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Dispensary Corner

MOVE over pharmacists, a Spanish priest has been arrested on suspicion of illegally selling viagra from his home.

The cleric was held in the town of Don Benito in the western province of Badajoz, near Spain's border with Portugal.

Viagra is said to have been found inside the rectory as well as other drugs described as "powerful aphrodisiacs".

Police arrested the suspect in a rectory where he lived with a man described as his partner, who was also detained after police carried out a search of the church property.

The pair went to court last week, and were quizzed by an investigating magistrate for more than four hours.

The priest, named locally as Alfonso Raul Masa Soto (pictured), was released on bail and has been ordered to sign on at a local court every fortnight.

His lawyer, and possible saviour, Jesus Carretero, insisted there was no incriminating evidence against him.

He added, "what is being said about my client is totally false".

"Everything will be resolved as the investigation continues."

Meanwhile, his unidentified partner was jailed pending an ongoing criminal investigation.



Vape retail reforms coming

FROM the fields Pharmaceutical (FTFP) is unveiling an information drive targeting community pharmacy, ahead of the 01 Mar commencement of new retail regulations for the sale and distribution of medically prescribed vaping products in pharmacies.

As the Australian standard therapeutic vape manufacturer, FTFP COO Wayne Jones (pictured), said TGA's estimate of 450,000 adult vapers and ex-smokers transitioning to buy therapeutic vape products under prescription requires heightened awareness among all pharmacies.

Jones explained financial estimates of the combined vaping black market, including a small existing therapeutic prescription component for vapes, is \$2 billion in annual sales via 1.6 million Australian users.

The TGA is predicting around a third of Aussie adult vapers could start the progressive switch to a therapeutic vape product under a prescription given by a doctor or a nurse practitioner.

"The TGA estimates the prescription vape market could generate up to \$800 million in future annual sales through pharmacy distribution channels," Jones added.



"This is a predictive switch and we argue it will become a major disruption to the current and dominant black market fuelled vaping market in Australia, which will come under future strain."

Jones mentioned change in retail market conditions for nicotine vaping products (NVPs) is inevitable under the suite of government-backed reforms which form part of a major public health policy approach to tackle nicotine.

"We recognise local pharmacies are well placed to provide advice and to retail quality NVPs dispensed under a prescription.

"This may constitute a new growing customer base for them along with an increasing role they can play around the use of therapeutic vaping products in smoking cessation," he added. *JG*

PDL covers prescribing pilot in Tasmania

PHARMACY insurer, the Pharmaceutical Defence Limited (PDL), stated it will continue to support the profession as it considers its participation in the Tasmanian prescribing pilot.

The PDL Master Policy automatically includes professional indemnity cover for all members providing this service, in line with the approved

guidelines and protocols.

The organisation stated members don't need to inform PDL of their involvement in the 12-month prescribing pilot.

PDL representatives have also provided input to the Tasmanian Department of Health regarding risk management for this service.

To learn more about indemnity cover, see [HERE](#).

Cel targets ageing

SRW Laboratories founder, and pharmacologist Greg Macpherson, in collaboration with other scientists, launched a new range of nutraceuticals called Cel last week.

Macpherson, a futurist, author, and biotechnologist, said he identified nine hallmarks of ageing across the 12 systems of the body through his research.

"While humans across the globe are living longer than ever before, we're not doing it in the best health.

"Although our lifespans are collectively increasing, our healthspans aren't," he said.

The new range of nutraceuticals includes three key products.

Cell Stability 1, containing 2-HOBA (a compound derived from Himalayan Tartary Buckwheat), astragaloside (found in astragalus), and rutin (a flavoured antioxidant), targets telomere attrition, genomic instability, and epigenetic alterations.

Cel Nourishment 2 contains nicotinamide mononucleotide (an NAD+ precursor in cow's milk and other foods), astaxanthin (a carotenoid antioxidant from red algae), and pterostilbene (a molecule similar to resveratrol but with higher bioavailability).

This helps with mitochondrial dysfunction, stem cell exhaustion, and altered intercellular communication.

Cel Renewal 3 contains flavonoids such as apigenin, fisetin, and oleuropein, to target cellular senescence, loss of proteostasis, and deregulated nutrient sensing.

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