

Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features two pages of news.

Pharmacists' care for older persons

ADVANCED Pharmacy Australia (AdPha) is holding its inaugural Care for Older Persons Colloquium on 28 Nov, taking place fully online.

Featuring a full day of expert-led virtual sessions exploring the clinical and practical challenges of caring for older people, the program covers changing pharmacist roles in managing behavioural issues, Parkinson's disease, traumatic falls and palliative care.

Interactive case discussions provide the opportunity to work through real-world scenarios drawn from everyday practice, highlighting the medication considerations that shape care decisions.

Learn more [HERE](#).

Women's health trial expanded

HEALTH Minister Mark Butler has announced today the expansion of the women's health trial to provide access for all women, rolling out from next year.

The initiative to provide free access to pharmacy treatment for uncomplicated urinary tract infections (UTIs) and initiation or re-supply of hormonal contraception (where permitted under state or territory regulations) was announced at APP2026 (**PD** 16 Mar), and initially applied to concession card holders only.

An estimated 900,000 Australian women could now benefit from the 12-month trial, with the Federal Government covering pharmacist consultation costs and any necessary medicines provided at PBS-equivalent prices (\$25 for general and \$7.70 for concession card holders).

These reforms are being delivered under the Federal Government's \$792.2 million women's health package, which includes new contraceptives added to the PBS,

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and improved access to IUDs and the contraceptive implant.

"This is a landmark reform for women's healthcare in this country," Pharmacy Guild of Australia national president Professor Trent Twomey said.

"It provides women more choice in when and where they can access safe and affordable primary healthcare.

"The trial will build on years of specially trained pharmacists delivering these services safely to patients across Australia and the world," he continued.

"Already, every month, more than 8,000 Australian women visit a community pharmacy for the treatment of uncomplicated UTIs," he added.

Addressing concerns raised by some in the medical community about the safety of pharmacist prescribing, Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care Rebecca White noted that the trial will be assessed over a range of measures to determine its success.

"This trial will ensure patient safety comes first by testing how the pharmacy model works in practice, including assessment, referral and follow-up, before any decision about its future is made," she said. **KB**

Last week of Tier 1

TIER 1 pricing for next year's Australasian Pharmacy Professional Conference & Trade Exhibition (APP2027) ends on 31 Oct, so register now to save up to \$250.

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Dispensary Corner

RESEARCHERS have found surprising results about the activities which do and do not help ward off memory loss, with one of the most effective strategies appearing to be taking care of grandchildren.

The Chinese researchers behind the study found that regularly taking part in at least three beneficial activities has the strongest impact on cognitive function, with women aged over 60 standing to benefit the most.

Grandparent duties, as well as joining sports clubs, volunteering, and training in a new skill all help keep the mind sharp, according to surveys from more than 20 countries.

These activities were all linked to a lower risk of cognitive decline, according to an analysis that included almost 60,000 people ranging from 57 to 73.

Just as interesting was the finding that attending church or political groups makes little difference, with neither linked to boosting cognitive abilities.

Writing in the *Journal of Epidemiology & Community Health*, the researchers said their findings support the 'use it or lose it' hypothesis, which claims activities that stimulate the brain both strengthen connections between brain cells and build new ones, preserving cognitive function.



AdPha celebrates excellence

PROFESSOR Kirstie Galbraith (pictured) has been awarded the prestigious Fred J Boyd Award by Advanced Pharmacy Australia (AdPha), in recognition of more than two decades of outstanding service to hospital pharmacy practice, education and research in Australia and internationally.

Presenting the award at the opening plenary of Medicines Management 2026 (MM2026) on Fri, AdPha president Associate Professor Tom Simpson (pictured) praised Professor Galbraith as a pioneer of advanced pharmacy practice whose influence spans clinical care, education and the systems that shape the profession.

"More than a decade ago, Kirstie stood on a stage like this to receive the SHPA Medal of Merit, recognising her leadership in clinical pharmacy and excellence in academia," he said.

"She has continued to push the profession forward, bringing a systems-wide perspective to the evolving healthcare landscape and helping ensure pharmacy practice keeps pace with changing patient and community needs.

"Today, we recognise not only Kirstie's extraordinary contribution to pharmacy education and workforce development, but also her enduring impact on patient care - the profession is fortunate to have her continuing to carry the advanced practice torch and creating pathways for others to follow," he concluded.

In accepting the award, Professor Galbraith said, "To be recognised by my peers, the very people whose dedication and expertise inspire me every day, is humbling beyond words.

"This award is a wonderful honour, but it truly reflects the dedication of the many brilliant educators,



practitioners and leaders I have had the privilege to work alongside over many years," she added.

Meanwhile, the AdPha Medal of Merit was presented to Romana Cecchele in recognition of her outstanding contribution to clinical trials pharmacy and leadership in improving patient access to investigational and novel therapies.

"Every new therapy that reaches patients through a clinical trial relies on pharmacists who understand the science, the regulation and the logistics - and Romana has shaped how that work is done, first at RPA, then across New South Wales and nationally," Associate Professor Simpson said.

"Her leadership of AdPha's Clinical Trials Leadership Committee, her work on the Clinical Trials Residency Framework and her generosity in training the next generation of trial pharmacists mean her impact will be felt for many years to come."

MM2026 finished with the announcement of Camille Boland as the 2026 Australian Clinical Pharmacy Award recipient for her outstanding contribution to clinical pharmacy practice.

Boland introduced unit-based clinical pharmacy at Royal Hobart Hospital in the late 90s, the first model of its kind in Australia and still considered the gold standard today, and has continued to innovate with partnered pharmacist medication charting, extended-hours services and advanced roles for pharmacy technicians. KB



Weekly Comment

Welcome to *Pharmacy Daily's* weekly comment feature. This week's contributor is **Amit Saha, pharmacist and head of technical & innovation at LaCorium Health.**



The science behind Australia's no. 1 lip balm

ONE Dermal Therapy Lip Balm sells every seven seconds.

Its success reflects an important principle in lip care: effective moisturisation requires more than simply a barrier.

Dermal Therapy Lip Balm Original combines key ingredients to help protect, soften and hydrate dry lips.

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The formula's performance is supported by product-specific testing demonstrating improvements in lip hydration and the symptoms associated with dry, cracked lips, with visible results in one day.

Ultimately, the science is straightforward: protect the barrier, replenish moisture and soften the surface.

It is this formulation-led approach that helps explain why the Dermal Therapy Lip Balm range continues to earn consumer trust.

Learn more [HERE](#).

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