

Today's issue of PD

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

Peptide anaphylaxis cases increase

THE chief health officer (CHO) of Victoria has issued an urgent warning about an increase in anaphylaxis cases associated with unapproved peptides, with 13 recorded since Jul 2025 and seven since Sep 2026.

The CHO has encouraged clinicians to have “open, non-judgemental discussions” with patients about the use of unapproved peptides and help them work towards their health goals safely.

They should also advise patients of the very real risk of anaphylaxis and the need for immediate care if symptoms develop, and report all adverse events to the TGA.

TGA acts to strengthen sunscreen confidence

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has announced it is progressing with the development of reforms to strengthen sunscreen regulation in Australia to improve confidence in sun protection factor (SPF) claims.

Proposed reforms have been developed from feedback received in the TGA’s public consultation earlier this year.

They include strengthening testing requirements, developing quality requirements for specific ingredients, limiting claims for cosmetic sunscreens and reviewing good manufacturing practice guidance to clarify expectations and responsibilities.

The industry body Accord Australasia, which represents companies that make and supply sunscreens locally, has welcomed the TGA’s proposal to modernise sunscreen testing by adopting international standards and allowing in vitro tests.

However, the association has

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Always read the label and follow the directions for use.



warned that proposals for repeat testing, mandatory laboratory accreditation and a limit on SPF claims for make-up would raise prices and reduce choice, without the TGA showing what they would achieve.

Calling for clarity, Accord Australasia executive director Damian Mitsch, said: “We don’t know whether the TGA wants to regulate blushes and bronzers as medicines if they have a high SPF, or not allow any high SPF claims on any cosmetics, even moisturisers, or something in between.”

The Public Health Association of Australia (PHAA) has enthusiastically embraced the TGA’s proposal to boost the testing regime applied to Australian sunscreens, saying the measures are “an important step in rebuilding public confidence in a vital public health tool”.

“The system for testing of sunscreens in Australia has been problematic for some time, which

was recently demonstrated by reports that some products did not meet their measured SPF ratings,” PHAA CEO, Adjunct Professor Terry Slevin said.

“The TGA’s proposals are welcome and need to be worked through so that the testing is consistent and of high quality.

“It’s also important that this testing doesn’t increase the price of sunscreens,” he added.

“But the main message is that sunscreens work, they help prevent skin cancer, and people in Australia should not lose faith in them.”

See the TGA sunscreen reforms page [HERE](#) for more information. 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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Owners reminded of responsibilities

THE PBS Audit and Intervention Section of the Department of Health is reminding pharmacy owners on their responsibilities for the lawful operation of their pharmacies in the wake of compliance activities indicating shortfalls in understanding of professional obligations.

The Section emphasised that while day-to-day responsibilities may be entrusted to a pharmacy manager, pharmacist-in-charge or business partner, owners need to maintain oversight of the pharmacy and should not assume that another owner or manager is solely responsible for ensuring compliance.

"Effective oversight does not mean being involved in every aspect of daily operations," it stated.

"It means having sufficient visibility of the business to be satisfied that relevant professional, legal and PBS requirements are being met."

Pharmacy owners need to ensure that the pharmacy premises, staff and business partners comply with all relevant Commonwealth, state and territory legislation, as well as professional body standards; all PBS claims and supply are based on a valid prescription; and all prescription data and patient records are stored securely.

"For most pharmacy owners, these requirements will already be reflected in the systems and professional practices operating within their pharmacy," the Section noted.

"However, these remain important responsibilities for all owners, including those who have limited involvement in day-to-day operations," it stated, noting that owners may be subject to compliance action even when not directly involved in the misconduct.

The Pharmacy Board's guidance is available [HERE](#).

New service connects cancer support sector

CANCER Council has today launched Cancer Connect, a national initiative designed to provide healthcare professionals and patients with resources to help coordinate cancer support services.

It means healthcare professionals can now more easily help any Australian affected by the disease find trusted information and navigate practical and emotional support services as a complement to clinical care.

Building on Cancer Council's longstanding 13 11 20 information and support service, Cancer Connect is backed by a \$49.6 million Federal Government investment as part of the Australian Cancer Nursing and Navigation Program (ACNNP).

People can access information and explore support services online or speak with a qualified professional who can spend time listening and connecting them with services best suited to their needs.

Additionally, new referral forms allow healthcare professionals

to more easily link people with services across the sector, including those offered by cancer-specific ACNNP partners and many other providers, to ensure every patient can be helped.

Jacinta Reddan, CEO of Cancer Council Australia, said while the deep cancer support network has significant expertise and resources, knowing what is available and how to find support at a time of significant vulnerability can be a challenge for someone affected by the disease.

"Cancer Connect is designed to help bridge that gap and provide a central way into the extensive support provided by cancer support services nationally that extends beyond those currently offered by Cancer Council alone," Reddan explained.

"Cancer Connect aims to help people understand what support is available and assess their needs with them, and we can then connect them with providers best placed to give that person



assistance, including organisations offering more specialised information and support, and Cancer Council's own services.

"This also means healthcare professionals don't need to know about every service across Australia, but can call on Cancer Connect for help navigating that wider support system to obtain supportive care with and on behalf of their patients," she added.

Learn more [HERE](#). KB

NT pharmacy excellence celebrated

THE Northern Territory winners of the 2027 National Pharmacy Awards have been announced, with Blooms The Chemist Darwin Plaza taking the gong for NT Community Pharmacy of the Year.

The Darwin pharmacy was honoured for its leadership in providing accessible, patient-centred healthcare tailored to the unique needs of the Northern Territory, offering a comprehensive range of clinical services and innovative pharmacy solutions.

In helping improve healthcare access and outcomes across the community, the team's commitment to personalised care, cultural responsiveness and service excellence has made it a trusted destination for healthcare in the city.

Individual honours went to: Kojo Osei-Agyeman, Priceline Pharmacy Alice Springs, who was awarded NT Community Pharmacist of the Year and Robyn

Vijayan, Alice Springs Pharmacy, who was named NT Community Pharmacy Assistant of the Year.

NT Intern Pharmacist of the Year went to Marwa Elzemrany, of Territory Pharmacy Stuart Park, while NT Student Pharmacist of the Year was presented to Erika Wibowo, who attends Charles Darwin University.

The Pharmacy Guild of Australia NT Branch president Peter Hatswell congratulated the winners and highlighted the important role of community pharmacy in providing accessible care, particularly in remote and regional areas which face unique challenges, including distance, workforce shortages and limited access to other health services.

"The achievements recognised through these awards highlight the essential role pharmacy plays in strengthening healthcare across the NT and supporting communities, wherever they live," Hatswell said.



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Dispensary Corner

SCIENTISTS are urging parents to allow their children to engage in risky play for the sake of their healthy development.

Kids who climb trees, ride bikes downhill, and play in outdoor streams, for example, show better physical and mental health, according to a large analysis from teams at the University of Exeter and the University of British Columbia.

They analysed 74 existing studies linking risky play to the health outcomes of children aged three to 12.

The review found children who took part in this type of play had a better mental wellbeing, while those who exercised independently - even just by walking to school themselves - were more physically active too.

"Amidst the prevalence of screen use and structured activities, risky play offers invaluable opportunities for children to immerse themselves in outdoor activities that afford challenge," the researchers said.

"Risky play has emerged as a distinct category of play due to its unique developmental benefits for children and its diminishing presence in children's everyday play experiences," they explained.



PRODUCT SPOTLIGHT

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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.



MagZorb Performance Creatine+

(Creatine Monohydrate with Magnesium Glycinate)

Creatine has moved well beyond the gym, and people of every age are now asking for it. MagZorb Performance Creatine+ pairs creatine monohydrate with magnesium glycinate in one dual action capsule.

For the body, it supports muscle strength and exercise performance while helping relieve muscle soreness and tiredness. For the mind, it helps reduce mental fatigue and supports focus, so patients feel the difference beyond their workout.

Made in Australia and delivered in an easy capsule, it is creatine for every active patient without the scoop or the tub.

Active Ingredients (per capsule): Creatine Monohydrate 1000mg, Magnesium Glycinate 250mg (equiv. magnesium 50mg)

RRP: \$39.95 (120 capsules)

Stockist enquiries: Available through API and Symbion.

Website: [CLICK HERE](#) for more information.

