

Media release

Thursday 18 May 2023

SHPA welcomes incoming Qld Minister for Health

The Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia (SHPA) welcomes the appointment of The Hon. Shannon Fentiman MP as Queensland Minister for Health and Ambulance Services following changes announced by Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk today.

‘On behalf of the SHPA Board of Directors and Queensland Branch, we congratulate Ms Fentiman on her appointment to these important portfolios,’ said SHPA President Tom Simpson.

‘Queensland is at the leading edge of pharmacy practice and our pharmacist and technician members, and their interdisciplinary peers, are committed to expanding team-based care that places the patient at the centre of all care decisions.

‘It is fitting today’s announcement was made at the Royal Brisbane and Women’s Hospital, as one of many centres of healthcare excellence in the state.

‘Our hospitals are hotbeds of pharmacy innovation, with advances rippling outward to improve the practice of pharmacists wherever they work, to the benefit of all Queenslanders receiving pharmacy care.’

Mr Simpson says SHPA will continue to advocate for the state’s growing specialty pharmacist workforce.

‘We will continue to partner with the Queensland Government to ensure specialty pharmacy skills are recognised, rewarded and accessible to all Queenslanders who need support in their safe use of medicines.’

‘Last year we welcomed the record \$9.78 billion investment over six years into hospitals and healthcare workforce, and will continue to advocate for investment into the crucial hospital pharmacy workforce in Queensland to meet and service the additional capacity.

‘As a fast-growing state, it is important Queensland lays the groundwork for the expert pharmacy workforce of the future that will deliver provide vital medication management services to all Queenslanders.’

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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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