylated tau 217, which is a biomarker for a build up of amyloid plaque in the brain.

The announcement was made yesterday at the launch of the Asia-Pacific Centre of Excellence for Alzheimer's Disease Diagnosis in Sydney, which was attended by Health Minister Mark Butler.

The centre is a collaboration between medical research group Neuroscience Research Australia (NeuRA) and Roche and aims to facilitate earlier and more accurate detection through advanced blood-based biomarker testing.

"Finding a blood test for biomarkers is a holy grail for this disease," Butler said.

NeuRA cognitive neurologist and researcher Dr Emma Devenney told *ABC News* that clinical research studies so far show the p-Tau 217 blood test is the most accurate and reliable diagnostic marker for Alzheimer's disease to date, and has over 90% accuracy.

Vic Guild preps for election

THE Pharmacy Guild of Australia, Victoria Branch has released its 2026 Victorian election platform ahead of the state election on 28 Nov, outlining a practical reform agenda to improve access to healthcare, strengthen community pharmacy and support a more sustainable health system.

A Stronger Pharmacy Network for a Healthier Victoria is built around three key priorities.

The first is ensuring clinical independence and patient safety are safeguarded through pharmacist ownership and control of community pharmacies.

This includes tightening ownership criteria to require full general registration for pharmacy owners, and banning commercial co-location loopholes.

The second pillar is enabling pharmacists to practice at full scope, including a clear transition pathway to autonomous prescribing from the existing Community Pharmacist Program for appropriately trained pharmacist prescribers.

Improving healthcare access in regional Victoria rounds out the three priorities, by implementing a dedicated workforce strategy to attract, train and retain pharmacists and pharmacy assistants in rural and regional communities.

The platform also highlights the need for the safe and sustainable integration of services from the Community Pharmacist Program as it expands into the broader health system, with pharmacists supported to work alongside other



healthcare providers to ensure patients are not left to navigate a fragmented system.

The Guild has called on all political parties and candidates contesting the 2026 Victorian election to back the reforms, with Guild Victoria Branch president George Tambassis (**pictured**) pointing out that Victoria had already implemented measures to improve primary care access for patients through the Community Pharmacist Program.

"Our election platform sets out practical reforms that will improve patient access to timely healthcare while ensuring the long-term sustainability of community pharmacy and the broader health system," Tambassis said.

"Victoria now has an opportunity to become a national leader in pharmacy-led healthcare by enabling pharmacists to work to the full extent of their education and training.

"These reforms will help improve access to care, reduce pressure on other parts of the healthcare system and ensure all Victorians can access the healthcare services they need, when and where they need them," he concluded. **KB**

New IV guidance

THE Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care has published new national guidance to support health professionals deliver the safe, appropriate and sustainable use of intravenous (IV) fluids.

Resources include a fact sheet to guide decision-making when starting, reviewing and ceasing IV fluids - more **HERE**.

Vita-D Mini Tablets

Supports bone health, muscle strength and calcium absorption.

NEW

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

Always read the label and follow directions for use. Petrus



HMR telehealth

IN THE opening plenary at PSA26 this morning, Health Minister Mark Butler announced that from 01 Nov this year, pharmacists will be able to conduct follow-up home medication reviews (HMR) by telehealth.

The change will also come into effect for Residential Medication Management Reviews (RMMRs).

"HMRs are such an important part of that quality use of medicine system that we cherish, and in which the profession plays an utterly critical and central role," Butler said.

The Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) welcomed the announcement, saying it would provide pharmacists with more flexibility in delivering HMRs.

"The announcement is a key step in strengthening medication safety programs for Australian patients and communities," PSA National President, Professor Mark Naunton said.

"We know medicines reviews are lifesaving services provided by pharmacists.

"They identify medicine-related problems, support the safer use of medicines, help patients optimise their medications, and provide a deeper relationship between patients and their healthcare professionals," he added.

worx
by Excipient

Experience a smarter
pharmacy workflow

Visit Stand 28
PSA26





Dispensary Corner

A BRITISH man has managed to shed half his body weight by eating the exact same meal every day for two years - and somehow never got tired of it.

Brad Rogers, a 54-year-old chief executive and former footballer from Kent attributed his repetitious diet of two slices of bacon, two eggs, baked beans and toast for brunch, followed by a latte and either a chicken or ham salad or steak and eggs for dinner as the reason behind his impressive weight loss.

Within six months of the diet, Rogers had lost 13kg, dropping from 168kg to 70kg in two years.

Before losing the weight, Rogers said his diet consisted of a full English breakfast each morning, burgers and chips for lunch, and lasagne and pasta for dinner, in addition to spending nearly £8,000 (A\$15,300) on McDonald's yearly.

The turning point for Rogers was sticking to the same meals each day and dramatically lowering his carb intake.

Rogers also took up football again to complement his new eating habits, playing 28-minute games of five-a-side - the first time he had played since being apart of non-league side Dagenham and Redbridge FC.

Reflecting on his weight loss journey, Rogers said, "I think it's brought me and my son closer together, he plays football and I coach him".



PRODUCT SPOTLIGHT

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

MagZorb Joint Ease with NEM

Natural Eggshell Membrane (NEM) with Magnesium Glycinate

MagZorb Joint Ease with NEM combines NEM (Natural Eggshell Membrane) with magnesium glycinate to support joint comfort and mobility.

Formulated with magnesium glycinate for optimal absorption so that muscles feel the difference. For active Australians who refuse to slow down - whether that is taking a morning walk, doing the weekend gardening, or keeping pace with the grandkids.

Active Ingredients: Natural Eggshell Membrane (NEM) 250mg, Magnesium Glycinate 500mg.

RRP: A\$39.95

Stockist enquiries: Available from API & Symbion.

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

Contains egg products (eggshell membrane, derived from eggs)

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.



Light.

Grow Services.

Deliver Care
with Confidence.

Chat to us at PSA Conference!