Pharmacy Daily

Friday 23rd Oct 2026

Today's issue of *PD*

Pharmacy Daily today features three pages of the latest industry news.

Pharmacy Daily ON LOCATION

BRISBANE

Today's issue of *PD* is coming to you from Medicines Management 2026 in Brisbane, which is being hosted by Advanced Pharmacy Australia.

TODAY kicks off the 50th Medicines Management conference, with a packed program of guest speakers, members of parliament, research presentations, workshops and social events, including a welcome reception tonight and a gala dinner tomorrow to close out the event.

New perioperative medicines guide

ADVANCED Pharmacy Australia (AdPha) is set to launch in Feb the nation's first perioperative medicines resource to support clinical decisionmaking.

Designed to address critical knowledge gaps among health professionals, the open-access Australian Perioperative Medicines Guide will feature medicine monographs that provide practical guidance for managing patients' existing medications around surgery, alongside education for practitioners and co-designed consumer resources.

More than three million surgeries performed each year in hospitals, increasing by 1.4% annually, and the perioperative period is a high-risk transition point for medication management.

Around 2.6 million surgeries are elective, and one-third of these involve patients aged 65 years and older who often manage multiple health conditions and are on multiple medications.

"Effective medication management from pre-admission to post-acute care is crucial for ensuring patient safety and optimising health outcomes," AdPha president Assoc Prof Tom Simpson explained.

"Getting it wrong has real consequences - surgeries delayed or cancelled on the day, distressing for patients and costly for hospitals," he added.

In addition to comprehensive information and summary tables, the guide will also provide health professionals with the ability to generate and export a simple medication plan for patients that provides clear instruction on what to do with their medicines before and after surgery.

"This project distils knowledge and information that can't be automated or aggregated by online tools, requiring patience, diligence and human context to uphold the highest governance and safety standards," Assoc Prof Simpson said.

"This is advanced pharmacy in action: extending the clinical expertise of specialty pharmacists working alongside medical and nursing experts to enhance patient safety and outcomes in care across Australia," he concluded.

The news follows the opening of Medicines Management 2026, the nation's largest scientific pharmacy conference.

Access the resources **HERE**. *KB*

GO FURTHER. GO PROTECTED.[1]

Don't risk your travel plans.
Vaccines and preventative medicines may be recommended for where you're going.[2]
Talk to your healthcare provider.

If you are exploring the vast lands of Australia or venturing across the seas, you might also come across some diseases that can put a stop to your travel plans. So, to help prevent travel diseases while you are away, speak with your healthcare provider to see if there are any vaccines that you might need before you go.[1,3]

1. Australian Centre for Disease Control. Australian immunisation handbook. Vaccination for international travellers. Available at https://immunisationhandbook.health.gov.au/contents/vaccination-for-special-risk-groups/vaccination-for-international-travellers. Accessed July 2026. **2.** CDC. Travelers' health. Before you travel. Available at https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/page/before-travel. Accessed October 2026. **3.** Australian Centre for Disease Control. Australian immunisation handbook. Available at https://immunisationhandbook.health.gov.au. Accessed July 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-2601898. Date of preparation: October 2026.

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Medihub finalist in *AFR* awards

HEALTHCARE equipment supplier Medihub was named as a finalist in the retail, hospitality, tourism & entertainment category of this year's Most Innovative Companies awards, run by the *Australian Financial Review*.

The company developed a new retail model for pharmacies, providing customers with the ability to browse and order high-value mobility and home care products in-store via kiosks, without the pharmacy needing to purchase or physically stock bulky inventory (***PD*** 08 Sep).

Medihub manages the product catalogue, fulfilment, delivery and aftersales.

"This recognition celebrates Australian businesses that challenge the status quo and find new ways of doing things," commercial manager Steven Pace told ***Pharmacy Daily***.

"We're particularly proud to receive this recognition as we continue working alongside pharmacies across Australia to make healthcare products more accessible," he added.

MS-2 Step indications expanded

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has approved two major changes to a commonly used abortion medication, giving Australian women greater access to medical abortion care and more options for miscarriage care.

While not yet subsidised through the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS), MS-2 Step (mifepristone and misoprostol) is now approved for medical abortion up to 10 weeks' gestation (an increase from nine weeks) and, for the first time, is approved for the medical management of missed miscarriage up to 10 weeks.

The news is highly significant for both Australian women and healthcare practitioners, noted Professor Danielle Mazza, lead researcher at NHMRC Centre of Research Excellence in Sexual and Reproductive Health for Women in Primary Care.

"Being able to use the medication for a medical abortion up to 10 weeks' gestation gives women more time to find an abortion provider and access care," she said.

"This is especially important for women in rural and remote communities who often face delays navigating to care.

"It will also reduce the need for having to have a surgical abortion simply because you have passed the nine-week mark."

Professor Mazza explained that the changes bring the approved use of MS-2 Step into line with national clinical guidelines, "giving GPs and other healthcare providers greater confidence in the safety and effectiveness of these medications".

She also highlighted that approving MS-2 Step for the management of missed miscarriage gives women another treatment option for early pregnancy loss. *KB*

ATO, Ahpra crack down on super release

THE Australian Taxation Office (ATO) and the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (Ahpra) have been working together to ensure applications for early release of super funds to pay for health-related expenses are appropriate and do not take advantage of vulnerable people.

Ahpra CEO Justin Untersteiner said registered health practitioners should never put profits ahead of patients.

"We are concerned by predatory sales tactics that use social media and internet advertising to attract patients for high-cost treatments they do not need or cannot afford," Untersteiner said.

ATO action has seen a 5% decrease in the number of applications over the last year, but a 2% increase in total value.

Arrotex and Recce ink deal

AUSTRALIAN clinical-stage biotechnology company Recce Pharmaceuticals and Arrotex Pharmaceuticals have formed a strategic licensing partnership to support the potential commercialisation of a topical gel (R327G) for the treatment of diabetic foot infections.

Under the terms of the agreement, Recce will remain the exclusive manufacturer and supplier and receive a significant profit share from product sales, while Arrotex will obtain exclusive commercialisation rights for R327G in Australia and NZ.

Diabetic foot infections affect around 50,000 Australians and can be difficult to treat, may lead to hospitalisation and amputation, and are increasingly impacted by antimicrobial resistance.

The partnership brings together Recce's anti-infective development platform and Arrotex's established Australian commercial capabilities to address a critical area of unmet need.

"On approval, we expect R327G will represent an innovative approach to a serious and costly complication of diabetes, and the partnership aligns strongly with our commitment to bring differentiated medicines to patients with significant unmet needs," Arrotex chief medical officer Dr Melinda Munns said.

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Dispensary Corner

AS WE approach the end-of-year travel season, people planning medium to long haul flights may appreciate some of these tips for healthy flying from a US doctor to get the holidays off to a good start.

One of the main health issues to address is the dry air in the cabin, which can cause nasal and throat irritation and predispose passengers to getting sick.

Dr Inna Husain, an ear, nose and throat specialist, recommended pre-lubricating the nasal lining with a little natural saline or saline gel.

She also suggested considering an oxymetazoline decongestant nasal spray to help temporarily reduce swelling in the nose, and potentially relieve Eustachian tube dysfunction with its associated ear pain when landing.

While pointing out the evidence that it can help with ear pain was limited, and recommending health professional advice to ensure it is safe for the individual, Dr Husain said she used it with all her children one hour before landing.

Other healthy choices include avoiding ice in drinks, as water stored and distributed through aircraft plumbing can potentially become contaminated with bacteria.

And finally, choose the window seat - aircraft air circulation patterns suggest that there is a higher risk of catching airborne microbes when sitting on the aisle, Dr Husain said.

PRODUCT SPOTLIGHT

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

Revive Tears - PBS-listed

Revive Tears lubricating eye drops provide long-lasting and soothing relief against burning, irritation and discomfort due to dry eye.

The product moisturises, comforts and refreshes dry, tired and strained eyes.

Revive Tears helps lubricate, hydrate and protect dry eyes.

Suitable for use with contact lenses.

Contains hypromellose 3mg/g.

RRP: $4.32 (available in 10ml packs)

Suppliers: Available from Symbion, Sigma, API and CH2.

Website: CLICK HERE for more information.

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MICROSHIELD® Skincare Cleanser - pH-balanced daily cleanser

Suppliers: Available from API, Sigma, Symbion and CH2.

Website: CLICK HERE to view the complete MICROSHIELD® range.

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