

PHARMACY OF THE YEAR:



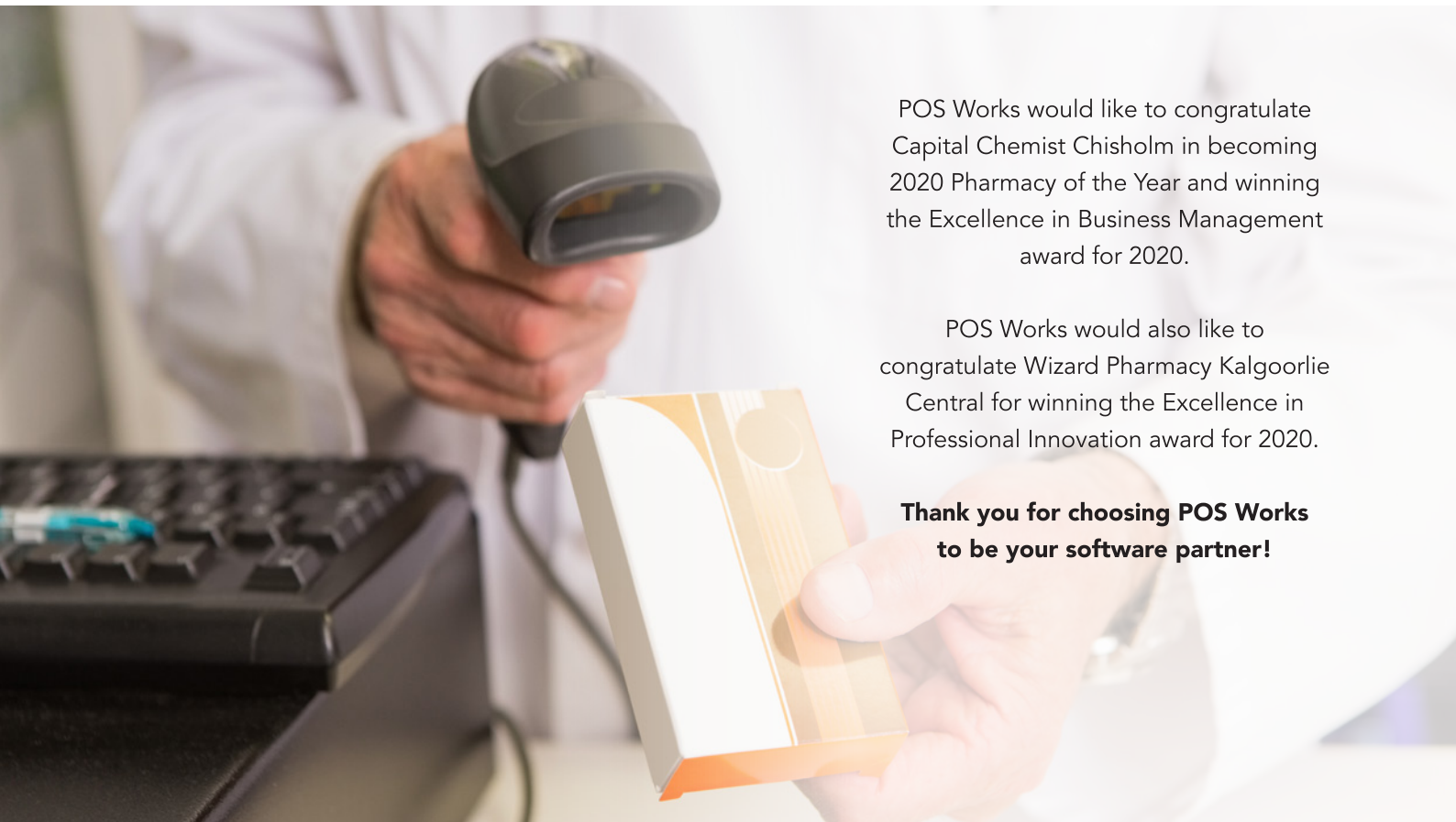
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REBECCA YOUNG, OWNER
CAPITAL CHEMIST CHISHOLM

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POS Works would like to congratulate Capital Chemist Chisholm in becoming 2020 Pharmacy of the Year and winning the Excellence in Business Management award for 2020.

POS Works would also like to congratulate Wizard Pharmacy Kalgoorlie Central for winning the Excellence in Professional Innovation award for 2020.

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Pharmacy rises to COVID challenges

COMMUNITY pharmacy is proving its value through the COVID-19 crisis, with staff going above and beyond for patients, Pharmacy Guild of Australia National President, George Tambassis, believes.

With six weeks remaining on the Sixth Community Pharmacy Agreement (6CPA), the sector is waiting for Federal Health Minister, Greg Hunt, to sign off on the 7CPA, which had been scheduled to be concluded by 31 Dec 2019, Tambassis has highlighted the role pharmacists and pharmacy staff have played in recent national crisis, in a message to the sector.

“As National President of the Guild I am extremely proud of the way our member pharmacies have pulled out all stops to ensure their patients continue to receive their

medicines and the services they need through pharmacies,” he said.

“I salute the dedication and commitment pharmacies and their staff have demonstrated under the most trying of circumstances.

“We’ve had bushfires in multiple states causing pressure and stress, and now of course the global pandemic which has absolutely pulverised our economy and our society.

“It’s put huge pressure on pharmacies and staff as we’ve all tried to cope with panic buying, medicine shortages, isolated patients, and risks and concerns around the health of our staff.

“But throughout it all our member pharmacies have been there for their communities.

“You have been open longer hours; you have dealt with scared



and frustrated patients and you have had to cope with medicine shortages.

“Despite the difficulties, day in and day out you have been there at the frontline for your patients.”

Tambassis concluded by saying that the Guild has been working hard to finalise the 7CPA to give the sector certainty.

Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today has two pages of the latest pharmacy news, a **front cover wrap** from **POS Works**, plus a full page from **Menarini**, and our **Winter Spotlight** feature.

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WINTER'S chillier temperature may be here, but there's no need to endure cold feet while pottering around at home.

Check out our final Winter Spotlight featuring Sweet Escape faux fur-lined cable knit bed socks and a range of products from Flo Nasal and Sinus Relief, to help your patients breathe easier.

See **page four** for more details.

CDSS could boost pharmacist LBP care

PHARMACISTS can play a key role in delivering first-line care to patients with lower-back pain (LBP), using a clinical decision support system (CDSS), Australian research reveals.

The study published in *JMIR Medical Informatics*, involved five pharmacists assessing five case vignettes each with the support of an iPad-based CDSS in assessing patients with LBP.

The authors noted that pharmacists appreciated guidance provided by the CDSS in relation to management, particularly for



options beyond medicines advice.

“Pharmacists also reflected on the current general lack of guidance to manage pain within pharmacy compared with the promotion and availability of management tools for other health conditions,” they said.

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Dispensary Corner

WITH gyms closed across the globe there have been many forms of exercise undertaken during COVID-19 lockdowns. However one particularly unusual type of physical jerks drew the attention of police in the UK, after a man dressed as a medieval knight was spotted on a stroll in Cardiff, Wales. Three officers were dispatched after reports that the fellow was carrying a metre-long sword during his daily exercise walk. The BBC reports 20-year-old Lennon Thomas appeared to be visibly shocked after being confronted at gunpoint and told to drop the weapon, which turned out to be a flimsy plastic toy replica. He apologised to the police for his lapse of judgement. "Perhaps it was a little stupid of me to bring the sword, as from a distance it does look realistic," he said. Thomas, an avid Dungeons and Dragons fan, said he was simply practising his hobby, adding "life is a lot more fun when you don't care how weird you are". South Wales Police confirmed the incident, saying "no criminal offences were committed and the man was given suitable advice". It's understood officers also posed with Thomas for a selfie.



Kenny named lotY 19

A COMMITMENT to collaborative patient care and a strong vision for the future have seen Capital Chemist Calwell's Lucinda Kenny (pictured) named as the 2019 MIMS/Pharmacy Guild of Australia Intern of the Year (lotY).

Announcing Kenny's win, Guild Queensland Branch, Education and Training Manager, Kathy Knack, said the award recognises dedicated and innovative intern pharmacists and thanked the top finalists and nominees.

"Your level of local community awareness and engagement was outstanding," Knack said of Kenny.

As the lotY, Kenny will receive a travel and educational scholarship to the value of \$4,500 courtesy of MIMS Australia.

Kenny said she was honoured to receive the award.

"It's humbling to be recognised in our profession during such arduous times, where pharmacists, pharmacy assistants and interns are working tirelessly during the coronavirus pandemic," she said.

"Their adaptability and unfaltering contribution to sustain the health of our communities."

"The Intern of the Year Award will support me to give back to



our profession. I have a profound interest in dermatology and intend to up-skill so I can provide innovative and comprehensive care within a pharmacy setting.

"Through Capital Chemist, I have truly learnt the meaning behind innovation and dedicated service to the community and I wish to align those values within my own pharmacy in the (hopefully near) future."

"My heart goes out to all the pharmacists and other health professionals in Australia working so hard on the coronavirus pandemic frontline."

Label change

BIOCEUTICALS' ArmaForce SKUS will be temporarily unavailable to order for the next few weeks, as the brand updates product labels.

Guild Update

Mental Health recognition

THE Pharmacy Guild of Australia has welcomed the appointment of Dr Ruth Vine as the country's first Deputy Chief Medical Officer for Mental Health.

"This is an appropriate and timely recognition of the prevalence of mental health conditions in today's society, and of the focus and resources mental health responses require in our health system," a Guild spokesperson said.

The appointment aligns with the growing importance of community pharmacies in providing accessible services to mental health patients.

As frontline health professionals, pharmacists are often the first health professional contacted by a consumer with a health concern.

Pharmacists are frequently consulted for advice on psychotropic medications and their accessibility and frequent contact with mental health consumers and carers means they are ideally placed to continue playing a greater role in the management of mental illness or conditions.



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References: 1. Seremind Unit sales, Data on file. 2. Seremind Consumer Leaflet, July 2019. SER-AU-1316. 04/20

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Pharmacy Daily's Winter spotlight is your guide to all the essentials - from products to assist with coughs and colds through to keeping you hydrated and vitamin boosted - ready for this years Winter season. To feature here email advertising@pharmacydaily.com.au.

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