

Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features two pages of news, plus a full page from Pharmacy Hive.

Still a good time to get a flu shot

THE Royal Australian College of GPs (RACGP) is urging people to get their annual influenza vaccination, saying that this year's slow start to the flu season means there is still time to get vaccinated.

With 2025 the worst year on record for flu cases, numbers in 2026 are only one third of the 98,500 cases reported in Jan-May last year.

The National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System reports there have been around 36,800 notifications for lab-confirmed influenza in 2026 so far.

"We are seeing fewer cases of the flu than last year, but that doesn't mean we can be complacent," RACGP president Dr Michael Wright said.

"We can't predict how bad a flu season will be, but we can prevent it from being worse than necessary by ensuring everyone gets a flu vaccination, and especially children, seniors, and those at higher risk of disease.

"The slow start to the season really gives an extra opportunity to protect our most vulnerable Australians - not only against influenza, but also COVID and RSV," he said.

Overall uptake of flu vaccines this year is similar to 2023-25, thanks to a higher rate of vaccination among patients under five years old.

Dr Wright called on politicians in Victoria, Tasmania, the ACT, and the NT to provide free intranasal vaccines, noting that they appear to have driven increased uptake.

"We need to embrace what works," Dr Wright concluded.

Biggest ever 'yellow book' out now

ADVANCED Pharmacy Australia (AdPha) has released the 10th edition of the Australian Injectable Drugs Handbook (AIDH10), with the print version of the 'yellow book' launching in parallel with its dedicated digital product - the AIDH10 app - which was announced last week (PD 05 Jun).

Both formats of the handbook will provide up-to-date and important information on more than 500 injectable medicines and critical sepsis guidance.

The handbook's biggest ever edition has been comprehensively reviewed and updated, and features new and updated information on ambulatory antimicrobial therapy and medication compatibility.

There is also a new table comparing commonly available potassium chloride premixed infusion bags to guide safe selection and administration of potassium, and a new section on IV access and equipment.

To support rapid antimicrobial administration in sepsis and septic shock, a new A2 wall chart providing quick-reference preparation and administration guidance for 27 antimicrobial medicines is available for displaying



in emergency departments and other wards.

Meanwhile, the app features a new infusion rate calculator to support and streamline complex point-of-care workflows for health professionals administering injectable drugs.

AdPha president Associate Professor Tom Simpson said AIDH10 "represents a major milestone in the evolution of one of Australia's most trusted medicines information resources".

"For more than 25 years, AIDH has provided health professionals with respected, evidence-based information in a comprehensive one-stop reference, assisting with best clinical practice and productivity," he said.

"The 10th edition delivers significant clinical updates while introducing powerful new digital functionality that makes critical information easier to access at the point of care, however you choose to access AIDH."

The print version and sepsis wall chart are now available through AdPha's bookshop [HERE](#), while the app will be available via the Therapeutic Guidelines platform from 01 Jul. KB

Creon shortage extended

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration has advised that supply constraints affecting Creon 25,000 unit and Creon 35,000 unit capsules will continue until 31 Jan 2027 due to an unexpected global increase in demand.

The pancreatic extract capsules, supplied by Viatrix, are indicated for pancreatic enzyme insufficiency.

The product will still be available, but stocks may be limited and may vary from one pharmacy to another.

Patients are asked not to stockpile the product so that available stock can be distributed fairly - more [HERE](#).



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Supports bone health, muscle strength and calcium absorption. **NEW**
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Always read the label and follow directions for use. 

QSPP: prepare now

THE best time to begin preparing for the transition to QSPP is now, and Pharmacy Hive has the tools and resources you need to get started - see [page three](#).

Have your say on new CGT rules

THE Council of Small Business Organisations Australia (COSBOA) is inviting Aussie small business owners to share their thoughts and stories on how proposed changes to capital gains tax (CGT) and trust taxation will affect them.

"Many business owners are highly concerned about the impact proposed changes to CGT and trust taxation could have on their ability to invest, grow and plan for the future," COSBOA CEO Skye Cappuccino said.

"Small business owners need confidence and certainty to make decisions that support their businesses, employees and local communities.

"Before any changes are implemented, it's important that policymakers hear directly from the people who could be affected," she added.

Small business owners can share their thoughts through the Fair Go website [HERE](#), where a template to send a letter to local members and Senators is also provided.



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Payday Super: What It Means for Pharmacists, Employers and Locum Placements from 1 July

- What is Payday Super?
- What this means for Locum Pharmacists
- When a Host Employer engages directly
- Why accurate Super information matters
- Raven's Recruitment is ready

[...see more info](#)



Dispensary Corner

A **NEW** trend in the cosmetic surgery space involves injecting the fat from the dead to plump up the living.

Cadaver fillers AlloClae and Renuva, also known as zombie filler, are growing popular among US patients seeking to fix botched liposuction or reverse some of the negative effects of GLP-1RAs.

The procedure is largely being used for breasts, buttocks, and hips, with the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) expected to approve it for facial injections in the near future.

Despite the injections being approved by the FDA, Qld plastic surgeon Dr David Sparks has raised safety concerns, as the long-term side effects remain unknown.

"There's no current clinical evidence - there's only pre-clinical, and that study was done with mice that don't have an immune system," Dr Sparks told 7News,

The popularity of the injections is attributed to the immediate boost in fat volume they provide, as well as the potential for continued growth thanks to the proteins and growth-factors it contains.

Some people have reportedly paid nearly \$10,000 for the procedure, after waiting for a solution to their failed liposuction surgeries.

It has also gained traction among Ozempic users as it does not require a patient's own fat, unlike other fat transplant procedures.

PRODUCT SPOTLIGHT

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

MICROSHIELD®: Supporting everyday hand hygiene at home

As the winter season approaches, increased exposure to common germs can place added pressure on our general wellbeing. Practising good hand hygiene remains an important part of helping to reduce the spread of germs in everyday settings.

MICROSHIELD® products, widely used in the hospital environment, are now available to support everyday hygiene routines at home.

MICROSHIELD ANGEL BLUE® Antimicrobial Hand Gel contains 70% alcohol and is formulated to kill 99.99% of common germs without the need for water. Designed for regular use, it includes moisturising ingredients to help keep hands feeling soft and comfortable. Its non-sticky formulation, refreshing fragrance, and aloe vera content provide added skin comfort while helping keep hands clean and cared for.

Stockist enquiries: Please call 1800 724 855

Suppliers: Available from API, Sigma, Symbion and CH2

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



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

QSPP: The Best Time to Start is Now

Why You Should Begin Preparing for QSPP Now



You've probably heard the old saying that the best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago, and the second best time is now. That wisdom holds very true for pharmacists wondering when to begin preparations for the transition from QCPP to QSPP.

For many community pharmacies, the transition to the Quality and Safety Pharmacy Program (QSPP) may still feel some distance away. Depending on accreditation cycles, some pharmacies may not face their first QSPP assessment for many months. However, one of the most important lessons emerging from the new accreditation framework is that preparation cannot be left until the weeks (or even few months) immediately before an assessment.

Unlike the QCPP accreditation approach that essentially involved gathering documentation like policies and procedures ahead of a scheduled review, QSPP places a much stronger emphasis on demonstrating ongoing quality and safety activities over time, in part through recorded implementation of policies and procedures. In practical terms, this means that the evidence pharmacies will need to capture and present during assessments is being created—or missed—every day.

The challenge for pharmacy owners and managers is that many of the records and examples that will support compliance cannot be recreated retrospectively. Incident reports, consumer feedback, quality improvement initiatives, staff competency reviews, risk assessments and management discussions all become far more valuable when they have been documented consistently over time as part of routine operations.

Assessors will be looking for evidence that quality and safety systems are embedded within the pharmacy's culture rather than being activated shortly before an accreditation visit. A quality improvement project undertaken over several months, for example, provides far more compelling evidence than a last-minute activity completed to satisfy a compliance requirement.

This shift means pharmacies need to begin thinking differently about accreditation. Rather than viewing it as a periodic event, successful pharmacies are likely to treat QSPP as an ongoing operational framework that supports everyday decision-making and continuous improvement. The best response is to ensure that the pharmacy is always assessment ready.

The good news is that getting started does not necessarily require significant investment or major process changes. In many cases, pharmacies are already undertaking activities that align with QSPP expectations. Staff training is being completed. Patient feedback is being received. Operational risks are being managed. Incidents and near misses are being addressed. The opportunity lies in capturing these activities consistently and maintaining evidence that demonstrates what has occurred.

Pharmacies that start early can also spread the workload over time. Establishing reporting processes, reviewing governance arrangements, implementing evidence collection systems, creating continual improvement processes, and educating staff about the new standards is considerably easier when approached gradually. Attempting to build these systems shortly before an assessment will create unnecessary pressure and increase the risk of important evidence being overlooked.

Another advantage of early preparation is that it provides time to identify gaps. Pharmacies may discover that certain activities are not being documented, that quality improvement projects are not being formally recorded, or that governance processes require strengthening. Identifying these issues now allows time for meaningful improvements before assessment rather than scrambling for solutions at the last minute.

Perhaps most importantly, early preparation helps ensure that the benefits of QSPP extend beyond accreditation. The ultimate purpose of the program is not simply to pass an assessment but to strengthen patient safety, improve service quality and support better healthcare outcomes. Pharmacies that embrace the principles early are likely to gain operational and clinical benefits well before an assessor walks through the door.

The message for pharmacy owners, managers and pharmacists is straightforward: Regardless of when your next accreditation is scheduled, the evidence that will support your future assessment starts accumulating today. Those who begin preparing now will not only place themselves in a stronger position for QSPP compliance but will also be better equipped to thrive in an increasingly quality-focused healthcare environment.

When it comes to QSPP, waiting may be easy—but starting early is likely to be the smarter strategy.

QSPP - Resources, tools, and guidance for your transition

Pharmacy Hive was created by pharmacists for pharmacy and has been supporting pharmacies with QCPP resources, tools, and guidance for over 5 years.

Now we're here to support you in the major shift to QSPP:

- ✔ Compliant policies & procedures
- ✔ Automated recording, collation, & storage of evidence
- ✔ Team-ready tools
- ✔ Pre and post assessment support and advice



Pharmacy Hive
by pharmacists for pharmacy



Scan the QR code to be notified of upcoming webinars on the transition to QSPP and how Pharmacy Hive will help.



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