

# Media release

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## New Advanced Training Residencies putting pharmacists on specialisation fast track

New two-year advancement pathways have been released supporting the development and specialisation of the next generation of leading pharmacists across care settings as the Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia (SHPA) formally expanded its Australia-first [Residency Program](#) today.

[Advanced Training Residencies](#) in Cancer Services, Critical Care, Geriatric Medicine and Medicines Information are open at accredited sites nationally, building on SHPA's two-year Foundation Residencies that have expanded to 38 sites nationally since their launch in 2017.

SHPA Vice President and Chair of the SHPA Residency Advisory Group Dr Jacinta Johnson says the new Residencies offer a broad range of practice-based experiences to the next generation of pharmacy leaders.

'Backed by Practice Area Frameworks and Knowledge Guides, these four pathways provide deeper experiential learning in the hospital setting for advancing practitioners, while the [ATR Common Framework](#) provides a template for pathways tailored to the individual needs of Residents.

'I encourage all hospital pharmacy leaders to [seek accreditation to facilitate Advanced Training Residencies](#), as a clear signal to peers and patients that your site has the commitment, capacity and capability to foster evidence-based personal growth and clinical excellence.

Then next four Advanced Training Residency pathways to open will be General Medicine, Mental Health, Paediatrics and Neonatology and Surgery and Perioperative Medicine.

SHPA Chief Executive Kristin Michaels says the expansion of Advanced Training Residencies further entrenches SHPA's Residency Program as a leading developmental initiative for the profession.

'Last year SHPA published findings that showed 84% of Foundation Residents agreed or strongly agreed that their Residency was worthwhile for them and 100% of program staff agreed, or strongly agreed that the program has been worthwhile for their department.

'As the professional partner for Australia's leading community of pharmacists, SHPA will continue to facilitate experiential learning that prepares practitioners for the challenging and rewarding world of hospital care, managing medicines for our most vulnerable patients.

'Importantly, our Specialty Practice leaders have designed Advanced Training Residencies to be adaptable to different pharmacy settings and we look forward to supporting all pharmacists in harnessing these frameworks to benefit their practice and patient care.'

*For SHPA members only: view Practice Area Frameworks and Knowledge Guides for Cancer Services, Geriatric Medicine, Medicines Information and Critical Care on the [ATR pathways page](#).*

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**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](http://shpa.org.au) |   