

# Media release

Thursday 2 September 2021

## SHPA welcomes Katherine Burchfield to NPS MedicineWise leadership

The Society of Hospitals Pharmacists of Australia (SHPA) has warmly welcomed the appointment of Katherine Burchfield as Chief Executive Officer of NPS MedicineWise at a time of strengthening connections between the like-minded organisations.

SHPA Chief Executive Kristin Michaels says SHPA looks forward to progressing collaborative projects to tangibly improve clinical decision-making and achieve better health outcomes for Australians.

'SHPA is a proud and long-standing member of NPS MedicineWise. We are both committed to our organisational missions to improve and champion quality and safe use of medicines in all healthcare settings where medicines are used and where Australians receive care.

'SHPA was the first pharmacy organisation to join Choosing Wisely Australia, facilitated by NPS MedicineWise, demonstrating our mutual commitment to improving the quality use of medicines.

'Our relationship has never been stronger, as we continue to play key roles in Value in Prescribing consortia – including the [bDMARDS program](#) and [Immunoglobulins products](#) – as well as the [NPS MedicineWise Opioids Program](#), which followed SHPA's landmark report on [Reducing opioid-related harm](#) (2018).

Ms Michaels says a number of new initiatives show the strength of the organisational alignment between SHPA and NPS MedicineWise.

'More recently, hospital pharmacy leaders from SHPA's Specialty Practice Leadership Committees have begun contributing to NPS MedicineWise programs on Anticholinergic Burden – unintended consequences for older people and Psychotropic medicines in young people.

'Each of these, plus more in the pipeline, will have direct implications for improving the care provided by hospital pharmacists as part of multidisciplinary medical teams, and we look forward to further growing our partnership with NPS MedicineWise under Ms Burchfield's leadership.'

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### About SHPA

The Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia (SHPA) is the national, professional, for-purpose organisation for leading pharmacists and pharmacy technicians working across Australia's health system, advocating for their pivotal role improving the safety and quality of medicines use. Embedded in

multidisciplinary medical teams and equipped with exceptional medicines management expertise, SHPA members are progressive advocates for clinical excellence, committed to evidence-based practice and passionate about patient care.

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