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Empowering pharmacy leaders



THE Australian Pharmacy Forecast 2021, published in June of this year, was developed by the Society of Hospital Pharmacists Australia (SHPA), with the support of Omnicell, to help pharmacy leaders make informed plans for the future.

“Omnicell is proud to support SHPA in this annual report to provide Australia’s pharmacy executives with strategic direction for pharmacy practice so they can navigate the changing healthcare landscape,” said Omnicell’s International General Manager Sara Dalmasso.

“We want to support pharmacists with the best practices and latest thinking around innovation and the need to adapt. Following the fallout of the COVID-19 pandemic, this has never been more important.”

Russell Levy, Chair of the SHPA Pharmacy Forecast Advisory Committee, said, “It’s vital that we start discussing what strategies we need for our hospitals to become smarter after a very difficult period for healthcare. There is a wealth of knowledge in Australia and

it is important we harness that information and expertise and share it. The support we have had from Omnicell has helped us to create what will be a very valuable tool when it comes to shaping the future of pharmacy in Australia.”

To read the report **CLICK HERE**.

The electronic revolution

THE introduction of computers into hospital pharmacies revolutionised pharmacy practice, and the Australian Pharmacy Forecast report confirmed the electronic revolution is still underway.

Electronic Medical Management (EMM) systems are being increasingly adopted by hospitals, predominately in NSW and QLD,

with estimates of around 30% of hospitals in 2020 having an EMM, and the expectation that this will grow to 50% in the next five years.

The adoption of electronic health records at an institution means an EMM is important to avoid the inherent risks around ‘hybrid’ medical records, and the Forecast recommends the adoption of EMMs as a solution.

Automated dispensing benefits



have implemented automated dispensing cabinets by 2026. The use of automated dispensing systems was found to have a number of benefits.

Automated dispensing cabinets reduce the likelihood of medication selection errors by directing clinical staff to the correct product.

The chances of inadvertently retrieving the wrong strength of a preparation, or making a common error related to similarly named yet different medicines is markedly reduced.

It’s a step towards improving medication safety, and reducing medication-related harm.

THE Australian Pharmacy Forecast 2021 panellists were hopeful that 25% of hospitals will



The future of
medication
management

- Reduce error risk
- Free up staff for patient care
- Deliver efficiencies

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