

Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today comprises three pages of news, including our **Beauty & Wellness** feature, plus full pages from:

- **Dermal Therapy**
- **Glucojel**

Therapy that works

DERMAL Therapy has a range of skin and scalp care products, including sebum control, skin repair and sun protection for acne-prone skin - see **page four**.

New safer prescribing guidelines released

RESEARCHERS from Monash University, the University of Tasmania and the University of Sydney have developed an evidence-based guide to safer prescribing designed to reduce medication harm and ease the burden on the national healthcare system.

Published today in *BMJ Quality and Safety*, the 23 quality prescribing indicators act as a "clinical compass" to guide safe and appropriate prescribing for common health conditions in all adults in primary care.

Developed and endorsed by an expert panel of pharmacists, general practitioners and nurse practitioners, the guidelines cover proton pump inhibitors, vaccinations, blood pressure medications, anti-inflammatories,

Harm reduction: 'We can do more'

THE Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) has welcomed the new report for the inquiry into the health impacts of alcohol and other drugs in Australia, which incorporates recommendations informed by the organisation's submission.

The report, published this week by the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Health, Aged Care and Disability, acknowledges the vital role pharmacists have long played in harm reduction across Australia and around the world.

However, in its submission the

asthma inhalers, mental health treatments and pain relief.

The approved indicators provide vital information on the appropriate initiation of medicines, ongoing monitoring, avoiding high-risk combinations and deprescribing when medicines are no longer needed.

"If our indicators are adopted widely, they could help healthcare professionals prescribe medicines more safely in primary care," co-author Anna Mackintosh, from Monash's Centre for Medicine Use and Safety, said.

"Over time, this could reduce medication-related harms, prevent avoidable hospital admissions, lower healthcare costs and ultimately improve patient outcomes."

Read the guidelines **HERE**.



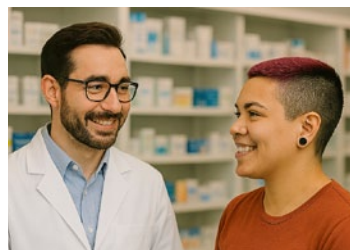
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PSA emphasised that pharmacists in Australia are not being fully utilised and have the capacity to make a far greater contribution to harm reduction initiatives and alcohol and other drug services.

"Pharmacists play a critical role in medicine safety and in ensuring the safe provision of harm reduction services on the frontline," PSA national president Professor Mark Naunton said.

"In Australia, pharmacists are improving access to essential services such as the provision of opioid dependence treatment, take-home naloxone, and needle and syringe programs, among others.

"Access to pharmacist-delivered harm reduction services is critical in rural, regional, and remote communities where the report recognises that pharmacists are often the sole health professionals in these locations."

While highlighting the success of the take-home naloxone program in saving lives, PSA harm reduction champion Krishna Nathwani noted there are still access gaps in the identification and supply of naloxone to people at risk of experiencing or witnessing opioid toxicity. **KB**

Safety in focus for chronic disease care

ADVANCED Pharmacy Australia (AdPha) has marked World Patient Safety Day today with the launch of its fifth annual World Patient Safety Day series, authored by members of its Medication Safety Leadership Committee.

The 2026 theme is 'Safe care for non-communicable diseases. Safe care for life!', and focuses on conditions that often require long-term care across multiple settings and can expose people to safety risks over time.

AdPha's series explores medication safety through different clinical perspectives across seven articles, and covers cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes and chronic respiratory disease to the challenges of care transitions and medication management beyond hospital walls.

Led by the WHO, the global patient safety campaign calls for action across the continuum of care, including safer medication use and meaningful engagement with people living with these conditions.

Access AdPha's series **HERE**.

Spookojel comp

THIS Halloween, Glucojel is giving customers the chance to win a year's supply of their favourite Glucojel products, so make sure your shelves are fully stocked - see **page five**.



VITACEUTICALS

MagZorb Calm

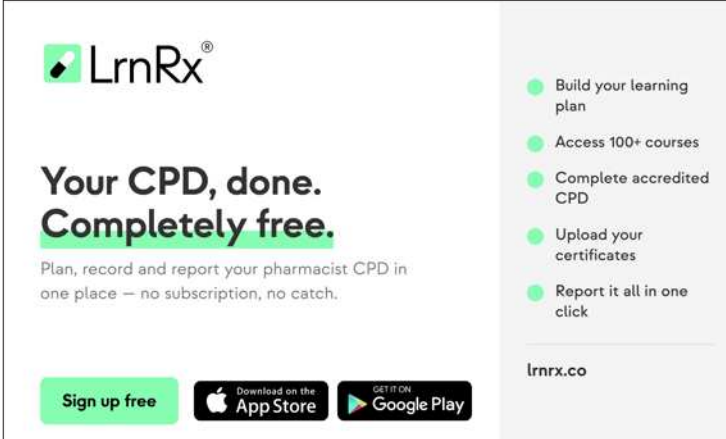
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Editor's Choice: Quick Flick's new product launches offer lip service

AUSTRALIAN brand Quick Flick has released a bevy of fresh products into the market this month, focusing on several brand-new lip products.

First, the brand's Quick Lip 2 in 1 Double Sided Precision Lip Liner and Stain (RRP \$20) is now available in three new shades: Cool Nude, 90's Brown and Soft Red.

The stain-meets-liner hybrid features a deeper shade for lining and lighter shade for filling, drying to a soft yet comfortable finish that lasts all day.

Quick Flick has also released the Quick Lip Tri-Peptide Lip Butter Glaze (RRP \$18) to help nourish lips, thanks to its blend of shea butter, vitamin E and peptides.



Meanwhile, the Quick Lip Tri-Peptide Lip & Face Shapers (RRP \$20) are creamy, multi-use sculpting sticks offering two

complementary shades to help define lips, cheeks, nose and eyes. Available now in Priceline stores nationwide.

Revlon shimmer stick



REVLON'S new Glimmer Shadow Multi-Sticks make it easy to apply different looks across eyelids, cheekbones and browbones.

Available in eight universal shades, the new product features a multitasking retractable stick for easy application and was designed specifically to work as an eyeshadow, or as a contour or highlighter to enhance cheek or brow bones.

The Multi-Stick's no-tug super creamy formula makes it easy to blend, while the built-in clear blender tip helps to easily buff across the eye area.

According to the brand, the formula offers crease- and smudge-proof wear lasting up to 12 hours.

Main Character is a rich, cocoa brown, Teeny Time is a warm olive gold metallic, Swipe Right is a soft rosy pink, Plus One is a cool tan beige, and Get Your Bag is a metallic bronze with a sparkle.

Meanwhile, Girl's Girl is a bright rose gold with soft pink undertones, Ghosted is a champagne highlight, and Night Cap is a deep rich cool brown with sparkle flecks.

Instant moisture boost

WELEDA has launched the new Hyaluronic Moisture Serum Booster Drops (RRP \$32.95) for instant glow and hydration.

The new fragrance-free serum is formulated with duo-hyaluronic acid and snow mushroom, and is easily absorbed to provide an intense moisture boost.



Carmex puckers up with upgraded lip gloss



EIGHTY-FIVE-YEAR-OLD Carmex is now offering a more glamorous version of its iconic lip balm, with the launch of the new Carmex Lip Gloss with Shimmer (RRP \$10.99).

"Consumers are increasingly seeking products that combine beauty with results," Jona Mancuso, Carmex head of global marketing, said.

"Lip Gloss with Shimmer is a natural extension of Carmex lip balm's trusted lip care expertise, bringing together lasting hydration, comfortable wear and effortless shine in one product."

Formulated with a comfortable, non-sticky texture and offering luminous shine and hydration, the lip glosses are available in three flavours: raspberry, watermelon and vanilla.

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Dispensary Corner

US RESEARCHERS have taken plastic recycling to a whole new level by using it to create food - specifically cookies.

The team at Southern Illinois University engineered yeast to turn PET plastic and agricultural waste into ingredients for protein-rich, 3D-printed cookies called μ Bites (which is just a cool way of writing microbites - 'microbe bites', geddit?).

Developed for and partly funded by NASA's Deep Space Food Challenge, the process can produce proteins, fats, vitamins and even vanilla flavouring from waste materials.

"We were trying to develop technologies for plastic upcycling to make more valuable products," Associate Professor Lahiru Jayakody said.

"We thought, 'why not focus on making food?', because plastic is carbon and food is carbon," he explained.

PET plastic, discarded corn stalks and leaves were broken up into microbe-accessible pieces, then fed to specially programmed yeasts, which reformed those pieces into a variety of new food ingredients, such as proteins, fats and acids.

While the cookies apparently smell great, and are technically safe to eat, the team is awaiting approval to conduct taste tests.

Researchers hope the unusual technology could eventually help address both plastic pollution and food insecurity, while also supplying food in extreme environments such as submarines or - as per the brief - deep-space missions.

STI rates high but stable, HIV down

NEW sexual health data released by the Kirby Institute at UNSW Sydney shows a mixed picture for Australia, with rates of syphilis and gonorrhoea remaining high after significant increases since 2016, and chlamydia stable but still the most commonly notified sexually transmissible infection (STI).

In 2025, there were almost 6,000 syphilis diagnoses, over 42,000 gonorrhoea diagnoses and more than 94,000 chlamydia diagnoses.

Syphilis and gonorrhoea diagnosis rates have both increased by more than 50% over the last decade, while chlamydia has fluctuated, and slightly declined over the past year.

The research also found that First Nations Australians continue to be disproportionately affected by STIs.

Compared with non-Indigenous Australians, they are diagnosed with chlamydia at more than double the rate, gonorrhoea at more than four times the rate and syphilis at more than six times the rate.

"Many STIs have no symptoms, but they can be detected and treated easily, which supports both individual and community health," epidemiologist and report lead Dr Skye McGregor said.

"People who are sexually active can prioritise their sexual health by getting tested regularly, seeking treatment early, and talking with their partners and health providers about prevention options."

Meanwhile, there were 753 HIV diagnoses in Australia in 2025, showing stability over the last three years and a significant fall over the last decade.

"The decline we've seen in HIV diagnoses over the last decade shows Australia's world-leading response is working," Dr McGregor said.

"While HIV diagnoses increased



modestly following a COVID-19-related decline associated with public health control measures, the longer-term trend remains downward," she explained.

However, progress remains uneven across communities, and the rate among First Nations Australians was almost double that of non-Indigenous Australians.

"While HIV diagnoses among First Nations peoples have overall declined over the past decade, the reduction has not kept pace with the decline seen among non-Indigenous Australians," Robert Monaghan, manager of the Kirby Institute's Yandamanjang First Nations Health Research Program, noted.

"This inequity is unacceptable - we know that HIV is preventable and treatable, so we need to ask why these disparities persist and, more importantly, what we can do differently," he said. KB

Surcharge changes coming soon

AS NEW credit card surcharge rules take effect from 01 Oct, the Council of Small Business Organisations Australia (COSBOA) is highlighting the difficulties and uncertainty facing small businesses when they can no longer add a surcharge to recover the cost of accepting card payments.

"For a small business, there is no such thing as a cost that simply disappears - it either comes out of an already tight margin, has to be recovered somewhere else, or the business has to find a cheaper way of doing things," COSBOA CEO Skye Cappuccio said.

The peak body welcomed planned reductions in interchange fees, which should help reduce the cost of accepting card payments.

"We would have preferred the interchange fee changes to have fully flowed through first, so small businesses knew what their payment costs would look like before having to make pricing and budgeting decisions ahead of 01 Oct," Cappuccio said.



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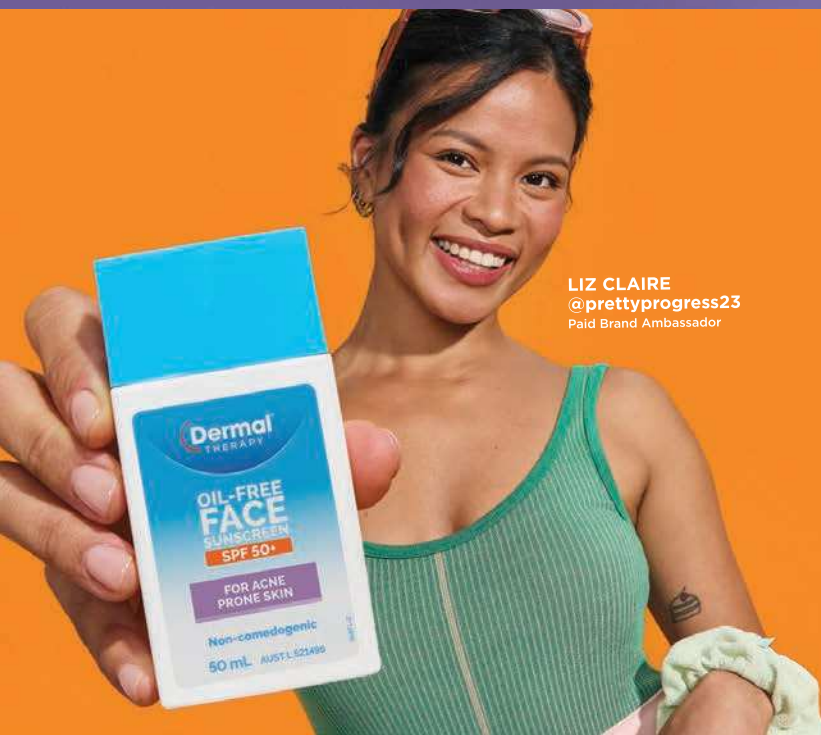


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