

Further experience of A&E pharmacist work in Australia

From S. Welch

I congratulate Ms Foreshaw on her work outlined in the recently published article in *Hospital Pharmacist* (2005;12:61–4).

For readers who are interested in this area of practice, I would like to draw your attention to the work which has been published by Australian pharmacists working in Accident and Emergency (A&E) departments across Australia over the past 10 years.^{1,2,3,4} Many articles have been published in our national journal, the *Journal of Pharmacy Practice and Research* (previously known as *The Australian Journal of Hospital Pharmacy*), which is indexed on EMBASE and IDIS. Australian pharmacists have also presented their work at local conferences [see below]. The A&E department is an area where the hospital pharmacist can contribute greatly to research, as well as to the overall care of patients, so should be a major focus of our attention.

The Australian group of Emergency Department Pharmacists is under the

auspices of the Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia Committee of Specialty Practice — Emergency Medicine. We are in contact by e-mail, at conferences and in local meetings and are currently developing a standards of practice document. We are contactable via e-mail swelch@stvincents.com.au

Susan Welch

Chair of the Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia Committee of Specialty Practice — Emergency Medicine

References

1. Welch S. The evolving area of emergency medicine pharmacy. *Australian Journal of Hospital Pharmacy* 1997;27:700–3.
2. Welch S, Novy M, Preisz P, Quinn D, Whicker S, Brown S, et al. Promoting rational prescribing by emergency department junior medical officers. *Australian Journal of Hospital Pharmacy* 2000;30:262–6.
3. Harding AM. The role of an emergency department pharmacist. *American Journal of Health-system Pharmacy* 2001;31:303–4.
4. McMorrow J. Expansion of emergency department clinical pharmacy services. *Australian Journal of Hospital Pharmacy* 1994;24:98

A full list of publications is available from the following website: www.shpa.org.au/pdf/publications/ed_pub_apr05.pdf

Letters to the editor

Letters can be posted, faxed, or e-mailed to the editorial department of *Hospital Pharmacist*. Letters are considered for publication on the understanding that they have not also been submitted elsewhere. Where letters are critical of individuals, organisations or companies, details of the criticisms may be sent to the person or body concerned so that their response may appear in the same issue as the letter.

Correction

Reference 3 on p232 was from the *Australian Journal of Hospital Pharmacy* and not as stated.