



IMPORTANT UPDATE REGARDING INCENTIVES FOR ACCREDITATION FOR MEDICATION REVIEWS FLOWING FROM THE 5TH COMMUNITY PHARMACY AGREEMENT

Members may know of changes that are set to flow from the 5th Community Pharmacy Agreement, chemotherapy arrangements and other Federal Budget announcements that will affect reimbursements for private hospitals. It has also been flagged that hospital initiated HMRs will be part of the future mix. The actual detail and implementation dates and plans for most items are not yet developed. SHPA will provide members with details as they become available.

This first announcement is about the **termination of incentives for initial accreditation and re-accreditation for medication reviews** both of which will cease on 30 June 2010.

However, **for initial accreditation only there will be a limited extension** to allow those who are actively engaged in completing their initial accreditation to receive the incentive payment of \$1,500. To be eligible, pharmacists seeking to become accredited by using the certified geriatric pharmacist examinations set to take place in July and August 2010 must have enrolled for the CGP examination online with CCGP and have advised Michael Tsui at SHPA (mtsui@shpa.org.au) by the 15 June 2010.

THE FOLLOWING OFFICIAL TEXT HAS BEEN APPROVED BY GOVERNMENT

Medication Review Accreditation Incentive (MRAI) Program Update

The Department of Health and Ageing, the Australian Association of Consultant Pharmacy (AACP), the Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia (SHPA) and the Pharmacy Guild of Australia are currently working out the details of transition arrangements for the Medication Review Accreditation Incentives (MRAI) Program. The MRAI Program will not continue under the Fifth Agreement as funding is being redirected from support programs to patient-centred services. The aforementioned parties have agreed in principle to a transition period that will enable pharmacists currently undergoing medication management review (MMR) accreditation to complete it within an appropriate time-frame and still receive the initial accreditation payment of \$1,500.

Accreditation

All pharmacists currently progressing to an MMR credential are encouraged to continue with the assessment process. At this stage, it is expected that any pharmacist **registered for by 15 June 2010** will have an opportunity to complete the credential and still receive the initial accreditation incentive payment of \$1500. For SHPA, this means that candidates must have **enrolled for the CGP examination by 15 June 2010**. Please note that any pharmacist who applies for this after 15 June 2010 will be assessed under current systems but will not be eligible for the accreditation incentive payment.

Re-Accreditation

From 1 July 2010, the \$750 re-accreditation incentive (for re-accreditation on or after 1 July 2010) will no longer be paid. At this stage, all accredited pharmacists with re-accreditation anniversary dates up to and including 30 June 2010 are encouraged to complete their renewal applications and ensure the SHPA receives the required paperwork before that date. If your re-accreditation anniversary date falls on or after 1 July 2010, unfortunately you will not be able claim the MRAI payment.

For further information or assistance with any of these issues, please contact the Michael Tsui at SHPA on 03-9486 0177. Updates will be provided by email and on the SHPA website.

Yvonne Allinson
Chief Executive Officer, The Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia

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