October 21 2013

New pharmacy app for script ordering and medicines management

The Australia-wide launch of a free new pharmacy app, called eRx Express, will take place this week, allowing people to order their scripts using their smart phone, making it faster, safer and easier for people to manage their medicines.

The launch will take place on Thursday 24 October at the Exhibition Pharmacy at 5/242 Exhibition Street, Melbourne VIC (in Telstra Headquarters).

The new app means that people can scan and pre-order their script medicines anywhere and anytime they want – on the train, at work, at the footy, at a BBQ or anywhere else – and collect them at a time and date that suits.

Every script sent via eRx Express connects directly into pharmacy dispensing software and into the eRx Script Exchange national eScripts network.

According to Paul Naismith, pharmacist and CEO of the Fred IT group, the app is vital in advancing eHealth for pharmacy, health professionals, and the wider community.

eRx Express extends and builds on the industry-wide technology for the electronic transfer of prescriptions, maintaining the security and privacy standards of other pharmacy and health applications, and integrating fully with existing dispensing systems and workflow. This means that it provides all of the safety and dispensing accuracy benefits that come with eRx, whilst using existing pharmacy dispensing workflow.

According to Paul Naismith, "Mobile technologies are a vital step in gearing pharmacy up for the changing customer needs of a modern health system. eRx Express will ultimately result in less waiting time for our customers and patients, and play an important role in ensuring that pharmacists and other health care professionals are connected and able to maximise resources in helping Australians everywhere with their healthcare needs."

The National President of the Pharmacy Guild of Australia, George Tambassis, said: "This is an important and welcome development for health care consumers, and for community pharmacies. It is a significant advance in terms of safety and convenience for patients, and will be able to be integrated into pharmacy workflows. I congratulate eRx on this major technological advance, reflecting the increasing relevance and benefit of eHealth to Australian consumers."

eRx Express is ideal for people who are busy, or who might need to plan a trip to a pharmacy, whether because they live regionally, are socially isolated, need the support of a carer, or have other complications such as chronic health issues. It includes three easy steps for people:

- scan scripts, anywhere, anytime, using the QR code that appears on the prescription

- submit the script or scripts to the pharmacy

- Pickup their medicine at their preferred date and time.

The paper prescription needs to be taken into the pharmacy at the time that medicines are collected.

eRx Express provides a standard $50 monthly plan or a premium $60 monthly plan with a logo and website link on the app. Both plans include a Windows Surface RT tablet with eRx Express software ready to go. Sign up now at www.erxexpress.com.au.

The eRx Express patient app can be downloaded at the App Store for iPhone, Google Play for Android, and Windows Phone for Microsoft.

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The new eRx Express smart phone app is part of eRx Script Exchange, Australia's first national electronic prescriptions exchange, which connects more than 15,500 doctors and 3,900 pharmacies to improve patient safety and dispensing efficiency. The app uses individual QR codes which replicate the eRx barcode information on each script, therefore sending script requests safely and securely via the eRx Script Exchange' national eScripts network.

Launch Details:

Thursday October 24, 10:30am

Exhibition Pharmacy, 5/242 Exhibition Street, Melbourne VIC (Telstra Headquarters)

Speaker George Tambassis and other participants will be available for interviews beginning at 11.00am.

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