

Sharing the care: getting to know your team



**The Pharmacy
Guild of Australia**

Community pharmacy

There are more than 5,700 community pharmacies in Australia offering a highly skilled network of primary health care professionals providing quality medicine dispensing, advice and services.

Community pharmacies are the most accessible primary health care provider for most Australians and often operate over extended hours.

Pharmacies across Australia are expanding the range of health services they provide to their patients and are now evolving into local health hubs.

Working with other health professionals

Community pharmacies are a vital part of the primary health care system and are committed to working collaboratively with doctors and other health professionals to deliver the best results for everyone in our community.

Find a pharmacy

Visit the website to search for a pharmacy, our services, health conditions and tailored consumer advice www.findapharmacy.com.au/

Further information

- The Pharmacy Guild of Australia
www.guild.org.au
- National Diabetes Services Scheme (NDSS)
<https://www.ndss.com.au/>



Services offered

Community pharmacies do more than just dispense medication! Visit the Pharmacy Guild of Australia website to read through a full range of services offered including:

- dose administration aids
- diabetes screening and management
- vaccinations including influenza
- asthma management
- medication management
- in-pharmacy medication review services
- blood pressure monitoring
- blood glucose testing
- absence from work certificates
- COPD assessment and management
- National Diabetes Services Scheme (NDSS)
- wound management
- bone density testing
- bowel cancer screening
- quit smoking support
- cholesterol testing
- compression garment supply and advice
- medication compounding services
- mental health support
- mobility aids
- mother and baby clinics.



This activity is supported by funding from the Australian Government under the PHN Program

Dose administration aids

Community pharmacists assist people to be more compliant with their medication by providing easy to use weekly packs of their medication. This service often includes home delivery.

Medication reviews

Community pharmacists help people to take their medications more effectively by conducting in-pharmacy medication reviews which identify issues with compliance or side effects. Patients are then given a useful list of their medications, and an additional list can be prepared for their doctor.

Home medication reviews are for a more in-depth clinical review and are good for more complex patients. They require a referral from the GP and the pharmacist will provide a summary including recommendations to the referrer once the review is complete.

National Diabetes Services Scheme (NDSS)

Many community pharmacies are now access points for products supplied through the National Diabetes Services Scheme (NDSS). This means consumers can get access to products such as needles, syringes, insulin pump consumables, blood glucose test strips and urine test strips from their nearest community pharmacy. In addition, pharmacists are often able to identify when patients may not be ideally managing their diabetes, and can aid in education and referral to their medical practitioner.

Chronic condition management

As a highly accessible part of the primary care system, pharmacies can play a key role throughout the continuum of care for patients with chronic conditions as:

- a first point of contact
- a place of triage, advice and referral
- a provider of health information and health literacy assistance
- a risk assessment and early intervention point
- as medicine management experts as part of a wider management team
- ongoing monitoring of and support for patients with chronic conditions

Your feedback

The video series that accompanies this fact sheet has been developed to assist health professionals to increase their knowledge and awareness of the many diverse allied health disciplines, sub-specialties, and referral pathways in primary care to improve patient outcomes in our community.

If you have any questions or feedback please email: alliedhealth@bsphn.org.au



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