

MEDIA RELEASE

Local pharmacy launches new medicines compliance program

[Insert pharmacy name here] is involved in a new pharmacy program which will assist patients to understand and improve compliance to their regular long term therapy medicines. By understanding their level of compliance with their medicines patients will be able to work with their pharmacist to establish strategies to improve compliance over time. The new simple score called a **MedsIndex Score** assists patients to track how they are going.

A *MedsIndex* score is calculated out of 100 for each of their chronic management therapy medicines. The score is calculated by monitoring repeat intervals of medicines and comparing that with the expected repeat refill rate. The score can be determined even if the patient uses multiple pharmacies. The report is generated from software in the pharmacy.

Every year almost 140,000 people are hospitalised due to medicine misadventure. It has been found that up to 69% of hospitalisations could have been avoided if the consumer had greater support in managing their medicines.

Better medicines compliance has been found to assist with medicine management and this leads to improved health outcomes and better quality of life.

"We are excited to be involved with this new national program as we feel that the delivery of the *MedsIndex* Score is an important service we can deliver to the people of [Insert pharmacy location here]", said [Insert your name here], [Insert position here] of [Insert pharmacy name here] pharmacy.

"We feel that this service would particularly help people who are on a number of different medicines or those who may have difficulties with keeping up with their schedule. Upon analysis of the *MedsIndex* Score, our pharmacist will provide the patient with a number of strategies to improve compliance. Depending on the score, our pharmacist may suggest that the patient join one of the professional pharmacy programs that are designed to improve compliance" said [Insert your name here].

The *MedsIndex* Score program is funded by The Pharmacy Guild of Australia.

For more information or interview contact [Insert your name here] at [Insert pharmacy name here] pharmacy [Insert pharmacy phone number here].

(Sample *MedsIndex* Score report attached)