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4 ways to help build strong bones



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## Today's issue of PD

*Pharmacy Daily* today features two pages of industry news, plus a front cover wrap from **Independent Pharmacies Australia**.

## Build your future

**INDEPENDENT** Pharmacies Australia offers market-leading commercial terms and local marketing that brings customers to your business.

Learn more about joining Australia's fastest growing network on the **cover page**.

## Earlybird rates

**SAVE** up to \$100 on registration for Pharmacy Connect thanks to earlybird rates until 30 Jun, with fees from \$595 for pharmacists, \$265 for pharmacy assistants and \$150 for interns - learn more **HERE**.

## APC publishes standards

**THE** Australian Pharmacy Council (APC) has published the final Accreditation Standards for Pharmacy Programs 2027 following an extensive consultation process across the sector.

Used to accredit degree and intern training programs into the future, the standards align with the recently published Capability Framework (**PD 01** May) and have a strong focus on cultural safety.

"We have considered where and how [the standards] can be harmonised with other professions' accreditation standards to reduce duplication and burden of accreditation to our education providers," explained APC CEO Bronwyn Clark.

"Standards and accreditation are the enabler that provide education programs the flexibility to innovate while giving the public confidence that, no matter the pathway, graduates meet the same high bar.

"Rigorous accreditation standards, underpinned by the



new Capability Framework and robust accreditation, enable safe and flexible ways to prepare the pharmacists that Australia needs - now and into the future."

In thanking those who provided feedback from the profession, consumers, and across the health sector, Clark concluded: "It has ensured our standards remain in line with evolving landscapes, scope changes, best practice, and the needs of our community."

Accreditation of pharmacy degree programs will be aligned with the Capability Framework from 01 Jan 2028, with a staged implementation over 2028-29. **KB** Learn more **HERE**.

## PSS' Dunkley recognised

**PHARMACISTS'** Support Service executive officer Kay Dunkley has been awarded the Joanna Griffith Medal by Professionals Australia in recognition of her service to pharmacy for over 40 years - in particular, for her role in improving personal wellbeing and workforce conditions.

"Creating change always requires teamwork and I have been very fortunate to be surrounded by like-minded members of the pharmacy profession who have been willing to provide support to their colleagues in order to improve the wellbeing of pharmacists," Dunkley told **Pharmacy Daily**.

"Thank you to all those inspiring volunteers and colleagues who have supported the work of the Pharmacists' Support Service," she added.

**NEW**

# Ultra Gut Health with UltraBiotic IBS

## Symptomatic relief of medically diagnosed IBS

**BioCeuticals**



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\* Williams EA et al. (2009). *Alimentary Pharmacology & Therapeutics*; 29(1):97-103, and Mullish BH et al. (2024). *Neurogastroenterology & Motility*; 36(4):e14751. Both studies funded by Cultech Ltd.



### Dispensary Corner

**GRAPES** are officially a superfood, according to US researchers who have uncovered a raft of health benefits in studies funded by \*checks notes\* the California Table Grape Commission.

In the latest study, participants who ate the equivalent of three serves of the fruit per day for two weeks experienced changes in skin gene activity that conferred greater protection against UV radiation.

The grapes appeared to affect genes related to keratinisation and cornification, processes that help form the skin's protective outer barrier against environmental damage.

There was also evidence of lower levels of malondialdehyde, a marker of oxidative stress.

"We are now certain that grapes act as a superfood and mediate a nutrigenomic response in humans," said study lead Prof John Pezzuto from Western New England University.

"We observed this with the largest organ of the body, the skin, [but] beyond skin, it is nearly certain that grape consumption affects gene expression in other somatic tissues of the body, such as liver, muscle, kidney and even brain."

### Osteoporosis resources now live

A **NEW** osteoporosis health literacy initiative through community pharmacy has been launched by Healthily, Fred IT Group, the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA), and Healthy Bones Australia.

Announced last year and supported by a \$1.1 million Quality Use of Medicines, Consumer Health Literacy grant from the Australian Department of Health, Disability and Ageing (*PD* 03 Apr 2025), the program delivers evidence-based osteoporosis education designed to improve medication adherence and reduce bone fracture risk directly to patients at the point of dispensing.

By integrating Healthily's patient education platform, GoShare, and Fred IT Group's pharmacy dispensing software, Fred Dispense Plus, people with osteoporosis will receive five tailored resource packages by SMS over six months when their medication is dispensed.

The project is expected to reach 30,000 Australians through around 500 participating pharmacies over the next 12 months.

"We are incredibly proud to see this initiative now live in pharmacies across Australia," said Healthily CEO Dr Tina Campbell.

"We know that poor medication adherence is one of the biggest challenges in osteoporosis management, particularly for patients who may have limited access to clear and culturally



appropriate health information."

Paul Naismith, CEO of Fred IT Group, said the launch highlights the important role technology can play in improving patient outcomes through community pharmacy.

"By embedding these educational resources into pharmacy workflows, we are supporting pharmacists to have more meaningful conversations with patients and helping ensure people living with osteoporosis feel informed and supported throughout their treatment journey," he said. *KB*



### PDL 2026 Student Grant winners

**PHARMACEUTICAL** Defence Limited (PDL) has announced the three recipients of its 2026 student grant program, an initiative that supports students to attend industry conferences to further their education and development.

Celine Choi of the University of Sydney, Chieu-Hoang Ly Luong of the University of South Australia, and Christopher Sidaros of the University of Sydney have all chosen to attend PSA26.

Congratulating the recipients, PDL CEO David Brown said: "These opportunities play an important role in helping students build confidence, connect with the profession, and continue their development as future pharmacists."



### Convenor Kos Sclavos AM's TOP PICKS

10 sessions you can't afford to miss

[VIEW HERE](#)

## NOT JUST FLU. THERE'S WHOOPING COUGH TOO

Ask about a **DOUBLE SHOT**  
Help prevent whooping cough as well as the flu<sup>1</sup>

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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