



Dispensary Corner

A NEW addition to the stable of Ozempic-related cosmetic side effects is Ozempic earlobes, joining Ozempic face, Ozempic breasts and Ozempic butt in the plastic surgery waiting room.

The sagging earlobes are associated with the use of GLP-1RAs, and result from rapid weight loss.

"A lot of people don't think about the long-term effects of Ozempic," plastic surgeon Dr Luis Macias told *The New York Post*.

"Following rapid weight loss, the ears tend to lose fullness and get longer at the lobes, basically speeding up the ageing process," he said.

"Just like when we get older, slimming down can cause the ears to become floppier and lose thickness, making them appear flatter and not as pliable."

To combat the issue, many doctors are using fillers for a temporary fix, which has also been found to help earrings stay in place.

"Women like to wear pretty jewellery around the earlobe, so it makes sense that they would want to bring attention to it, especially with the use of filler," Dr Macias said.

"Plump can be pretty in the right places," he added.

Growth as YDC teams up with Temu

REGIONAL pharmacy group Your Discount Chemist has shared insights into how online marketplaces are boosting retail reach and sales, after the surprise success of joining the Temu platform eight months ago.

The family-run pharmacy chain, which operates 13 stores across regional NSW, Queensland and the ACT, sells on most major online marketplaces, as well as offering online shopping through its own website.

However, since joining Temu through its local seller program, the group has logged more than 4,800 orders and its online business has grown by around 20% in revenue over the past year.

Temu now ranks among the business' top three online channels by sales volume.

The group's head of online sales, Hamdy Khodary, explained that while most shoppers on other channels went looking for a pharmacy, the customers on Temu chanced upon Your Discount Chemist in their recommendations feed - and it was this discovery-based model that brought the group a cohort of new customers.

Khodary (pictured) also highlighted Temu's affordable shipping and returns policy as part of its consumer appeal.

"They know there are good return policies and they'll get their money back if something's wrong," he said.



While Temu has had something of a mixed reputation among consumers with concerns about product quality and trustability, the retailer recently overhauled compliance, product safety and quality control systems, with a consequent improvement in consumer ratings.

The seller support structure was another surprise for Khodary, who explained that he works directly with a dedicated account manager on strategy and problem-solving, at no extra cost.

Your Discount Chemist effectively runs two businesses in parallel, where its physical stores handle prescriptions and local healthcare, while its online arm focuses on non-prescription lines like vitamins, skincare, fragrance and beauty.

"It's been a real eye-opening experience - you don't know your own potential until something like this happens," Khodary said.

With a store opening in WA later this year, Khodary said their base is still rural - "that's how we started".

"But now we're finding customers all over Australia." KB

Life sciences peak body rebrands

AUSTRALIA'S national peak body representing life sciences professionals, ARCS, has today announced it is now called LifeSciences Australia.

CEO Dr Tim Boyle said the transition is about recognition rather than reinvention, and responds to both the increasing breadth of the organisation's professional community and its expanded role supporting the people at the heart of the industry.

"LifeSciences Australia better reflects who we are today, providing our members and the broader community with greater clarity around our role and strengthening our ability to support the future growth, capability and leadership of Australia's life sciences sector."

LifeSciences Australia supports more than 38,000 professionals across 3,300 organisations spanning the full spectrum of the life sciences - from early research through to regulation, development, and commercialisation.

Organisational initiatives include education and training, thought leadership and industry insights, innovation support and future talent development, supporting all stages of the life sciences career journey.

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TerryWhite Chemmart.

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