

# **SHPA Position Statement on the Provision of Drug Utilisation Data**

## **The Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia Committee of Specialty Practice in Drug Usage Evaluation**

*This document represents the official position of the Society with regard to the provision of drug utilisation data by pharmacists working in hospitals or related institutions. This position is not legally binding. Participation in any activity and the provision of any information is at the discretion of the individual director of pharmacy and/or hospital administrator or delegate.*

Periodically pharmacists working in hospitals or related institutions receive requests from individuals, professional bodies, statutory authorities, the pharmaceutical industry or other organisations for information concerning various aspects of drug utilisation. SHPA supports in principle the cooperation of hospital pharmacists in the collection and supply of such information provided the following conditions are satisfied:

- 1.** The data is required for *bona fide* purposes including scientific, drug usage evaluation and/or market research.
- 2.** The research objectives and methods and the proposed use of data will be fully disclosed in writing to the institution by the requestor.
- 3.** The primary intention of the research will not be to discredit, compromise or otherwise bring into disrepute particular drug products, companies, wholesalers or suppliers.
- 4.** Information requested with the specific intention of establishing comparisons between similar drugs or drug products will have a sound scientific basis and be subjected to scientific, ethical, and statistical controls as would normally be specified by an institutional ethics committee.
- 5.** The research incorporates appropriate

standards for sampling, controls, endpoints and data analysis.

- 6.** The hospital has the right to refuse the provision of certain or all data elements.
- 7.** No information which would identify the hospital or pharmacy department or compromise in-confidence commercial or contractual agreements will be publicly disclosed by the requestor without prior written approval from the hospital concerned.
- 8.** Patient identifiers will not be provided.
- 9.** The final form of the data will be made available to the hospital on request and at no charge.
- 10.** Appropriate acknowledgment of the hospital will be made in the final report or at the time of publication of data (notwithstanding point 7 above).
- 11.** Appropriate remuneration and/or resources will be provided to facilitate data acquisition when the collection of such data is in addition to internal or statutory requirements, or would otherwise impose additional demands on hospital pharmacy staff.

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