

# Media release

Monday 17 November 2019

## Investment to impact and new research 'Fast Track' as SHPA celebrates another strong year

The Society of Hospitals Pharmacists of Australia (SHPA) has closed its 45<sup>th</sup> National Conference reporting strong financial footing, record membership retention and several program milestones showing the transition from strategic investment to increased benefits for members over the last twelve months.

Held in conjunction with Medicines Management 2019 (MM2019) on the Gold Coast over the weekend, SHPA's 2019 Annual General Meeting saw the launch of the *Investment to impact: 2019 SHPA Annual Report* video and supporting summary.

- View [Investment to impact: 2019 SHPA Annual Report >](#)

President Peter Fowler detailed some of the video highlights, which spanned advocacy, SHPA Residency, CPD and events and the release of the visionary [Advancing Australia's Pharmacy Workforce](#).

'In 2019 we saw national policy achievements in areas such as opioid management, and continued to drive the conversation on electronic medicines management and closed loop systems.

'We began the progressive release of new and updated guidelines on optimal clinical practice, saw growth across national and Branch CPD events and roll-out of Residency sites, launched the CPD Central planning and recording too, remained the principal driver of the Advancing Practice credentialing program and saw the first year of full operation of the SHPA Mentoring Program.'

Mr Fowler noted that, just as everything done by SHPA is for members and for the profession 'equally, none of it would be possible without your involvement and support'.

'On behalf of the Board of Directors I would like to formally acknowledge all members who contributed their time and expertise this year to key SHPA initiatives, including state and territory Branch Committees, Specialty Practice Leadership Committees and groups steering key programs and events.

'Your commitment, and the support of all members, enables SHPA to influence positive change in patient care and we are proud to continue to invest in your future.'

In her Chief Executive's Address, Kristin Michaels announced the opening of JPPR Fast Track, a new, expedited review option for leading translatable research to find faster publication in the *Journal of Pharmacy Practice and Research* (JPPR).

'For research that is of high quality within its discipline or field and/or pertinent to dominant or emerging issues in pharmacy practice, JPPR Fast Track authors will gain access to premium promotional support from SHPA in addition to 4-6 week timelines from submission to first decision and from acceptance to online publication.

‘JPPR Fast Track sees SHPA responding to the evolving publications landscape, as we focus on delivering a contemporary, competitive and cutting-edge society journal while advancing the profession.’

Closing the first full day of the MM2019 program on a high, Ms Michaels reflected on the unparalleled status of the conference as the highlight of the professional and social hospital pharmacy calendar in Australia.

‘Our National Conference is one of those rare moments when we can share in the joy of appreciating how far we’ve come and look with energy and renewed enthusiasm at what’s ahead.

‘At SHPA, of course, one thing stays the same: The research, development and realisation of every one of our programs, initiatives and supports, is borne of your ideas, and put in place to support your practice.’

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**For more information contact:**

Nick Sharp-Paul, Head of Strategy and Communication  
[nsharp-paul@shpa.org.au](mailto:nsharp-paul@shpa.org.au) | 0411 098 838

**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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