

Media release

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SHPA boosts early career research as publishing options open

The world of academic research is closer than ever for more Australian pharmacists and technicians with the Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia (SHPA) today introducing a new category to its flagship journal and launching a suite of resources and publishing opportunities to support Residents, Technicians and Early Career Pharmacists.

The new 'Emerging Insights' article category of the *Journal of Pharmacy Practice and Research* (JPPR) is now accepting submissions, and the [Getting started in research](#) information hub is live on the SHPA website, pooling information on [JPPR for emerging researchers](#), [non-peer reviewed publishing](#) and expert advice by elected pharmacy research leaders from the membership.

SHPA Vice President Dr Kate O'Hara says the broadening of publishing opportunities and supports meets growing demand from specialty pharmacists and technicians.

'As pharmacy roles diversify and increase in complexity, inside and outside of our hospitals, there are more opportunities for interdisciplinary collaboration and innovation.

'Academic publication is integral to building the evidence base for specialisation and team-based care, enabling the broadening of practice scope and improved medication safety in Australian health care.

'It's important to extend publishing accessibility to Australia's pre-eminent pharmacy journal while maintaining its academic rigour, which has seen the average citations per paper in the two years after publication skyrocket from five in 2021 to 30 last year.

'To help more Residents and Early Career Pharmacists make their mark, we're proud to platform the fantastic [Research Toolkit series](#), an initiative of our Research Leadership Committee, sharing their collective insights and experience to help emerging researchers build a solid basis for conducting and publishing research.'

Chief Executive Kristin Michaels says SHPA is the publishing partner for pharmacists and technicians shaping practice.

'We continue to deliver *Pharmacy GRIT* online as SHPA's member voice of articles, letter, opinion pieces and instructional papers to assist and inspire the profession, and we are the proud strategic partner of the [Australian Pharmacy Students' Journal](#) (APSJ) the world's first peer-reviewed pharmacy student journal.

'Aligning with our values as a key pharmacy peak body, and as evident in our thriving Specialty Practice networks and annual Medicines Management SHPA National Conference, SHPA will always be the home of robust, transparent research and discussion, and the sharing of ideas and innovations at every career stage.'

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About SHPA

The Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia (SHPA) is the national, professional organisation for the 6,100+ Hospital Pharmacists, and their Hospital Pharmacist Intern and Hospital Pharmacy Technician colleagues 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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