

Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features two pages of news.

Pharmacy Daily
ON LOCATION

PHARMACY CONNECT

Today's issue of PD is coming to you from Pharmacy Connect which is being hosted by the Pharmacy Guild of Australia.

THE final day of Pharmacy Connect 2026 will see Dr Kirsten Riddle, president of the National Community Pharmacists Association (USA), discuss what is happening now in United States pharmacy, and what this could mean for Australian pharmacies.

Other highlights today include a keynote address from Assistant Minister for Mental Health and pharmacist Emma McBride and a session on how artificial intelligence is shaping the future of pharmacy care.

Call for independent reviews of trial

THE Royal Australian College of GPs (RACGP) is urging the Federal Government to judge its national women's health pharmacy trial, set to commence in Jan next year, on whether the care they receive is appropriate and effective - not simply how many prescriptions are written.

As the eligibility, medicine, training, claiming and participation details for the program are finalised, the RACGP is calling for the trial to be independently evaluated and for outcomes to be compared with women receiving usual GP care.

RACGP president Dr Michael Wright said that while improving access and affordability matters, he added the trial must also establish whether the model improves care for women.

"A prescription is not an outcome," he said.

"If this trial is going to help shape the future of women's healthcare, we need to know what happens after the pharmacy visit."

Dr Wright highlighted key outcomes to be investigated, including efficacy of treatment, further care needed, important health issues picked up, and whether the service connected the patient with the rest of her healthcare, or made that care more fragmented.

"The Government has called this a trial: it should give us clear answers to those questions - not simply tell us how many services were delivered or whether people found it convenient," Dr Wright concluded.

Minns outlines further scope expansion for NSW

NEW South Wales Premier Chris Minns has announced a raft of reforms in community pharmacy that will expand access to vaccinations, unlock the skills of newly trained pharmacist prescribers, and establish a new trial enabling pharmacists to provide care for ear infections, wound management, and selected chronic health conditions.

"If there's a way to make healthcare more accessible, we will consider it," the Premier (**pictured**) told delegates at Pharmacy Connect yesterday.

"If there's clinical evidence to support the change, we will proudly lead the way."

From 01 Jan 2027, NSW community pharmacists will be able to administer all vaccinations under the National Immunisation Program, making it easier for families to access essential vaccines closer to home.

Premier Minns also confirmed that pharmacists completing accredited prescribing programs will be able to practise to their expanded scope upon graduation, with law changes taking place to that effect.

This will enable suitably qualified

pharmacists to provide treatment for a broad range of common conditions including urinary tract infections, initiation and resupply of oral contraception, nausea and vomiting, hay fever and allergic rhinitis, reflux, acne, musculoskeletal pain, and skin conditions such as impetigo, shingles, dermatitis and psoriasis.

A new pharmacy care trial will soon take place, enabling participating pharmacists to provide treatment for ear infections, deliver wound care, and assist in the management of chronic conditions including hypertension and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

In terms of future initiatives, the Premier flagged the development of a pharmacy supply of anti-inflammatory reliever for patients with mild asthma, as well as antiviral treatments in aged care facilities.

Mario Barone, president of the Pharmacy Guild of Australia, NSW Branch, thanked the Premier and the NSW Government for their continued commitment to expanding patient access to healthcare and supporting pharmacists to work to the full



extent of their education, training and expertise.

He said the announcements represent another defining moment for healthcare reform in New South Wales.

"These reforms are transformational for patients, pharmacists and the broader health system," Barone said.

"Today's announcements continue NSW's leadership in healthcare innovation by giving patients more options to access timely care through their local community pharmacy."

The Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) president Professor Mark Naunton also welcomed the announcement, and said the PSA will continue to work with the NSW Govt to ensure its Grad Cert in Pharmacist Prescribing is recognised in the state. **KB**

LrnRx launches free CPD courses, plan

AS THE end of the continuing professional development (CPD) year approaches on 30 Sep, pharmacy education platform LrnRx has announced a major update to its pricing model that makes core CPD tools free for every pharmacy professional.

The move makes LrnRx the only pharmacy education provider in the sector to offer CPD learning, reporting, learning plan creation and external training uploads to individual users, at no cost.

Independent pharmacies with fewer than 20 staff can access a free Team Plan, allowing owners and managers to support their whole team's CPD in one place, while larger groups can adopt LrnRx as their full learning management system on a paid

subscription basis.

LrnRx founder Krysti-Lee Patterson said the expansion and pricing changes reflect the platform's founding mission: to make high-quality pharmacy education accessible to every practitioner, regardless of the size of the business they work for.

"Nobody should be scrambling - or paying - to prove they're compliant in the final weeks of the CPD year," Patterson said.

"By making individual and small-team access completely free, we're levelling the playing field."

"Pharmacists deserve tools that make it easier to do their job well, not another cost to manage, especially when the deadline is bearing down," Patterson added.

Learn more **HERE**.



Dispensary Corner

THERE is now an answer for those of us who have ever wondered which cocktail is the healthiest - because nutrition is certainly top-of-mind during happy hour, right?

According to UK-based nutritionist Natalie Rouse, the Bloody Mary, which combines vodka with tomato and lemon juice, Worcestershire sauce and spices, is the best choice for those who are trying to avoid empty calories.

"Of the list of cocktails provided, the Bloody Mary is probably the better choice from a nutritional perspective," Rouse explained, giving it four out of five stars.

Love it or hate it, the savoury concoction can provide vitamin C, potassium and the antioxidant lycopene, thanks to the tomato juice it contains.

It also usually avoids the large amounts of liqueur, syrup and sugary mixers found in many other cocktails, including the Long Island Iced Tea, which contains a whopping seven teaspoons of sugar and received a score of just one out of five.

Bloody Mary fans, however, should be mindful of its high salt content, Rouse pointed out.



PRODUCT SPOTLIGHT

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

Voltaren Pain Relief Gel 12 Hourly: long-lasting, targeted pain relief

Powered by diclofenac, Voltaren Pain Relief Gel 12 Hourly provides up to 12 hours of clinically proven pain relief.^{1,2}

Voltaren Pain Relief Gel 12 Hourly exhibits anti-inflammatory effects targeted to the source, providing long-lasting relief of localised muscle pain or mild osteoarthritis of the knees and fingers.³⁻⁶

RRP: \$29.99 per 100g pack.

Suppliers: Contact your HALEON representative.

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

Always read the label and follow the directions for use. Voltaren Pain Relief Gel 12 Hourly contains diclofenac diethylamine 23.2 mg/g.

References: 1. Derry S, et al. *Cochrane Database Sys Rev* 2015;6:CD007042. 2. Predel HG, et al. *Med Sci Sports Exer* 2012;44(9):1629-36. 3. Derry S, et al. *Cochrane Database Sys Rev* 2016;6:CD007400. 4. Predel HG, et al. *BMC Musculoskeletal Disord* 2013;14:250. 5. Derry S, et al. *Cochrane Database Sys Rev* 2017;5:CD008609. 6. Zacher J, et al. *Curr Med Res Opin* 2008;24:925-50.

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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.