

Men's business conference

A NEW industry conference aims to educate pharmacists and healthcare providers on supporting the 25,500 men diagnosed with prostate cancer each year.

Men's Health Downunder (MHDU) has launched the 'Prostate Cancer: Symptoms to Solutions' conference, bringing together top health experts from across the country.

Prostate cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer among Australian men, affecting one in six.

The two-day conference will focus on health and wellbeing outcomes for prostate cancer patients, particularly life post-prostatectomy and post-treatment.

The event will feature sessions and workshops led by experts, including male urological health and fertility pharmacist Tim Stewart, sexual health physicians Dr Michael Lowy and Dr Sama Balasubramanian, urologist Dr Benjamin Namdarian, clinical psychosexual therapist Dr Margaret Redelman, and men's health physiotherapist Jamie Boulding.

MHDU was founded in 2013 by Canberra pharmacist Brad Butt (pictured) to address the growing need for Australian men to access specialist health services.

"Originally, MHDU was a local initiative for simple conditions," Butt explained.

"As demand increased, we expanded and now operate across Australia and New Zealand."

The 'Prostate Cancer: Symptoms to Solutions' conference underscores the need for



multidisciplinary collaboration in improving patient outcomes.

By gathering experts from various fields, MHDU aims to provide a comprehensive educational experience that enhances the capabilities of healthcare providers in managing prostate cancer.

"Providing good education requires access to specialist knowledge, and we've secured the best in the field," Butt said.

He emphasised the importance of the conference in refocusing pharmacists and healthcare professionals on delivering essential support to prostate cancer patients.

"Our primary motivation is to help patients, and sometimes we can lose sight of that."

"This conference allows us to return to basics and serve a vulnerable cohort of patients who truly appreciate the additional support we offer," Butt added.

"The more people knowledgeable in men's health, the more patients we can help." JG

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NostraData, Modeus' strategic tie-up

IN A strategic move to enhance pharmacy operations, NostraData and Modeus have announced a new partnership.

The venture will see the integration of NostraData's Informacy platform within Modeus' DDBook Cloud-controlled drug register.

Both companies aim to leverage this collaboration to better serve customers and patients, ensuring optimal business performance, governance, compliance, and efficiency.

The partnership signifies an advancement in pharmacy technology, fostering innovation and improving the sector's operational standards.

Known for its pharmacy analytical solutions, NostraData serves over 4,500 pharmacies



and offers free dashboards through its Informacy platform, which provides insights into prescription loyalty, OTC performance, and double dispense impact analysis.

Its tools now include the newly launched Pharmacy Guild 8CPA calculator (PD 05 Jul).

Users of Modeus, a provider of controlled drug software, will gain easy access to enhanced data and insights, improving everyday analytics accessibility.

New framework

IN 2023, the number of retractions for scientific research articles surpassed 10,000, highlighting significant issues with research integrity.

To address this, Monash University researchers have developed a pioneering framework called Research Integrity in Guidelines and Evidence synthesis (RIGID), now published in *The Lancet's eClinical Medicine*.

Co-lead author Prof Ben Mol said, "at least 25% of clinical trials informing guidelines may not be trustworthy".

The RIGID framework checks the integrity of clinical guidelines by providing a six-step approach to identifying concerns and improving transparency around research.

It was first applied to the International Evidence-based Guidelines for Polycystic Ovary Syndrome, involving collaboration with 39 societies and 80 experts.

This application revealed that 45% of the assessed clinical trials had moderate or high integrity risks, leading to their exclusion from the guidelines.

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