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Today's issue of PD

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

- Dermal Therapy
- Glucojel

Monash world #2 for pharmacy

MONASH University has ranked number two in the world for pharmacy and pharmacology in the 2026 QS World University Rankings by Subject, topped only by Harvard University.

The University of Sydney ranked second in Australia and 20th in the world for pharmacy and pharmacology, with the University of Queensland (22), the University of Melbourne (44) and UNSW Sydney (58) rounding out Australian institutions in the world's top 100.

Guild welcomes SA election result

THE South Australian Branch of the Pharmacy Guild of Australia has congratulated Premier Peter Malinauskas and the SA Labor Party on their re-election over the weekend, welcoming the government's ongoing commitment to consolidating community pharmacy's role as a mainstay of the state's healthcare system.

SA branch president Matthew Gillespie said the election result provides "a clear mandate to ensure South Australians have better access to primary healthcare through their trusted community pharmacy".

"The Malinauskas Government understands that modern healthcare must be patient-centered and timely," Gillespie said.

"By supporting pharmacist training and expanding the 24-hour pharmacy network, they are ensuring South Australians receive high-quality care exactly when and where they need it."

The government plans to double the number of pharmacists



receiving subsidised expanded scope training, from the 120 announced last year (PD 03 Jun 2025) to 240 practitioners.

In addition, there is targeted support for rural and regional pharmacists, with increased training subsidies of up to \$8,500 to account for travel and professional development costs.

"This is about professional empowerment and patient safety," Gillespie said.

"The Guild's ambition is for 80% of community pharmacists and 80% of community pharmacies to be prescribing by 2035 - this will ease the burden on overstretched GPs and provide a more efficient, quality experience for our patients".

The government has also pledged to add three more 24/7 pharmacies, bringing the state's total to seven.

A cabinet reshuffle has seen former education minister Blair Boyer (pictured) replace Chris Picton as Health Minister. KB

High SPF lip care

DERMAL Therapy has a range of SPF50+ lip care products to protect, moisturise and treat dry chapped lips with no bitter aftertaste, providing the ultimate lip protection. See more on **page five**.

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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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Eye to future for world pharmacists

THE International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) has announced that the theme for World Pharmacists Day 2026 is “Empowering pharmacists for healthier futures”, highlighting the profession’s critical contribution to prevention, access to care, health system resilience and sustainability.

As global health challenges intensify, the FIP is calling on governments, policymakers, regulators, health insurers and the public to empower pharmacists through supportive policies, education and full system integration.

“Empowering pharmacists means equipping them with the competencies, recognition and working environments necessary to meet evolving health needs,” said FIP president Paul Sinclair.

“Pharmacists are uniquely positioned at the intersection of medicines supply, scientific innovations and patient care delivery,” he continued.

“When they are enabled to practise to the full extent of their expertise, health systems are more accessible, more responsive and more sustainable,” Sinclair concluded.

World Pharmacists Day will be marked globally on 25 Sep, commemorating the date FIP came into existence in 1912.

More information and campaign assets now available on the FIP website here.

Ramsay wholesaler switch complete

RAMSAY Pharmacy has completed its transition to Symbion as its primary pharmaceutical wholesaler, marking a significant milestone in strengthening its national supply chain as it looks to future growth.

One of Australia’s largest healthcare wholesalers, Symbion now supplies pharmaceuticals, general medicines and retail merchandise to Ramsay’s network of over 100 hospital dispensaries and franchise community pharmacy sites nationwide.

The move began in Nov 2023 when Ramsay launched request for a proposal (RFP) process to ensure its supply chain would continue to meet growing operational and patient care needs across its portfolio.

Following a detailed assessment process, Symbion was chosen for its enhanced service capabilities, competitive pricing, and alignment with Ramsay Pharmacy’s long-term strategic objectives.

ParagonCare, Ramsay’s former primary wholesaler, elected not to compete in the re-tender process and transitioned out of the relationship in Jan this year.

Ramsay Pharmacy CEO Michelle Lynch said the completed transition supports Ramsay’s commitment to delivering exceptional pharmacy services and continually evolving to meet the needs of patients and partners.

“Completing our transition to Symbion as our primary wholesaler strengthens our supply chain, enhances service capability and positions our pharmacy network for



sustainable growth,” Lynch said.

“By partnering with Symbion and their national reach and proven expertise, we can better support our expanding pharmacy operations while maintaining the high standards of care our patients expect.

“This has been a coordinated effort across our procurement, finance, supply chain, systems and operational teams, and I thank everyone involved for ensuring a smooth transition.”

Lynch said the change builds a stronger foundation for future innovation and connected care.

“With Symbion as our partner, Ramsay Pharmacy is well positioned to grow, adapt and deliver even greater value to the communities we serve.” *KB*

JEV and measles Victoria update

AS HIGH-RISK areas in regional Victoria are experiencing a prolonged mosquito season this year due to recent flooding, eligibility to receive a free Japanese encephalitis vaccine has been temporarily expanded to include people who plan to visit any of the 24 affected local government areas for outdoor recreation.

This follows a similar move in NSW (**PD** 20 Mar), and is in place until 30 Jun.

The state’s Department of Health has also updated its measles public exposure sites listing, and in the face of a growing number of cases locally and worldwide, is urging the public to seek advice about vaccination.

Healthcare professionals should also be alert for potential cases of measles.

See the list **HERE**.

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Editor's Choice: Ego relaunches accessible skincare brand, Elucent

EGO Pharmaceuticals has revealed the relaunch of its skincare brand, Elucent, which began 20 years ago.

Focused on offering accessible skincare with clinically proven ingredients, Elucent is addressing demand from Australian consumers for skincare with visible results.

"I was frustrated by other products on the market delivering minimal active concentrations, and wanted to create formulations that genuinely work, using active ingredients at levels that make a visible difference," said founder Dr Jane Oppenheim.

Two of Elucent's ranges are now available at Chemist Warehouse,



including the new Age Defying range aimed at individuals in their late 20s and beyond, focusing on reducing fine lines while improving overall texture.

Meanwhile, Bright + Balanced products are for consumers in their 20s looking to maintain clarity, radiance, reduce pigmentation and even skin tone.

Chemistry Brand is back



CANADIAN skincare giant Deciem is bringing back The Chemistry Brand following what it describes as "sustained and passionate demand from its global community".

One of the business' original brands from its incubator portfolio, it is set to return on 02 April with its most requested product, Hand Chemistry, which launched in 2013.

Similar to Deciem's other brand The Ordinary, The Chemistry Brand is known for its science-backed and ingredient-led body and hand care formulations.

The cult moisturiser is a multifunction hand cream that targets the visible signs of ageing with six ingredients, including sacha inchi oil to lock in moisture; biological GHK complex to promote youthful, healthy-looking skin; and pseudoalteromonas complex to hydrate and renew the skin.

Unlike other traditional products that focus on surface hydration, Hand Chemistry takes a skincare-inspired approach and aims to refine texture, improve brightness and relieve dryness.

A sweet Mother's Day

GLASSHOUSE Fragrances has released its limited edition Mother's Day Collection 2026, including its Radiance in Bloom Tuberose and Orchid Soy Candle (\$64.95), infused with sea salt and soft musk.

The release is housed in a frosted vessel with pink wax with decorative packaging, ready for easy gifting.



Major beauty and fashion merger in works



US COSMETICS company Estee Lauder is reportedly in talks over a potential merger with the

Spanish group Puig, the owner of brands including Jean Paul Gaultier and Rabanne.

As one of the world's largest manufacturers of skin care, makeup and fragrances, Estee Lauder's portfolio includes Clinique, Bobbi Brown and pharmacy favourites Deciem and The Ordinary, while Puig has several fragrance brands on its books.

No details about the potential merger have been finalised, so it is unclear what this will mean for future of Estee Lauder and Puig and their brands.

The share market has had a mixed reaction, with Estee Lauder closing 8% down at the end of trading on the day of the announcement and Puig closing stronger.

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Beauty & Wellness
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Dispensary Corner

IN THE largest, longest study to date, researchers have found that the moderate intake of caffeinated coffee or tea was associated with reduced risk of dementia, slower cognitive decline and better preservation of cognitive abilities.

The 43-year study, published in *JAMA*, tracked over 130,000 people over that period, looking at diet and cognitive function.

Those who drank higher amounts of caffeinated coffee (two or three cups a day) had an 18% lower risk of developing dementia compared with those who rarely or never drank it.

Similar patterns were noted among those drinking one to two cups of tea per day, while decaffeinated coffee did not show the same effect.

While both drinks contain polyphenols which are thought to play a role in brain health, the data suggested that caffeine may also be an important factor in the observed effects.

The study team said more research is needed to confirm the underlying mechanisms.

More lessons from the lychee farm

OPINION

QUEENSLAND-BASED pharmacist owner and lychee farmer Roy Packer shares more thoughts on the parallels between agricultural practices and pharmacy.

Got an opinion or experience to share? Let us know in up to 400 words via email to info@pharmacydaily.com.au.

THINGS break down when we stop listening - when we rush ahead chasing goals and ticking off tasks, but miss the quiet warning signs that something needs attention.

My staff had a good laugh when I shared a photo of our tractor swallowing me up under the bonnet - oil and diesel all over my clothes.

"I make mistakes too," I said, a bit sheepishly.

I was determined to finish hedging our lychee trees after wet weather and work delays.

Focused on the finish line, I ignored that little warning light on the dashboard and charged ahead, certain I'd get it done.

The jerry can was sitting right there, ready to go - but I didn't take the moment to stop and refuel, and soon it was out of my mind.



Four trees short of the end, on a hill, the tractor came to a dead stop.

Immediately I remembered the warning light - the empty tank.

I sighed, embarrassed, knowing what was ahead.

After wasted time letting it cool down, I crawled beneath the bonnet, bled the lines, and brought the beast back to life.

I was covered in diesel but thankful to be moving forward once more, finishing the trees and concluding the last of my farm chores for the week.

I can't blame others for not filling the tank, just myself.

While my staff laughed (and I

deserved it), I saw a deeper lesson in it.

In the busyness of life and work, we can miss the small signs that tell us to slow down and tend to what really matters.

We get caught up in finishing the task, instead of pausing to realign with what's important in the moment.

Every now and then, we all need a bit of a "bleeding of the lines" - a restart, a reset, a reminder to keep a closer eye on the gauges that really matter.

Roy Packer introduced **Pharmacy Daily** readers to his lychee farm earlier this year (**PD** 19 Jan).



A FUTURE OF POSSIBILITY

Pharmacy Guild of Australia's Trent Twomey shares what lies ahead for the industry this year.

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