

Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features three pages of news.

MoleMap acquires

MOLEMAP is continuing its growth trajectory with the acquisition of Spotscreen, a mobile rural and workplace skin check provider.

The acquisition strengthens MoleMap's national footprint and accelerates its mission to improve early detection and access to specialist-led skin cancer care.

Spotscreen's client base will now be integrated into the MoleMap network.

EU critical medicines act a step closer

THE European Parliament and the Council of the European Union have reached a provisional agreement on the proposed Critical Medicines Act (CMA), representing an important step in strengthening the resilience, security and sustainability of the European Union's supply of critical medicines.

The agreement has been welcomed by the European Medicines Agency (EMA) which, like other jurisdictions, has grappled with serious medicines shortages and supply chain challenges in recent years due to geopolitical events and other crises, such as the COVID pandemic.

By combining regulatory

New TGA compounded medicines guidance

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has published new guidance on manufacturing, supplying and advertising compounded medicines lawfully to clarify requirements and support compliance with regulations.

While generally encouraging the use of medicines included in the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods (ARTG), the legislative framework recognises that compounding may sometimes be necessary to meet an individual patient's clinical needs.

The guidance explains how community and hospital pharmacists, medical practitioners and other relevant health

practitioners can lawfully compound medicines under the *Therapeutic Goods Act 1989* and the Therapeutic Goods Regulations 1990.

A key requirement is that compounding should only occur for individual patient needs and not for broad, commercial-like supply, with anticipatory compounding only permitted in limited circumstances in a hospital setting.

Additional restrictions and expectations are also spelt out for higher-risk products, including biologicals, medicinal cannabis, vaping products, GLP-1 receptor agonist analogues, medicines used for gene therapy, and intravenous (IV) therapies.

PSA workforce consultation open

THE National Pharmacy Workforce Analysis, led by the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) in partnership with the University of Queensland, has progressed to the consultation stage, with pharmacists invited to have their say through a survey.

Commissioned and funded by the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing, the analysis is a part of the Strategic Agreement on Pharmacist Professional Practice.

The project addresses current and emerging trends, including expanded scope of practice; increased clinical responsibilities; pharmacists working in aged care and general practice teams; and pharmacist involvement in complex medico-social areas such as dementia care, disability and drug services.

The PSA wants to hear about the frontline experiences of pharmacists across all practice settings, as well as students, with information helping to shape future policies and support for the profession.

The survey closes 31 May at 5pm AEST - learn more and complete the survey [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. **Patent**



The TGA pointed out that compounded medicines are not exempt from advertising requirements, and while compounding services can be advertised to the public, compounded medicines cannot. Where serious non-compliance with the Act is identified, the TGA will take regulatory action, with penalties of up to \$1.65 million per breach.

The guidelines are [HERE](#). *KB*

NOT JUST FLU. THERE'S WHOOPING COUGH TOO

Ask about a **DOUBLE SHOT**
Help prevent whooping cough as well as the flu¹

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.

sanofi

The **Emergency Locum Service (ELS)** provides support to community pharmacies in rural and remote regions of Australia via direct access to pharmacist locums in emergency situations.

Call us: **1800 991 541** (24/7)

Register as an **Emergency Locum Pharmacist**

Emergency Locum Service

Raven's recruitment

Australian Government
Department of Health, Disability and Ageing

Pharmacy Programs Administrator

Med cannabis and women's health

MEDICINAL cannabis education platform SAGED recently ran a CPD-accredited masterclass for prescribers about the clinical role of cannabis in endometriosis and chronic pelvic pain.

Designed for practising clinicians and non-prescribing health professionals, the session outlined the latest clinical evidence and research.

Attendees heard updates from the EndoCann study looking at the efficacy and safety of different medicinal cannabis interventions for endometriosis currently being conducted at Western Sydney University's National Institute for Complementary Medicine.

The masterclass was part of SAGED's ongoing clinician-first education series, with a CPD-accredited endometriosis management module [HERE](#).

POCT aids health management

WITH pharmacists increasingly offering point-of-care testing (POCT) services, new research from Flinders University has suggested the benefits go beyond convenience and fast results - they could also help people better understand their health and manage long-term conditions like diabetes and heart disease.

Published in the journal, *BMC Public Health*, the research reviewed 13 studies focusing on non-communicable diseases including diabetes and cardiovascular disease to examine whether POCT improves health literacy - a person's ability to understand, use and act on health information in everyday life.

Lead author Dr Kelcie Miller from Flinders University's College of Medicine and Public Health said the findings showed that speed and context make a difference.

"When people receive their results straight away and can talk through what they mean with a

health professional, it changes how they engage with their health," Dr Miller explained.

"It helps turn test results into knowledge people can actually use," she added.

Across the studies, people who used point-of-care testing reported better understanding of their condition, increased confidence in self-management, and greater motivation to improve diet or physical activity.

Some also reported reduced anxiety and better quality of life, particularly when tests were used regularly to monitor long-term conditions such as diabetes or blood clotting disorders.

Importantly, the review found that improved understanding often translated into action, with several studies showing better medication adherence and improvements in key clinical markers, including lower long-term blood sugar levels in diabetes.

Read the study [HERE](#). *KB*

Call for free MenB vax in NSW

THE Royal Australian College of GPs (RACGP) is urging the NSW Government to fund meningococcal B (MenB) vaccines as part of the state's routine immunisation program, as it is in Queensland, South Australia, the NT, and recently, Victoria (*PD* 11 May).

The peak body warned that current arrangements leave children and young people at unnecessary risk, with the cost of vaccination creating barriers to protection.

RACGP NSW chair Dr Rebekah Hoffman said protecting children should not depend on a family's income or postcode.

"Funding MenB vaccines is a practical, preventive step that will protect children, reduce hospitalisations, and give families peace of mind across NSW," Dr Hoffman stated.

Proudly produced by



YOUR PHARMACY CAREER PODCAST

Dive into our latest podcast episode featuring **Krysti-Lee Patterson**, Pharmacist, Speaker, and Founder & CEO at Innrx - "Navigating Unconventional Paths in Pharmacy".

Proudly brought to you by



[Listen on your favourite Podcast app](#)



Dispensary Corner

IN GOOD news for lovers of the outdoors, effective mosquito repellent does not have to leave you smelling of chemicals - and could even double as a perfume.

Researchers in Brazil have found that patchouli oil - a popular ingredient used in perfumes, body oils and cosmetics - can provide protection against mosquitoes for up to three hours.

Derived from the leaves of the patchouli plant, the oil was formulated into a topical cream and tested against *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes, which are responsible for spreading diseases like dengue fever.

"Unlike many natural repellents that lose effectiveness quickly due to volatility, our formulation achieved complete protection against *A. aegypti* for up to three hours at a relatively low concentration," said study lead Lizandra Lima Santos from the Federal University of Amapa in Brazil.

Santos and her team believe the repellent effect may come from patchouli alcohol - a compound that makes up around 40% of the oil and gives it its unique scent.



Report reveals high prevalence of hypertension

A **NEW** report published today by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) has revealed that hypertension affects nearly two in five Australian adults aged 18 and over, with many people unaware they have the condition.

The report, *Hypertension in Australia*, provided a detailed picture of the prevalence of the condition, how effectively it is managed and its impact on the health system including emergency department presentations, hospitalisations and deaths.

It also examined differences across population groups and key characteristics.

In 2022, an estimated 39% of Australians had hypertension, with males and females equally affected (40% vs 39% respectively).

Prevalence increased with age,

affecting 39% of people aged 45-54, 57% of those aged 55-64 and 85% of those aged 75 and older.

Concerningly, only 40% had their condition under control and were taking antihypertensive medication.

The condition often presents with no obvious symptoms, and almost two in three (63%) adults with hypertension did not self-report the condition, indicating that they may have been unaware they had the condition.

Undetected hypertension can mean missed opportunities for early treatment and avoidable complications, AIHW spokesperson Heidi Dietz noted.

"Because high blood pressure can go unnoticed, regular checks are essential for people to manage it early and reduce their risk of serious illness," Dietz said.



"Checks can be done in a range of settings including GP clinics or other primary health care services and repeated measurements are often needed to confirm hypertension," she added.

Hypertension contributed to around 24,700 deaths in 2023, representing 13% of all deaths in Australia and a rate of 93 deaths per 100,000 population.

Read the report here. [KB](#)

PRODUCT SPOTLIGHT

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

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

