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## Real pharmacists making real differences

**The Winter issue of SHPA's new member journal *Pharmacy GRIT* highlights the culture of continuous improvement and high-quality patient care hospital pharmacists bring to healthcare's frontline.**

"Our 'Innovation at the Frontline' feature highlights the innovative work of SHPA members and what this means for clinical safety, patient accessibility to health services and improvements in patient care," Acting SHPA CEO Mr Andrew Matthews said.

"Delivery of chemotherapy at home, improvements in transitions of care between acute and primary care, radiopharmacy, accessibility to new Hepatitis C medicines, opioid stewardship and pharmacists in General Practice are just some of the examples where our members are making real differences."

In the feature article, SHPA Federal Councillor Ms Deirdre Criddle discusses her role as a clinical pharmacist in the Complex Needs Coordination Team (CoNeCT) based at Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital in Perth.

"CoNeCT is more than a hospital outreach service and often serves individuals without a medical home," said Deirdre. "The pharmacist enables conversations with GPs, hospital specialists and community pharmacies and bridges the gaps. My relationship with GPs and community pharmacists is crucial in ensuring appropriate handover of care of our CoNeCT clients," said Deirdre.

Andrew Matthews said: "What struck me the most about the 10 stories of innovation we've showcased, is that if it's good for the patient, our pharmacists have found a way to work within, around and through the constraints of budgets, legislation, bureaucrats, accountants and convention."

"Our winter issue of our new *Pharmacy Growth, Research, Innovation and Training* (*Pharmacy GRIT*) journal is true to its identity of being of the members, by the members and for the members."

The "Shape Shifters: expanding the role, changing the world" feature article is an open access article available at: [www.shpa.org.au/Shape-Shifters](http://www.shpa.org.au/Shape-Shifters)

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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.