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Global report a powerful endorsement of Australian pharmacy innovation

Australia has held its head up high at the annual International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) World Congress of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, with national pharmacy initiatives being recognised across 10 out of 13 Pharmaceutical Workforce Development Goals (PWDGs).

Outlined as part of the landmark Nanjing roadmap last year – which set future milestones for global pharmacy workforce development through education – the 13 international PWDGs are the primary measurement of 21 countries' capacity and ability to implement FIP's vision of a global pharmacy workforce that can meet tomorrow's healthcare challenges.

SHPA Chief Executive Kristin Michaels – who attended the report's release today in Seoul, South Korea at a special session of the 77th FIP Congress, one of the world's largest annual pharmacy gatherings – says the inclusion of Australian examples across 10 PWDGs is a powerful endorsement of SHPA's role in driving pharmacy workforce change.

'This international analysis of national-level research, development and evaluation strategies for pharmaceutical workforces is significant, as it is the first report produced since the Nanjing roadmap.'

Professor Ian Bates, Director of FIP Education commended Australia's performance.

'This is a remarkable achievement and I applaud SHPA for its efforts for taking a lead in the continued development of these Pharmaceutical Workforce Development Goals.

'The clear alignment with the FIP roadmap and WHO health workforce imperatives is welcome and demonstrates strong leadership for this critical health workforce, ensuring Australia has the capability and adaptability to remain responsive to complex medicines management demands and evolving technology.'

Five Australia-first SHPA initiatives were highlighted in the global report of international standard-setting including:

- [SHPA Residency Program](#) – **PWDG 2**: Foundation training and early career development)
- [Partnership agreement with the Royal Pharmaceutical Society, GB](#) – **PWDG 4**: Advanced and specialist expert development
- [SHPA ClinCAT](#) (Clinical Competency Assessment Tool) – **PWDG 5**: Competency development
- The [National Translational Research Collaborative](#) (NTRC) - **PWDG 8**: Working with others in the healthcare team.
- The [Pharmacy Technician and Assistant Role Redesign Project](#) – **PWDG 13**: Workforce policy formation

Also highlighted were collaborative efforts toward [establishing a sustainable Advanced Practice framework in Australia](#), and advocating for government investment in modelling and pharmacist workforce planning.

Ms Michaels says the report – *Research, development and evaluation strategies for pharmaceutical education and the workforce: 2017* – highlights the need for greater understanding of how to evaluate the impact of pharmacy workforces.

‘It was positive to see the FIP acknowledge this impact is largely missing from research literature.

‘On behalf of our members, who are committed to evidence-based practice, SHPA plans to respond to this gap through accumulation of workforce development and impact research through the Pharmacy Impact Initiative, currently in development.’

The 77th FIP Congress concludes on Thursday.

- View [Research, development and evaluation strategies for pharmaceutical education and the workforce: 2017](#) online.

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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.