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Today's issue of PD
Pharmacy Daily today has two pages of news plus a full page from Sigma Rewards.

Hunt retains Health

GREG Hunt has been reappointed as Federal Health Minister but also given responsibility for the public service, with newly re-elected Prime Minister Scott Morrison unveiling his new Cabinet yesterday afternoon in Canberra.
Morrison also named former Health Minister, Sussan Ley, as Environment Minister, while the reshuffle will also see former Minister for Aged Care, Ken Wyatt, become the new Minister for Indigenous Affairs.

PPA Portal admin

THE Pharmacy Programs Administrator Portal will undergo maintenance next weekend, meaning the platform will be unavailable for use from 6pm AEST on Sun 02 Jun until 2am Mon 03 Jun.

New MHR medicines list

THE Government's My Health Record (MHR) electronic platform will be enhanced from next month with a new pharmacist-written list detailing the prescription and over-the-counter medicines being taken by patients with chronic conditions.

The new Pharmacist Shared Medicines List (PSML) will also allow recording of complementary medicines being used by patients, as part of a key priority outlined late last year to enhance medicines safety using the MHR.

Formerly known as Pharmacy Curated Medicines List, the PSML will provide a "consolidated view of a person's medicines from a pharmacist; the professional responsible for quality assuring this consolidated medicines list".

Australian Digital Health Agency CEO, Tim Kelsey, previously forecast that the enhancement to the system would begin to roll out in Mar this year, with a target of having 150,000 PSMLs uploaded to the MHR system by Jun.

The PSML was detailed in the latest draft My Health Record guidelines for pharmacists released by the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) earlier this month.

"Pharmacists can create and upload an accurate and up-to-date reconciled medicines list to the My Health Record to support the care of the patient," with the PSML to include all prescription, non-prescription, complementary and alternative medicines being taken.

Capability to upload to the PSML is limited to a pilot program initially, but all users of My Health Record will be able to view and clinically use the information.

According to the PSA document, PSMLs can be created based on a reconciled hospital discharge medicines list, dose administration aid medicines list, and after providing a professional service such as a Meds Check, Home Medicines Review or Residential Medication Management Review. See the guidelines at psa.org.au.

New brand for ASMI



THE Australian Self Medication Industry (ASMI) is rebranding, and will henceforth be known as Consumer Healthcare Products (CHP) Australia.

Chair Lindsay Forrest said members had unanimously endorsed the name change in Apr, with the name Consumer Healthcare Products Australia also bringing the group into line with its international counterparts, CHP Canada and CHPA in the USA.

"Our focus will continue to be on ensuring that Australians have the information and products available to practice Self Care with confidence," he added.

CEO Deon Schoombie said CHP Australia had been stepping up advocacy efforts in recent months, with a continued focus on measures to improve health literacy, grow the consumer healthcare products sector, and increase access to non-prescription medicines in Australia.



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Dispensary Corner

HOW would you like to be remembered when you have shuffled off this mortal coil?

Pushing up daisies takes on a whole new meaning in the US state of Washington now, where people can opt for composting.

Yes - that's turning the body into fertile soil within weeks by mixing it with wood chips and straw.

At the moment we have options such as classic burial, greener "natural burial" with no embalming, cremation, organ donation for medical research and recomposition which involves using heated water and alkaline substances to decompose and dissolve the body then dehydrating and returning the ashes to the family.

Washington's new laws are simply extending to humans what farmers have been doing for years with livestock, when they are no longer alive, that is, officials said.

The concept has given life to a company called [Recompose.life](#).

STILL on the less-than-lively topic of farewelling this cruel world, Australian euthanasia campaigner Philip Nitschke has created a "stylish" painless exit system that can be 3d printed, ready to release to countries in the world that legalise euthanasia.

Looking like a Star Trek escape module, the Sarco (short for Sarcophagus) will "allow rational adults the option of a peaceful, elegant and lawful death in an elegant and stylish environment".

Just climb in, push a button, and



nitrogen gives you your final sleep of sleeps.

Boots unveils UK pharmacy future



BRITISH pharmacy giant Boots has announced the launch of a new online prescription service which will enable patients to order repeats directly from their National Health Service GP record and have them sent directly to the company for dispensing.

As part of what the company described as a "market-leading omni-channel pharmacy experience," other innovations will see the introduction of express pick-up lanes in about 600 branches nationwide, promising customers will be able to pick up prescriptions in under two minutes.

Secure prescription lockers (pictured above) will also be trialled, giving customers an alternative way to pick up their medicines.

"In 10 years' time pharmacy services at Boots will be almost unrecognisable" said Boots UK Pharmacy Director, Richard Bradley.

"Pharmacists will spend less time dispensing and more time offering clinical services...through our investment in digitising pharmacy our pharmacists will have more time to bring even greater value to the overall primary care system, offering greater choice and access to healthcare," he said.

Boots also announced the rollout of a new "ScreenCancer" skin scanning service in 50 branches, with pharmacists working alongside consultant dermatologists.

Lozanoc confusion

MAYNE Pharma has raised concerns about patients receiving Lozanoc (itraconazole) capsules in hospital being discharged with generic scripts rather than ones which specify the brand, so when they fill the prescription at the local pharmacy, they may not receive the correct dose of active ingredient.

The company highlighted the Apr 2019 edition of the Australian Therapeutic Guidelines, which states, "*Oral preparations of itraconazole are not bioequivalent; appropriate dosing and administration depends on the preparation...in these guidelines, the Lozanoc formulation of itraconazole capsules is recommended in preference to conventional itraconazole formulations due to superior bioavailability and because it is not affected by pH*".

A Mayne Pharma spokesperson told **PD** that in particular, Lozanoc 50mg capsules and conventional itraconazole 100mg capsules are not interchangeable, having different dosing effects and conditions of use; for example, Lozanoc can be taken with or without food whereas conventional itraconazole cannot.

Lozanoc is easily identified being a solid blue capsule, and where the pharmacist is unsure, they should confirm with the prescribing doctor, the company suggested.

FDA PI3K inhibitor OK

THE US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved Piqray (alpelisib) tablets, to be used in combination with endocrine therapy fulvestrant, to treat postmenopausal women, and men, with hormone receptor (HR)-positive, human epidermal growth factor receptor 2 (HER2)-negative, PIK3CA-mutated, advanced or metastatic breast cancer.

The FDA also approved a companion diagnostic test, theascreen PIK3CA RQV PCR Kit to detect the PIK3CA mutation in a tissue and/or liquid biopsy.

Piqray is the first New Drug Application for a new molecular entity approved under the FDA's Real-Time Oncology Review pilot program which aims to accelerate the approval process.



Weekly Comment

Welcome to Pharmacy Daily's weekly comment feature.

This week's contributor is **Judy Cheung-Wood**, skinB5 Founder & CEO.



Australian Botanicals, the not so NEW ingredients to treat Australian skin

THE Australian landscape's medicinal plants have been used for centuries for medicine by the indigenous people, and modern science is proving their therapeutic value. Many products have beneficial ingredients like eucalyptus and tea tree, but there are ingredients highly unique to Australia with powerful skin benefits.

SkinB5's New Australian Botanicals Acne Control skincare range a special blend of 8 anti-acne native botanical extracts. They are a premium addition to the skinB5 range and can be used alongside the existing core range.

Using the power of cellular extraction, the integrity of the ingredients' natural molecules are suspended in a liquid matrix, creating breakthrough products designed for everyday use.

Harnessing the superpowers of Kangaroo Flower, Tasmanian Blue Gum, Snowflower, Silky Oil Grass, Mountain Pepper Berry, Quandong, Kakadu Plum and Davidson Plum for a vast array of benefits: hydrating, antiseptic, anti-fungal and antibacterial. High in natural vitamin C, catechins and other powerful phytonutrients, the combination of these extracts deliver:

- Reduces Pigmentation & Brightens
- Enhances Collagen Production
- Reduces Inflammation and Redness
- Protects Against Photo-Ageing
- Controls skin oil

It's amazing how much goodness you can find in our backyard, discover amazing skin benefits you find in skinB5's NEW and incredible Australian Native Botanicals range! Read more on www.skinb5.com.



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