

# Media release

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## Are we ready? Viewing growing healthcare challenges through pharmacy lens

Australian pharmacists, pharmacy technicians and their healthcare professional colleagues respond to three growing global healthcare challenges in a bumper three-part Summer edition of [Pharmacy Growth, Research, Innovation and Training \(Pharmacy GRIT\)](#), essential holiday reading [available free](#) – as always – to Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia (SHPA) members.

The latest issue of the member magazine explores obesity, diabetes and ageing populations through the pharmacy lens, providing a glimpse into Australia's healthcare future.

SHPA Chief Executive Kristin Michaels says innovative approaches range from managing demand during Christmas shutdowns and population explosions in idyllic seaside towns to overcoming barriers and providing meaningful care to aged patients in regional Western Australia.

'*Pharmacy GRIT* mirrors the spirit of our members, for whom no challenge is without a solution, and we are pleased to share many dynamic ways hospital pharmacists across the country are preparing to meet the building wave of ageing and chronic conditions head on.'

Probing the link between socioeconomic factors and adherence to a diabetes diet, **Kelly Lambert** reveals four surprising factors that go beyond: 'What can I eat?', while **Lauren Millard** urges us to reconsider our approach to insulin management amid increasing (and changing) use of this high-risk medicine.

Tackling the very real, relevant and timely complexities of dosing and obesity, **Kerry Hitos** looks at the evidence base guiding dosing calculations in this patient cohort and asks: 'would you be confident the fixed dose stated by the manufacturer will be as effective as it would be in a non-obese patient?'

Rounding out an explosive issue, we make way for some truly inspiring, and at times downright fun innovations as we go '*kill em all*' in an educational game of *Poke-biotic Go!* for Antibiotic Awareness Week and gain insights into how welcoming pharmacy technicians on the ward can not only allow practice at fuller scope but deliver real time savings.

'As Summer warms up, it's the perfect time to kick your shoes off and stay in touch with your profession, at your pace,' says Ms Michaels.

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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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