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CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT
Kerry Fitzsimons - Chairperson

A number of exciting events have occurred since the last newsletter, with a number still to come!

Firstly, it is excellent news that the new Constitution has been voted in by membership. This ensures the Society is current, relevant and that it is supporting membership requirements, but also builds a strong platform for development into the future for hospital pharmacy.

I was very fortunate to attend the Innovation Stream of the 2017 Future Summit. This stream brought together ‘outside the box’ thinkers, current and future leaders who rapidly adopt and encourage innovation in their workplace. As a group, we were involved in workshopping ideas on how to create a ‘think space’ and encourage creativity within the workplace in order to harness collective brilliance and embed change. The aim of this stream was to develop a workplace toolkit to encourage and harness innovation in pharmacy practice and facilitate responsiveness to change. At the end of the summit the innovation stream had identified some helpful tools for brainstorming ideas and frameworks for planning, implementing and embedding change projects. This work will be continued to be developed over the next year before being made available to members.

We have five (5) members retiring from the committee this year, all pharmacist positions, which open opportunities for 5 new members to come and join the committee.

Being on the committee provides you with the opportunity to make an impact in;

• shaping the direction and content of continuing education and advancing practice for members
• advocating on many different levels for hospital pharmacy
• networking with SHPA federal, other state branch committees and specialty practice groups
• developing skills in committee membership and leadership roles (Chairperson, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, CE Co-ordinators, Communications, Rural Representative)

I encourage you to put your hand up and join our fabulous committee and get involved!

I would also like to remind everyone to keep your eyes open for the stars of tomorrow who may fit the exceptional criteria of excellence for these awards. Do you know or work with a pharmacist who inspires you? Or do you have an intern or early career pharmacist who is going above and beyond? Think about nominating your colleagues for the SHPA Achievement Awards for 2017.

Newly appointed committee members and WA SHPA award winners will be announced at the Annual Branch Meeting which will be held at the UWA Club on the 14th December. I hope to see you all there.

We also continue to provide some interesting and informative CE events as we start the new CPD point year. Please see the advertisements for the Research Round-up (with some updates on the National Translational Research Collaboration and hear about some interesting research projects happening in WA) in October and a Medicinal Marijuana presentation from Penny Tuffin (Advanced Practice Pharmacist, Palliative Care and Pain Management) in November, who is a fabulous speaker on a very controversial topic at present.
CONTINUING EDUCATION 2017

OCTOBER CE - RESEARCH ROUND-UP 2017

- **Topic:** Research Round-Up 2017
- **Date:** Wednesday, 18th October 2017
- **Time:** 6:00pm - 7:00pm
- **Venue:** Lecture Theatre G3, Fiona Stanley Hospital
- **Presenters:** A variety of WA Pharmacy researchers

Register for the event on the SHPA website [here](#).

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OCCUPORTUNITY KNOCKS...

Deirdre Criddle - Federal Councillor

As the end of the year draws closer, it presents an opportunity to reflect on all things SHPA. The Medicines Management 2016 held in our beautiful city of Perth promised Discovery, Disruption and Differentiation. We delivered on all three, and did our state and Society proud. The energy and enthusiasm which prevailed after this conference sustained us for what has been a year filled with promise, change and challenges.

This year SHPA moved to restructure the foundations of our Society – not only through constitutional change, but through transformation of our COSPs (Committees of Specialty Practice). As well as being an exciting time, providing transparent frameworks, giving voice to the expertise within our membership, there is no doubt that it has been a difficult time for some. Change of this magnitude is not without risk. Setting up processes and ensuring new structures are sustainable and aligned with our strategic direction has taken time and demanded a lot of patience from members and the Secretariat. The fruits of this work will become evident as leadership elections for the Specialty Practice Groups provides the opportunity for members, to not only be involved, but to also shape the future direction of SHPA.

SHPA has big dreams, and is determined to empower members with the tools and skills needed to prepare for the future. The modern constitution was delivered with a resounding YES. Through this, our technician members can be full partners in advancing pharmacy practice and extending the scope of our workforce to meet the changing needs of our patients and the healthcare system.

MAD FOR DRUG INTERACTIONS

Vanessa Sinclair - CE Co-ordinator

On Saturday 26th August, SHPA WA Branch welcomed two expert speakers from Brisbane; Debbie Rigby and Dr Geraldine Moses, to present a fascinating series of lectures on all things drug interactions! This was a thoroughly enjoyable and relevant overview of current clinical concerns regarding drug interactions including an update on drug-drug, drug-food, drug-CYP/transporter and drug-gene interactions. The group worked through practical examples and case studies of real world scenarios and were challenged by the speakers to apply our theoretical knowledge of drug interactions instead of blindly relying on the drug interaction ‘checkers’ and importantly to cross reference different resources and interpret the likely clinical consequences.

Feedback from the 50 attendees was overwhelmingly positive and a number of comments were received about high quality of the speakers and the relevance to current practice. We were also pleased to welcome a number of PSA members and community pharmacists along to the event, which was a great opportunity to network with like-minded pharmacists outside of the hospital setting.
CODEINE RESCHEDULING: PREPARING FOR THE CHANGE

Brock DelFante - Vice Chairperson

On Wednesday September 26th, SHPA WA hosted its long-held traditional joint event with the PSA WA branch. This year’s event was around ‘Codeine Rescheduling’ and the implications. A well-publicised change in medicines scheduling is the upcoming rescheduling of some codeine containing products from over-the-counter to schedule 4. This has significant implications to pharmacy, including the management of acute pain in the community, the management of pain post hospital discharge, and access of medicines out of normal hours.

The event was a full-house, and those who were in attendance were lucky enough to hear from three very interesting speakers – Craig Clark, Dr. Richard O’Reagan and Prof. Stephen Schug. This breadth of experience gave an overview of pain management in a community pharmacy setting, chronic pain management and pain management in an acute hospital setting, and the important perspective of addiction and dependence to opioids, which is an increasing concern.

The session discussed strategies on how to approach and refer opioid overuse or dependent patients, gave an overview of the evidence base for acute pain relief and the role that codeine currently has in treating acute and chronic pain. The speakers did a fantastic job of interpreting the evidence to give real insight into what the likely implications will be of the codeine rescheduling, and how we can start managing this change with our patients now. Both the PSA and SHPA had previously submitted responses to the TGA with their views on the rescheduling, and it was easy to see from the turnout and engagement at the event that members of both organisations still see this as an important topic for pharmacist practice.

RESIDENCY REPORT

Jenny Nguy - Resident Pharmacist, FSH

Do you know:

- how to adjust a dose for a patient with acute renal failure using the fraction excreted unchanged (fe) value, their usual dose and their estimated creatinine clearance?
- when patients would be prescribed dual anti platelet therapy in conjunction with anticoagulation (triple therapy)?
- how to convert intermittent dosing of vancomycin to a continuous infusion dose?
- how doctors pick which fluid to prescribe?

These are some of the many questions that were covered at the three-day seminar ‘Extension in Clinical Medication Management’, hosted by SHPA in Sydney this September.

It was an excellent opportunity to meet other pharmacists from around the nation who were undertaking a residency program within their hospital. The case-based discussions of complex clinical scenarios and small group activities allowed myself and other pharmacists, from all around Australia and from different hospitals and community settings, to get our thinking caps on to problem-solve and optimize medication management.

By the end of the seminar, we were (nearly) experts in medication safety, fluids and electrolytes, renal disease, infectious diseases, geriatrics, depression, Parkinson’s disease, anticoagulation, cardiology, endocrinology, influencing medicines use and prescribing behaviour, integrating research into clinical practice and prioritization.

Thank you to the (true) experts: Suman Adhikari, Michael Barras, Sasha Bennett, Rohan Elliott, Sharon Goldsworthy and Sally Marotti for further developing our clinical decision making in these core clinical topics.

I would highly recommend other pharmacy residents, pharmacists with 2 to 4 years clinical pharmacy experience, pharmacists looking to consolidate and build their clinical pharmacy skills and those who have attended the foundation seminar to attend this extension seminar.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS - BRANCH AWARDS

Know a pharmacist who goes above and beyond? Who practices to an exceptional standard? Consider nominating them for one of the annual SHPA WA Branch awards! There are three awards available this year.

**SHPA Achievement Award:** Awarded to a pharmacist who has contributed to the pharmacy profession, fulfilling requirements to an exceptionally high standard, demonstrating achievements outside of pharmacy and promoting the profession as invaluable in healthcare. The Award will be made based on the contribution made to hospital pharmacy during the year under consideration and may also be made to a person who has made significant contributions over a number of years.

**Jenny Benzie Early Career Pharmacist Award:** Awarded to an early career pharmacist (nomination to occur within 3 years of full registration as a pharmacist) who has contributed to the pharmacy profession, fulfilling requirements to an exceptionally high standard, demonstrating achievements outside of pharmacy and promoting the profession as invaluable in health care. The award will be made based on demonstration of leadership, community and professional engagement and initiative in pharmacy service delivery.

**WA Intern Award:** Awarded to an intern pharmacist who has demonstrated a high standard of practice, or has practiced above and beyond the requirements of the intern program, including demonstrating initiative to pursue excellence in education, contributions to pharmacy and promotion of the value of the pharmacy profession.

Further details on nominations will be communicated via email in the near future.
**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS - BRANCH COMMITTEE**

As previously mentioned, we have five (5) SHPA WA Branch Committee positions available this year. If you would like the opportunity to help shape how the SHPA WA Branch serves its members, be able to provide your views on current pharmacy issues and work with other passionate pharmacists and technicians, consider nominating! Being on the committee provides you with the opportunity to make an impact in;

- shaping the direction and content of continuing education and advancing practice for members,
- advocating on many different levels for hospital pharmacy,
- networking with SHPA federal, other state branch committees and speciality practice groups, and
- developing skills in committee membership and leadership roles (Chairperson, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, CE Co-ordinators, Communications, Rural Representative)

If you are interested, please complete a [WA Branch Committee Nomination Form](wa@shpa.org.au) and send via email to wa@shpa.org.au.

**SAVE THE DATE - ANNUAL BRANCH MEETING & DINNER**

The SHPA WA Branch Annual Branch Meeting (ABM) will be held on Thursday, 14th December 2017 at the University Club of Western Australia. The night gives SHPA WA members the opportunity to network with other members, catch up with friends at a fantastic venue, and be inspired by our guest speaker, Dr Sarah Newman. You will enjoy the company of your colleagues, good food and drink, and be able to help honour the recipients of the branch’s annual awards.

We are delighted to have Sarah as our invited speaker for this event. Sarah obtained her Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery with honours in 2010 from the University of Western Australia. She worked at Royal Perth and Princess Margaret Hospitals as a junior doctor for 5 years. She is currently finishing her General Practice Fellowship at Lockridge Medical Centre. Sarah identifies as a doctor with mental health challenges, and is passionate about sharing her experiences with her colleagues. She is currently a board member of the Doctors Health Advisory Service WA, the Co-chair of the AMA (WA) Doctors in Training Welfare Subcommittee and WAGPET Registrar Liaison Officer. In 2017, Sarah was awarded the Camille Michener AMA (WA) Junior Doctor of the year for her advocacy in doctors’ welfare. She was the 2017 WA nomination for Royal College of General Practitioners (RACGP) registrar of the year for her passion and dedication to general practice and her colleagues. She is also a passionate and messy cook, amateur author and illustrator, and an aspiring chardonnay connoisseur.

Please keep an eye out for details on how to RSVP to this event. We hope to see you all there!

**YOUR GUIDE TO CE REGISTRATION**

Kerry Fitzsimons - Chairperson

Register your details on the webpage following the prompts from the email advertisement. Click “Add to cart” when you have entered in all your details.

Go to the top of the page and click on “Cart”. Ensure you are logged into your SHPA account. This will ensure you are not charged for the CE event and receive a confirmation email.

On the following screen, click “CHECK OUT” for the registration to be finalised.

You should receive an email to confirm your registration. If you have not received an email confirmation then you are NOT registered. Please check the above steps to ensure all steps are completed.

It is important that your registration is finalised, as numbers of attendees assists us with catering requirements as well as capping numbers for workshops and combined events so that there are enough seats for everyone.