

Dispensary Corner

SOARING temperatures in the UK have pharmacists warning sun-worshipping Brits to keep hydrated as the mercury rises. With the island nation bracing for highs in excess of 30C as part of a "mini heatwave", Medicine Direct Superintendent Pharmacist, Hussain Abdeh, is warning sun bathers to do more than slip, slop, slap. Abdeh urged people to keep an eye out for symptoms of dehydration, such as extreme thirst, headaches and tiredness. "Your urine will be a dark-yellow colour and pungent, and you may even feel dizzy, in which case speak to a doctor or pharmacist, who can recommend rehydration sachets that replenish the electrolytes in your body," he said. "Keep a reusable water bottle with you at all times, so you can take regular sips, and break up alcoholic drinks with pints of water." He recommended people drink six to eight glasses of water a day to stay hydrated.

Blooms scoops award



BLOOMS The Chemist Coogee has claimed the Outstanding Pharmacy title in the 2022 Randwick City Business Excellence Awards. The store's owner, Rohit Uppal, said the team was honoured to be recognised for its 'people-first' approach to delivering healthcare in the community. "The team is humbled to have won this award," he said. "Serving the local community is the cornerstone of our values at Blooms The Chemist and we're so thankful for the local support. "The recognition of being awarded Outstanding Pharmacy highlights the important work our

team provides and the fantastic customers we aim to help every single day." Uppal's Blooms The Chemist Royal Randwick pharmacy was also named as a finalist for the award. The Royal Randwick store was one of the first pharmacies in Australia to launch a drive-through COVID-19 rapid antigen testing facility (PD 05 Oct 2021). **Pictured:** Blooms The Chemist Royal Randwick Retail Manager, Shauna McGrath, with pharmacy owner, Rohit Uppal, Pharmacy Manager, Poli Spiroglou, and Blooms The Chemist Coogee Retail Manager, Mamie Rock.

Queensland GPs busier than ever

QUEENSLAND-BASED GPs are seeing year-on-year increases in patient attendances, new data reveals. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic general practices and Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations (ACCHOs) across the State have witnessed growth in patient activity when comparing Mar 2019 with the same period this year. Brisbane North Primary Care Network (PHN) CEO, Libby Dunstan, noted that there has been an 11.5% increase in chronic disease management presentations, while the number of patients seeking mental healthcare has grown by 10.6%. Dunstan noted that immunisers in the Brisbane North PHN had administered more than one million doses of COVID-19 vaccines, highlighting the critical role primary care providers have played during the pandemic. "They have been a pillar of strength in the community," she said.

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