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1. West R, et al. N Engl J Med. 2011;365(13):1193-1200. 2. Walker N, et al. N Engl J Med. 2014;371(25):2353-2362.

4 ways to help build strong bones



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Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features two pages of news, plus a cover wrap from **Key Pharmaceuticals** and a full page from **Glucojel**.

Quit smoking aid

NEW nicotine-free Cvyentine from Key Pharmaceuticals can help your patients quit smoking in 25 days.

The Pharmacist Only oral medicine contains clinically proven cytosine 1.5mg.

See the **cover page** for more.

Spookojel comp

THIS Halloween, Glucojel is giving customers the chance to win a year's supply of their favourite Glucojel jelly beans and bears, so make sure your shelves are fully stocked.

Learn more on **page three**.

Aussies urged to protect skin

WOUNDS Australia has marked Wound Awareness Week (28 Sep - 04 Oct) with the launch of SOS: Save Our Skin, a public health campaign encouraging people to protect their skin, recognise a wound early, and "get the right care, right now".

More than 450,000 Australians live with a chronic wound, yet many wounds are preventable with early detection and treatment, according to Wounds Australia, the country's peak body for chronic wound advocacy, education and awareness.

Building on many years of advocacy work by Wounds Australia and supported by renowned surgeon and medical innovator Professor Fiona Wood, the SOS: Save Our Skin campaign combines practical prevention advice with a clear call to intervene early.

"Chronic wounds are one of Australia's most under-resourced health challenges," Professor Wood said.



"Preventing chronic wounds holds the key to drastically improving peoples' quality of life and relieving mounting pressure on hospitals and healthcare systems," she explained.

"The SOS campaign is asking Australians to act early and get the right care, before a wound becomes a chronic wound - a vital public health message, because we know early action can mean the difference between a wound that heals and a wound that alters the course of someone's life."

A consumer-facing campaign will be launched tomorrow in Hobart by Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care Rebecca White.

Learn more **HERE**.

Zoladex PBS listing extended

ASTRAZENECA has announced it will make the Zoladex (goserelin) 3.6mg implant available on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) until 01 May 2027, extending the planned 01 Nov 2026 delisting date by six months.

PBS prescriptions written by 30 Apr 2027 can be filled until 01 May 2028.

Accordingly, the company's previously announced Zoladex continuity program (**PD** 20 Jul) will not proceed.

The announcement followed the expanded PBS listing of triptorelin 3.75mg (Diphereline, Ipsen) to include women's health indications as an alternative (**PD** 21 Sep).

AstraZeneca said it will consider making a further application to secure long-term reimbursed access for Zoladex.

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*Chemists' Own will donate 50% of net profits from products sold to and paid in full by pharmacies to My Room Children's Cancer Charity. Net profits are calculated after deduction of all applicable costs, expenses, rebates, and allowances.



Dispensary Corner

A **NEW** study unravelling the mysteries of astronaut constipation may have implications beyond deep space, according to researchers from the University of Copenhagen and NASA.

Blood samples collected from astronauts who spent months aboard the International Space Station revealed signs that the digestive system begins changing relatively soon after astronauts leave Earth.

Specifically, the gut bacteria ferment more protein during space travel, in part due to the lack of gravity, which slows the movement of food through the digestive tract.

This is thought to result in constipation, a familiar problem for astronauts, but the effects could also impact other parts of the body, including the brain via the gut-brain axis.

Potential interventions include increasing dietary fibre, supplementation with prebiotics or other types of treatments that promote peristalsis and decrease gut transit time.

The research could also address constipation in people confined to bed, where slowed intestinal movement may produce similar changes in gut fermentation.

"You can use this knowledge to help bedridden patients," Lars Ove Dragsted, senior author of the paper, said.

"They also experience constipation and likely also have increased protein fermentation that may aggravate health conditions," he added.

Kids' pain too often overlooked

CHRONIC Pain Australia is calling for greater recognition of the experience of children with chronic pain and their families, with a new campaign urging the Australian Government to ensure chronic pain is consistently reflected in national health data, policy and planning.

Called 'Make pain count', the campaign drew upon research released last week, which found that almost two-thirds (62%) of the 877,000 children and teens with chronic pain said their pain had been ignored or dismissed.

In addition, more than eight in ten children living with chronic pain reported impacts on sport or extracurricular activities (83%), sleep (82%) and mental health (80%), while 76% had missed school because of pain.

However, pain data is not consistently measured across Australia's health system, and without appropriate recognition within health coding systems, governments cannot understand its scale and impact, identify gaps, direct investment or measure outcomes, according to Nicolette Ellis, chair of Chronic Pain Australia.

"The impact of chronic pain extends beyond the individual," Ellis said.

"It can affect the whole family



and participation in school, work and community life, while placing additional pressure on the health system," she continued.

"Making children's pain more visible starts with measuring it properly."

The research has been published in a report 'Pain lives here too', sponsored by Panadol Children maker Haleon Australia.

Jennifer Collins, head of pain at Haleon Australia, highlighted the importance of listening to children and families, and using their lived experience to help shape education, services and support.

"These findings are a powerful reminder that too many children have had to keep repeating their story before their pain is recognised or taken seriously," Collins said.

"Industry has a role to play, but we need to play it alongside credible partners and with the child and family at the centre."

Learn more **HERE**.

ED overcrowding costs lives

NEW research from the UK has revealed that the risk of death for patients treated in the emergency department increases by 1% for every 10% increase in occupancy.

The researchers said their findings demonstrated the very real risks of overcrowding for patients, and provided evidence for policy makers and hospital managers on prioritising emergency care.

The team also looked at the impact of 'corridor care', where patients receive treatment in non-standard clinical spaces such as corridors, and found a similar increase in risk of death.

While the study was based on UK hospitals, the researchers said that given the levels of overcrowding in hospitals around the world, their findings may apply in many other countries.

The Pharmacy Guild of Australia has consistently highlighted the role pharmacist prescribing can help play in keeping people out of emergency departments, with research from HTANALYSTS quantifying the benefits.

"If we are serious about prevention, early intervention and keeping people out of hospital, we need to make it easier for patients to access care in their local community pharmacy," Guild national president Trent Twomey said.

He noted that pharmacist prescribing would help patients get care sooner, free up GP capacity to focus on more complex cases and reduce avoidable pressure on hospitals and emergency departments.

Victorian pharmacy PBS revocation

THE Minister for Health and Ageing Mark Butler has revoked the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) approval of AE & MM Pty Ltd, trading as Upper Beaconsfield Pharmacy, following serious and repeated transgressions around PBS prescriber bag claims.

This included making PBS claims based on false and misleading

information, including in circumstances where supplies did not occur as claimed; supplying prescriber bag medicines in amounts greater than permitted and misrepresenting the timing of supplies; and making PBS claims using a non-approved prescriber bag order form.

The revocation took effect from 05 Aug 2026.



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