

Consider working as a pharmacist in a hospital...

Pharmacists play a vital role in today's hospital system.

As a pharmacist in a hospital, you would be responsible for making sure that patients receive the most appropriate medicines in the most effective way. You would prepare and dispense medicines. You would advise doctors, nurses and other health professionals on correct dosage, when and how medicines should be given, potential unwanted effects of medicines and possible interactions between medicines.

As a pharmacist in a hospital, you would work as part of a team of pharmacists – maybe 2 or 3 in smaller hospitals, or as many as 40 to 50 in larger ones. You can work in large or small hospitals, country or city hospitals, general or specialist hospitals. In a rural hospital, you would become an important part of the community.

As a pharmacist in a hospital, you would be choosing a career that makes a difference. To others. To yourself.

If you work as a pharmacist in a hospital, you could be...

- Working closely with patients to help them get the most benefit from their medicine;
- Working on hospital wards alongside doctors and nurses as part of the healthcare team;
- Working in specialist areas such as emergency, intensive care, cancer treatment, paediatrics;
- Visiting patients in their homes to provide information and support after discharge from hospital;
- Dispensing medicines and making special medicines;
- Involved in trials of new medicines and research to improve medicine use;
- Managing or supervising other staff;
- Managing multi-million dollar budgets for medicines.

Use your skills to open doors to a world of possibilities

As a pharmacist working in a hospital you will use your scientific and clinical knowledge to help patients.

You will be a "knowledge worker", using computers to store and access information, to answer medicine queries from doctors, nurses and patients, for dispensing, stock control, monitoring medicine use in the hospital, and accessing patient data (e.g. blood test results) to assist in monitoring your patients' progress.

You will use your communication skills to help patients and their carers understand simple or complicated information about taking medicines correctly. You will use your business acumen to manage budgets.

You can choose to specialise in one of the many areas of hospital pharmacy practice, or rotate through different areas for variety.

You will be rewarded for your skills. Pharmacists in public hospitals receive a competitive salary, especially when you consider superannuation, generous overtime, leave loading, and many other attractive benefits and conditions.

You will never be short of a job. Employment prospects for pharmacists in hospitals are very good. Whether you want to work part time or full time.



POSSIBILITIES

Working in a hospital is an option at any stage of your pharmacy career. Some pharmacists start out in hospitals as soon as they finish at university – others work elsewhere and later move into hospital practice to experience a different practice setting. Any registered pharmacist can work in a hospital – you don't need additional qualifications.

As a pharmacist working in a hospital, you will develop a broad array of skills that you can use and are highly sought after in other practice settings, including community pharmacy, consultant pharmacy, academia, government and the pharmaceutical industry.

Being a pharmacist in a hospital means...

- Being a highly respected healthcare professional;
- Being part of a team in a sought-after profession;
- Having access to a career path with promotional opportunities;
- Secure and stable employment with attractive benefits and conditions;
- Having skills and qualifications that are in demand in other parts of the world;
- Making a difference – to others and to yourself.

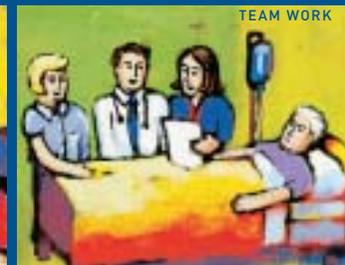
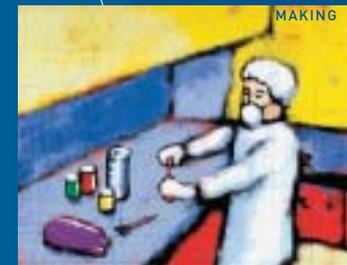
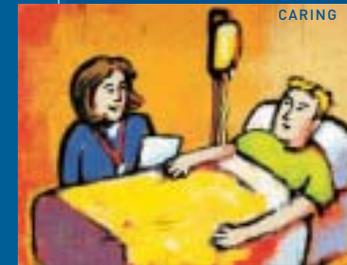
Consider working as a pharmacist in a hospital because

- It is stimulating, challenging, rewarding and varied;
- It gives you the chance to be actively involved in the care of patients and to make a difference to their lives;
- Hospitals are an exciting, dynamic and sociable work place;
- It provides you with many different career options – inside and outside the hospital system;
- It is a career with variety, for today or forever;
- It opens doors to a world of possibilities.

Go to www.shpa.org.au for more information about hospital pharmacy, to read career profiles of some hospital pharmacists, and information for students, especially those in rural areas, who are considering studying pharmacy.

HOSPITAL PHARMACY

A WORLD OF POSSIBILITIES



MAKING

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For careers information go to www.shpa.org.au