

Media release

Friday 26 July 2024

Hospital pharmacists welcome new AMA President Dr Danielle McMullen

The Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia (SHPA) welcomes the election of incoming Australian Medical Association (AMA) President, Dr Danielle McMullen while congratulating outgoing President Professor Stephen Robson for his exemplary leadership, spanning an era of cooperation between the two organisations.

SHPA President Tom Simpson says the hospital pharmacy profession is pleased to continue its valued partnership under the new leadership when it takes effect 1 October.

'Dr McMullen brings a wealth of experience across the acute and primary care sectors and SHPA looks forward to continuing to work together with the AMA to improve the quality, capacity and sustainability of Australia's healthcare system.

'SHPA has supported the AMA's "Clear the Hospital Logjam" campaign, as ambulance ramping, long waiting lists for surgeries and crowded emergency departments have piled pressure on doctors and pharmacists, who nevertheless continue to provide safe and quality care to Australians at their most unwell.

'Doctors and pharmacists work together each day to enhance the quality and safety of care. Collaborative initiatives such as Partnered Pharmacist Medication Charting are allowing doctors to spend more time directly with patients and we look forward to further innovations in ways doctors and pharmacists can work together to support system capacity.'

Mr Simpson also thanked Professor Steve Robson for his leadership over the last two years.

'Steve's tenure saw AMA continue as our longest-standing "partner perspective" contributor to *Pharmacy Forecast Australia*, our annual thought leadership report on the future of advanced pharmacy practice.

'This year, we were thankful to have AMA partner with us for MedsAware: Deprescribing Action Week helping elevate this growing campaign targeting health professionals and consumers, which is now garnering international attention and building strong awareness for safe and appropriate use of medicines.

'Professor Robson has displayed exemplary leadership providing a strong voice for the medical profession. I look forward to congratulating both Prof Robson and Dr McMullen in person next month at AMA's National Conference.'

Mr Simpson will present in Perspectives at 20 paces: Scope of practice who's right? at the AMA24 Conference on Friday 2 August at the Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre, Qld.

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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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