

Media release

Tuesday 10 August 2021

‘Safety and certainty’ as President announces late summer MM2021

The Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia (SHPA) President Peter Fowler has announced Medicines Management 2021, the 46th SHPA National Conference (MM2021) will be pushed back three months to make the most of new federal vaccination targets and ensure a safe, in-person event for members, delegates and supporters in Adelaide next February.

Following the release last week of updates to the four-phase National Plan to transition Australia's National COVID Response, and subsequent announcement of ‘Operation COVID Shield’ to boost Australia’s national vaccine rollout, SHPA has confirmed the new dates for [Medicines Management 2021](#) in Adelaide will be **Thursday 24 to Saturday 26 February 2022**.

President Peter Fowler says the move provides hospital pharmacists and technicians with greater certainty to plan and prepare.

‘As we’ve seen this fortnight in Tokyo, there is no impact to the commitment and passion of participants following a COVID-induced delay.

‘We are very pleased to announce a shift of three months, with the strong support of the MM2021 Scientific Program Committee, as we know hospital pharmacists and technicians and their pharmacy peers are enthusiastic to gather and celebrate in person at Australia’s largest scientific pharmacy conference.’

As part of the change, the deadline for abstract submission has been extended to Thursday 23 September 2021, while early bird registration will remain open until December.

Chief Executive Kristin Michaels says the date change will allow SHPA to safely and confidently deliver the most dynamic conference program possible.

‘In addition to the assurances offered by revised vaccination plans and the forecast end of lockdowns and border closures to mitigate community transmission, SHPA is keeping our Fully Flexible Registration Promise* to all delegates of MM2021 throughout the extended registration period.

‘Importantly, the new dates have been chosen with SHPA’s outstanding annual CPD program in mind, and with an eye on a return to a November event for MM2022.

‘We look forward to gathering as a profession in the warmth of Adelaide’s late summer, highlighting innovations in pharmacy practice, acknowledging the many brilliant achievements of individuals and teams and looking forward, together, to a brighter year ahead.’

– ends –

For more information contact:

Susie Brown, Communications and Media Advisor
sbrown@shpa.org.au | 0437 119 286

***SHPA's MM2021 Fully Flexible Registration Promise**

SHPA is pleased to offer fully flexible registration to all delegates of Medicines Management 2021, the 46th SHPA National Conference (MM2021). 100% refunds (less credit card surcharges) will be available to all delegates, in the event:

- MM2021 is cancelled for any reason, including direct or indirect impact of COVID-19;
- a delegate is unable to attend due to a direct impact of COVID-19, such as State or Federal government mandated border closures.

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.

shpa.org.au |   