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PSA shifts reconciliation reflection to action

THE Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) has launched its *Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan 2025-2027* (RAP) today, in recognition of National Close the Gap Day.

By encouraging meaningful action towards health equity for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, the plan reinforces PSA's commitment to reconciliation, equity and culturally safe healthcare.

PSA national president, Professor Mark Naunton, reflected that building a more inclusive and responsive pharmacy profession is at the forefront of PSA's work.

"Our *Innovate RAP* moves our commitment from abstract into action, embedding cultural safety into the education we produce, strengthening partnerships with community-controlled health organisations, and increasing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander workforce representation," Professor Naunton said.

"The PSA is committed to walking alongside Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, guided by respect and shared purpose.

"We will continue to advocate, educate, and lead with integrity, ensuring that every Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander person has access to health care that is not only safe and effective, but also culturally safe and empowering."

The PSA also commissioned Summah Holden, a proud Dughutti woman, pharmacy student and artist, to develop the accompanying artwork (pictured).

"I wanted to show what culturally safe care looks like when it's lived," Holden said.

"Listening first, learning with



humility, and embedding that knowledge into practice."

Learn more [HERE](#). *KB*

Today's issue of *PD*

Pharmacy Daily today features four pages of news, including our **Beauty & Wellness** feature, plus full pages from:

- Fefol
- Glucojel

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1. Australian Government. Department of Health, Disability and Ageing. Australian Immunisation Handbook. Available at <https://immunisationhandbook.health.gov.au>. Accessed March 2026. sanofi-aventis australia pty ltd trading as Sanofi. All rights reserved. ABN 31 008 558 807. Sydney, Australia. www.sanofi.com.au. MAT-AU-2600393 V1. Date of preparation: March 2026.

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References: 1. Greive KA, Barnes TM. Increased bioavailability of hydrocortisone dissolved in a cream base. *Australas J Dermatol*. 2015; 56(2):e30–e34. 2. van Zuuren EJ, Fedorowicz Z, Christensen R, Lavrijsen APM, Arents BWM Emollients and moisturisers for eczema (Review). *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews* 2017, Issue 2. Art. No.: CD012119. DOI: 10.1002/14651858.CD012119.pub2.

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\$1m for nail fungal disease drug

DEFTBIOTECH, a La Trobe University-based spin-out company, has received a \$1 million funding boost to progress development of a drug used to treat nail fungal disease, a condition affecting more than half a billion people globally.

Pezadeftide, which showed promise as a topical treatment for fungal nail disease during phase 1 trials, will now undergo phase 2 trials, and the company will also investigate its use in other fungal infections.

Deftbiotech co-founder Prof Marilyn Anderson said that unlike existing treatments, Pezadeftide has been shown to kill a wide range of pathogens that cause serious disease in humans and agriculture.

“With the growth in resistant fungus, there is an immediate need to develop new treatments for fungal disease,” she added.

Haleon launches pain institute

HALEON has launched the Australian chapter of the Haleon Pain Management Institute, an expert-led collaboration with a focus on improving pain outcomes for local patients by prioritising research and scientific innovation, healthcare professional education, and patient self-care.

The three priority areas are paediatric pain management, mobility health and pharmacist education, with leading clinical and pharmacy experts coming together to support the community and industry.

The Institute will partner with pharmacists to create resources to help support managing children’s pain at home and in community settings.

Senior clinical pharmacist Nicolette Ellis, chair of Chronic Pain Australia and Haleon Pain Management Institute expert advisor, said: “Pharmacists are often the first point of contact for families managing pain in children.

“A priority for the Institute will be the development of actionable and insight-driven patient-centred education materials that support the quality use of medicines and build caregiver confidence in pain management,” she explained.

The Institute will also develop self-care resources for the more than two million Australians affected by osteoarthritis, using clinical and academic expertise to create practical frameworks that support healthcare professionals in helping patients with mobility issues maintain movement and manage pain effectively.

Meanwhile, the company has launched new and improved flavours of paracetamol liquid suspensions, with tutti frutti added to the reformulated orange and strawberry flavours.

The new formulations have been developed with a focus on an improved taste to help make medicine time easier for both parents and children. *KB*

Med cannabis bodies merge

THE two peak bodies representing the medicinal cannabis industry - Australian Medicinal Cannabis Association and Medicinal Cannabis Industry Australia - have completed a merger to become Medicinal Cannabis Council Australia (MCCA).

The organisation represents the majority of key stakeholders in the medicinal cannabis sector and will be co-chaired by Kristin Viccars and Teresa Nicoletti as the newly formed body seeks applicants for its refreshed board, including a new CEO.

MCCA aims to streamline advocacy efforts and provide a coordinated point of contact for government and regulatory bodies, and said it has been working collaboratively in the interests of patients amid the ongoing TGA review into unapproved products.

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Editor's Choice: Award-winning natural haircare brand for Aussie kids

MIMI Haircare for Kids was founded by Brisbane mum and beauty expert Emma Mackenzie, who was on a mission to launch a natural, plant-based haircare brand for children aged two to 12 years old.

After working for global beauty giants like L'Oreal and Elizabeth Arden and becoming a mother, Mackenzie saw a gap in the market and spent 18 months developing the dermatologist-approved range.

"I was tired of the daily battles around haircare," Mackenzie told *Retail Beauty*.

"I looked to the market for solutions, but baby products were too mild for my active, school-aged children, and adult formulas



contained harsh synthetic ingredients that often irritated their eyes and scalp.

"I wanted a natural solution that genuinely worked - something that made mornings easier for parents while helping kids feel confident and independent,"

Mackenzie added.

Since launching, the brand is now available at Chemist Warehouse and claims to be the country's number one selling kids' haircare range, ranking in the top 25 of all 1,400 haircare SKUs at the pharmacy giant.

Top 100 beauty products



INDUSTRY publication WWD's *Beauty Inc* has released its list of the Top 100 Greatest Beauty Products for 2026.

"Six in 10 consumers turn to word of mouth and social media to guide their beauty purchases," Circana senior vice president and beauty industry adviser, Larissa Jensen, told *Beauty Inc*.

"When products truly deliver, physically or emotionally, they are shared over time and become icons."

Among the pharmacy big hitters that made the list was Bioderma's Sensibio H2o Micellar Water, which launched in 1995 - one bottle of the world's first micellar water is sold every second.

Cetaphil Gentle Skin Cleanser also made the list, a favourite among dermatologists thanks to its best-selling blend of niacinamide, panthenol and glycerin.

Meanwhile, Neutrogena's Hydro Boost Water Gel, Revlon's Super Lustrous Lipstick, Maybelline's Great Lash Mascara, La Roche-Posay's Anthelios Invisible Fluid Facial Sunscreen and L'Oreal's Elnett Satin Extra Strong Hold Classic Hairspray all made the cut as well.

Plump and gloss

REVLON has released this week its PhotoReady Instant Plump Serum Gloss (RRP \$29) that promises juicy, smooth lips without the fillers.

The new gloss is formulated with hyaluronic acid to hydrate the skin and Revlon's RealRush Fire+ Ice Complex, which volumises lips. Available in 10 shades.



Eaoron launches toner to rival cult brand Rhode



AUSTRALIAN skincare brand Eaoron has launched a Moisturising Hyaluronic Toner (RRP \$24.99), designed to deliver a dewy, light-reflective finish similar to the viral Glazing Milk from cult brand Rhode sold at Mecca - without the premium price tag.

Featuring 99.2% anhydrous pure essence and enriched with panthenol, the formula bridges the gap between toner and serum and addresses the needs of ageing, dull, fragile and rough skin.

Available now at Chemist Warehouse stores nationwide.

Eaoron launched in 2014 in Australia with its award-winning Hyaluronic Acid Collagen Essence and is now sold across the Asia-Pacific with a range of more than 20 products.

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Dispensary Corner

SIGNIFICANTLY lowering your risk of stroke may be as simple as drinking one glass of milk a day, according to new research from Japan.

The study, published in the journal *Nutrients*, found that milk intake of 180g a day is correlated with a reduced risk of stroke in adults aged 30-79.

Instead of tracking real patients drinking more milk, the researchers created a 10-year simulation model using Japanese population data.

The model compared current dairy intake with a scenario in which milk consumption rose to 180g a day - Japan's recommended dairy intake - and estimated the effect this could have on stroke cases, stroke deaths and healthcare costs.

Boosting milk consumption to the suggested amount could prevent an estimated 123,618 strokes over a 10-year period, the study concluded.

"Milk is a nutrient-dense food and provides multiple micronutrients that influence stroke risk," the researchers said.

"It is the main dietary source of calcium in Japan, which is inversely associated with hypertension and stroke."



Star gets to guts of the matter

STAR Discount Chemist has launched a new initiative - "It takes guts to talk guts" - encouraging Australians to stop dismissing ongoing symptoms and seek trusted, personalised advice.

Bloating, constipation, diarrhoea, persistent indigestion, nausea and irregularity are among the most common gut health symptoms people experience, yet many dismiss them as "normal" or try to manage them without seeking advice from a healthcare professional.

"Many people are living with ongoing bloating, discomfort, fatigue or skin issues without realising their gut could be playing a role," said Star Pharmacy Group chief pharmacist, Shannon Hewitt.

"These concerns are common, but they shouldn't simply be dismissed," Hewitt explained.

She noted that gut health not only plays a key role in digestion, but is also linked with immunity, energy, mood and skin concerns.

However, many Australians continue to treat surface symptoms through trial and error without understanding what may be contributing to them.

"Medications, diet, stress levels



and lifestyle all play a role," Hewitt said.

"A simple conversation can help translate symptoms into clear next steps and, where appropriate, we may guide someone to seek further advice from their medical practitioner," she stated.

Star Pharmacy Group CEO, David Clark, said the campaign reflects the group's ongoing commitment to accessible healthcare within local communities.

"Our pharmacies are often the first place people turn to when they have questions about their health," Clark said.

"We want Australians to feel comfortable talking about gut health - it takes guts to start that conversation, but it can make a meaningful difference to overall wellbeing," he concluded. *KB*

A long and winding road

SOME careers begin with a straight line, while others are built through detours, doubts, bold pivots and unexpected returns.

In the latest episode of *Your Pharmacy Career* podcast, pharmacy student Ellen Bolger-Rowe shared a journey with host Krysti-Lee Patterson that was far from linear.

Starting out as a junior pharmacy assistant in regional NSW during high school, Bolger-Rowe enrolled in a pharmacy degree, only to discover it was not what she wanted.

However, after a detour via performing arts studies and Highland dancing on international stages, Bolger-Rowe returned to pharmacy with a renewed sense of purpose and a passion for rural pharmacy.

This time around, she threw herself into the profession, becoming involved in student leadership, joining the Student Representative Council, and later taking on a leadership role with the National Australian Pharmacy Students' Association (NAPSA).

Throughout the reflection on her journey and lessons learnt, Bolger-Rowe returns to a few ideas again and again: listen to yourself, do not be afraid of changing direction, and trust that a non-linear path can still lead exactly where you need to go.

The discussion explored the realities of winding career paths, the value of persistence, and the importance of finding where you fit within the profession - listen to it **HERE**.

Mitochondrial Health Summit 2026

KANEKA Ubiquinol is presenting a Mitochondrial Health Summit in Sydney on 26 Jun, bringing together international leaders across cardiology, pharmacy, women's health, fertility, genetics, cognition and ageing to examine how mitochondrial science is being translated into real-world clinical practice and healthcare innovation.

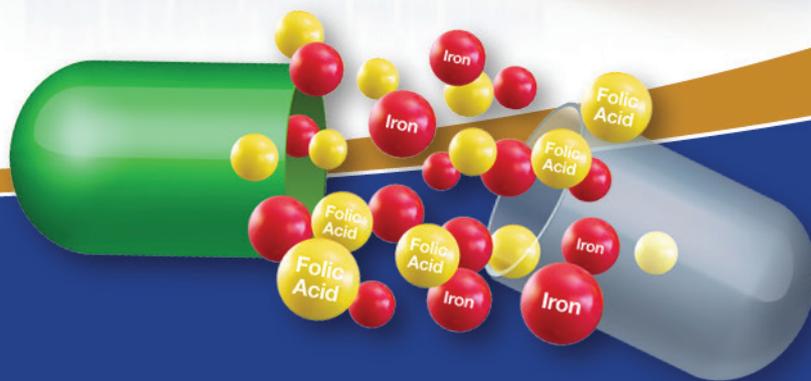
Aimed at healthcare practitioners, presenters include cardiologist

Ross Walker, pharmacist/educator Bobby Mehta, and pharmacist/herbalist Gerald Quigley.

The content will cover clinical frameworks for integrating mitochondrial science into everyday practice, positioning mitochondrial dysfunction as a common driver of conditions routinely encountered in the pharmacy dispensary and shop floor.

CPD accreditation is pending. Learn more **HERE**.

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Oral Iron Supplement (Aug 2022) In: Therapeutic Guidelines. Melbourne: Therapeutic Guidelines Limited.

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