

Tuesday 12 September 2017

Leading hospitals for leading minds: Residency Program broadens horizons

After a hugely successful inaugural year which saw 30 sites and over 100 hospital pharmacy residents across the country take part, the [SHPA Residency Program](#) is set to expand as applications for 2018 site accreditation open today.

SHPA Chief Executive Kristin Michaels says hospitals accredited to provide Australia's only formalised and structured hospital residency program are leading the way by embedding workforce transformation into everyday practice.

'Beyond supporting early-career hospital pharmacists to practically apply their formal learning, sites accredited to host the [SHPA Residency Program](#) are safeguarding high standards of patient care and professionalism in hospital pharmacy.'

'Supporting more hospitals to support more residents and strengthen the cumulative skill set of Australian pharmacy departments, is part of SHPA's vision to embed the Residency Program as an integral early career development stage for hospital pharmacists across country.'

Ms Michaels says accreditation to the Australia-first program ensures sites have the commitment, capacity and capability to offer a broad range of practice-based experiences to hospital pharmacy residents.

'Evidence tells us pharmacists who integrate earlier into real-world hospital environments gain the skills and adaptability to strengthen and diversify their career paths.'

'We are excited to make these new [SHPA Residency Program](#) site placements available, and see supported and integrated residency experiences benefit additional hospitals, positively impacting more patients, around Australia.'

Ms Michaels says delivering an accredited residency program that draws on clinical and professional practice competencies – while providing leadership and research opportunities – is a proven development model.

'Informed by our international partnerships, SHPA is entrenching a framework that supports and guides early-career hospital pharmacists as they advance to more focused and specialised practice.'

'Being an accredited [SHPA Residency Program](#) provider not only ensures sites are leading the field but gives them access to a suite of competency, assessment, evaluation and learning tools and resources that makes providing standardised programs simpler.'

Applications for accreditation via SHPA's online portal close on Wednesday 1 November 2017; view more information [on the program and how to apply](#).

- ends -

For more information contact:

Nick Sharp-Paul, Communications Manager, nsharp-paul@shpa.org.au 0411 098 838

About SHPA

The Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia (SHPA) is the national professional organisation for more than 4,500 pharmacists, pharmacists in training, pharmacy technicians and associates working across Australia's health system. SHPA is the only professional pharmacy organisation with a core base of members practising in public and private hospitals and other health service facilities.

SHPA is committed to facilitating the safe and effective use of medicines, which is the core responsibility of pharmacists, especially in hospitals. SHPA supports pharmacists to meet medication and related service needs, so that both optimal health outcomes and economic objectives are achieved for Australians, as individuals, for the community as a whole and for healthcare facilities within our systems of healthcare.