

ROLE DESCRIPTION

Role Title:	Pharmacy Technician	
Classification Code:	AHA3	
Division:	SA Pharmacy	
Department/Section / Unit/ Ward:	Pharmacy	
Role Created/ Reviewed Date:	July 2018/July 2021	
Criminal History Clearance	☐ Aged (NPC)	
Requirements:		
Immunisation Risk Category:	☐ Category B (indirect contact with blood or body substances)	

ROLE CONTEXT

Primary Objective(s) of role:

- Under the general direction of the AHA or AHP leader for the designated areas, works at an advanced competency assisting in the provision of a comprehensive pharmacy service to the designated pharmacy unit(s)by providing clinical, dispensing and distribution, packaging of pharmaceuticals, inventory management, technical training of staff, organisation of daily workloads, monitor quality of work and/or preparation/manufacturing of pharmaceuticals.
- > This position will work closely with the AHA or AHP supervisor for the area and works towards supporting the Pharmacy manager(s) to ensure the provision of safe and cost effective drug therapy achieving optimal outcomes for patients.

Direct Reports:

May assist with the supervision and orientation of AHA, AHP and students and other staff as appropriate.

Key Relationships/ Interactions:

Internal

- > Works autonomously with limited direction from the area's responsible Technician or Pharmacist
- > Reports to the designated supervisor of the area where rostered
- Assists in the supervision of pharmacy assistants and other staff.
- > Provides teaching and training and support in undertaking daily activities to designated Pharmacists, Senior Pharmacy Assistants, Pharmacy Assistants, Pharmacy Interns, other support staff and students
- > Liaises with Medical and Nursing Staff and other health professionals

External

- > General public
- > May interact with pharmaceutical industry suppliers
- > Represents the unit/department and may represent SA Pharmacy on relevant State Groups

Challenges associated with Role:

Major challenges currently associated with the role include:

- > Maintaining a high level of expertise striving for excellence
- > Aligning others with the goals and objectives of SA Pharmacy
- > Prioritising tasks and assisting in allocation of resources
- > Understanding the complexities of working in a multidisciplinary role
- > Ability to deal with contingencies as well as routine work
- Understanding the requirements of this position in meeting Local Health Network (LHN) and SA Pharmacy service objectives and broader SA Health outcomes
- Managing a busy workload and competing demands requiring the ability to organise and prioritise workload and time
- > Ability to assist with diverse activities and key accountabilities requiring the ability to work as a member of a multidisciplinary team
- > Working around patients/carers/families who may display aggressive, distressed or unpredictable behaviour
- Maintaining professional boundaries when responding appropriately to client and family/carer expectations

Delegations:

- > As per the Human Resources Delegations and Authorisations; Statewide Clinical Support Services
- As per the Financial Delegations; Statewide Clinical Support Services

Key Result Area and Responsibilities

Key Result Areas	Major Responsibilities		
Supervision of staff	 Provide supervision and direction for daily pharmacy operations of the assistants, technicians and other staff Manage and prioritise workload Supervise and oversee housekeeping duties Enhance efficiency of the designated unit by conducting practice reviews of pharmacy assistants to ensure competency Coach pharmacy assistants and support staff to enhance the quality and efficiency of pharmacy services delivered by the department 		
Contribute to comprehensive, accurate, professional, efficient and patient focused dispensing, distribution and inventory management services with minimal supervision at an advanced level.	 To use the pharmacy management and hospital software to process prescriptions accurately complying with the Pharmaceutical Benefit Scheme/Special Access Scheme, South Australian Formulary and Clinical Trials, to produce clear and informative dispensing labels using cautionary/advisory statements where appropriate and ensure stock control maintaining stock levels of manufactured products and materials to produce pharmaceuticals, correct transfer of stock between stores, stock is booked out correctly and the removal of damaged, expired or recalled stock. Review unusual stock movements, supply problems and shortages and report to supervisor recommended actions in a timely manner Performs stocktakes analysing discrepancies and recommending resolution in accordance with departmental procedures To assist with the organisation, interpretation, preparation and dispensing of medication ordered on the prescription of a prescriber or the requisition of drugs through orders (such as ward orders, medication charts or electronic orders), including controlled drugs and Drugs of Dependence orders. Filing of dispensary records including Drugs of Dependence in compliance with appropriate policies, procedures and legal requirements 		

Identify improvements and innovations for service delivery Ensure the technical accuracy of work undertaken by self and others In carrying out tasks may be required to utilise video and > teleconferencing to achieve outcomes across sites Participate in the training and Provide guidance to other pharmacy staff in the provision of technical development of Pharmacy aspects of the designated pharmacy unit(s) Pharmacists. Assistants. Assist the unit(s) supervisor in the daily management of workflow, task Graduates and Students at allocations, job schedules, staff organisation, staff rosters of pharmacy an advanced level. assistants, Pharmacists, Graduates and Students, orientations and skill transference General duties and tasks. To respond to counter and telephone enquiries effectively, providing accurate and appropriate information ensuring confidentiality, considering medico-legal implications and referring to a pharmacist or other health professional when necessary Assist in the maintenance of a safe work environment ensuring dispensary is clean and tidy. Maintaining adequate stock levels of all Pharmaceuticals, packaging, stationary and consumables Having a working knowledge of all areas of the pharmacy including: Purchasing inclusive of invoicing and associated issues, cost effective pricing, procurement standards and audit practices Product Recall o Incident reporting, review and management Open Disclosure PBS claiming, cashier and other areas of the service Assist in the ongoing updating of the standard operating procedures and maintenance of other departmental policies and procedure manuals Assist in the preparation of statistics and reports when required Assist with the receipt of monies or the billing procedures associated with the supply of medication to outpatients Undertaking pharmacy courier and/or medication delivery duties as required Maintain competence in undertaking SA Pharmacy endorsed delegated tasks and processes Provide a cost effective and To use the pharmacy management software to maintain adequate and timely medication distribution appropriate supplies of stock in imprest areas and to ensure that stock (Imprest) service to areas of is picked correctly the hospital with Minimal Ensure there is no expired date stock Supervision at an advanced Proactively maintain and update ward lists on the pharmacy level. management software and barcodes on the wards to ensure the facilitation of correct restocking of the wards Ensure sorting and assessment of returned stock and medication including crediting and destroy or recycle as appropriate in accordance to SA Pharmacy procedure Review stock usage and recommend changes to imprest lists Facilitate achievement Facilitate accurate prescription generation complying with the patient clinical services and Pharmaceutical Benefit Scheme/Special Access Scheme, South support the Clinical Australian Formulary and Clinical Trials Pharmacist (in addition to Proactively generate medication profiles having advanced Assist in the maintenance of patient records and protocols competency in Undertake clinical screening assessments dispensing/distribution or as Establishing and maintaining appropriate filing systems/data bases alternative Attendance at team/business meetings as required manufacturing or purchasing) Assist relevant literature retrieval Provide counselling services to patients

Obtaining medication histories and undertake accurate reconciliation of documents reporting discrepancies to the supervising pharmacist Maintain competence in undertaking SA Pharmacy endorsed delegated tasks and processes Production of Sterile and Non To contribute to the manufacture, repacking and labelling of sterile Sterile pharmaceuticals with (including cytotoxic) and non-sterile pharmaceuticals, following minimal supervision at an standard operating procedures and ensuring compliance with the Code advanced level of Good Manufacturing Practice and Society of Hospital Pharmacists (when working within sites that have Guidelines. Assemble and package medication with the completed manufacturing units in documentation with minimal supervision addition to or as an Participate and comply with Quality Control and Quality Assurance alternative to clinical practice requirements for the area including environmental testing or purchasing). Operating, cleaning and maintaining of facilities ensuring equipment and environment are in good working order in accordance to standard operating procedures Draft protocols and procedures Maintain competence in undertaking SA Pharmacy endorsed delegated tasks and processes Identify improvements and innovations for service delivery Ensure the technical accuracy of work undertaken by self and others Manufacturing- external to Contribute to the ordering and distribution of manufactured items site including chemotherapy Ensure the technical accuracy of work undertaken by self and others Complying with the State Supply Acts and procurement regulations, Provide of a full range of Centre policies and procedures and purchasing delegations assigned economic purchasing and by SA Health's Procurement and Supply Chain Management Unit the inventory control functions Department of Health (Department of Health) - Strategic Procurement related to the procurement Unit and SA Pharmacy of pharmaceuticals and Maintain the integrity and accuracy of the purchasing data and supplier consumables required by data of the pharmacy computing system (iPharmacy®) the Pharmacy with minimal Maintainance of pharmacy orders supervision at an advanced Liaise with appropriate pharmacy staff to validate daily iPharmacy level (in addition to or as an alternative to clinical practice Ensure timely and optimal use of SA Health's Pharmaceutical Contracts or manufacturing). Review and set Par levels optimising patient care and stock turn. Ensure inventory management best practice Manage stock outages or shortages Liaising with suppliers and communicating requirements precisely and effectively Coordinate drug recalls. Ensuring procurement data is correct to enable proper reconciliation of invoices and uptake of correct data into the appropriate Financial svstem/s Working with the Pharmacy staff and suppliers to facilitate prompt return and follow up of incorrectly supplied, damaged or short dated products Maintain competence in undertaking SA Pharmacy endorsed delegated tasks and processes Identify improvements and innovations for service delivery Ensure the technical accuracy of work undertaken by self and others Training & Competency Actively participate in training programs and competency assessments > Achieve and maintain competence in elementary functions at a minimum Build knowledge through independent learning, attending and contributing to the departments continuing education programme and participation in change management projects and quality improvement programs

Develop effective relationships	 Contribute to the education of other pharmacists, pre-registrant pharmacists, other pharmacy staff and students Achieve and maintain satisfactory performance of all advanced practice tasks in 2 or more areas of pharmacy practice Develop effective relationships through empowering effective communication, motivating and creating a work environment that promotes lifelong learning, diversity, mutual trust and respect Establish and maintain positive working relationships with clients, customers, consumers, employees, families and other key stakeholders within the public and private sectors and wider community through the use of effective communication strategies
Promote and achieve quality customer outcomes	 Contribute to a quality patient centric medication management environment through promotion, delivery and evaluation of a high quality customer service, customer products and service standards Be motivated and encourage team members to achieve excellence in service provision to ensure the safe use of medications Ensure the maintenance of clients' rights and responsibilities including customer/client/family/advocate participation in decision making when appropriate Provide information and support to consumers and their carers to empower them to take responsibility for their own medication management
Increase self-awareness and self-management Reconciliation and Cultural	 Increase self-awareness of own strengths and development needs and act to improve one's performance based on this knowledge and through lifelong learning Act with integrity by being aware of own behaviour and managing it to have the best possible impact on the behaviours of others Build skills to manage and prioritise workload Contribute to the improvement in health, well-being and positive
Work safely	 participation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders Make proper use of all safeguards, safety devices and personal protective equipment in undertaking duties Take reasonable care to protect the health and safety of self and others Undertake mandatory safety training programs Participating and engaging in workplace health and safety procedures Adhere to relevant WHS requirements including infection control and hand hygiene, reporting of incidents and near misses, safe operation of workplace equipment and manual handling, and maintenance of patient/client confidentiality

Knowledge, Skills and Experience

ESSENTIAL MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Educational/Vocational Qualifications

Relevant Certificate IV or above [Relevant qualifications include but are not limited to Certificate IV in hospital & health service pharmacy/Project Management Practice/Leadership and Management/Business Administration]

Personal Abilities/Aptitudes/Skills:

- > Demonstrated competence in two or more pharmacy practice areas
- > Sound time management and organisational skills
- Sound arithmetic skills
- Sound written communication skills
- > Ability to communicate effectively with people from a variety of cultural and linguistic backgrounds and experiences
- > Ability to supervise and work in a team and work independently with minimal supervision
- > Excellent attention to detail and accuracy
- > Ability to develop and implement use of documented resources such as policies and procedures and work instructions to enable safe work practices
- > Drive and enthusiasm
- > Dedication to continual learning
- Good technical skills and manual dexterity, including keyboard skills and data entry
- > Good public relations skills
- > Physical ability to undertake required duties e.g. to lift (medication cartons), push (trolleys) and squat and reach (stock shelves)
- > Ability to work in a multi-disciplinary setting
- > Demonstrated leadership, teaching and coaching skills

Experience

- > Extensive experience in a hospital pharmacy
- > Experience in a supervising
- > Experience in coaching
- > Experience in teaching and training
- > Proficient in Pharmacy Management Software
- > Proficient in the use of using spreadsheets and Microsoft word

Knowledge

- > Knowledge of pharmaceutical products and medical terminology
- > Knowledge in Pharmacy production and dispensing methods
- > Knowledge of Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme and Code of Good Manufacturing Practice
- > Knowledge of working within boundaries of patient confidentiality and ethical practice
- > Knowledge of scope of practice principles

DESIRABLE CHARACTERISTICS

Educational/Vocational Qualifications

Satisfactory completion of year 12

Personal Abilities/Aptitudes/Skills:

Experience

- > Drafting of briefs, communications and project plans
- > Led quality improvement projects
- > Undertaken gap analysis

Knowledge

- > Working knowledge of work health and safety practices
- Knowledge of sound manual handling principles and techniques

Special Conditions:

- > It is mandatory that no person, whether or not already working in SA Health, may be appointed to a position in SA Health unless they have provided a satisfactory current Criminal and Relevant History Screening, as required by the SA Health Criminal and Relevant History Screening Policy Directive.
- > For appointment in a Prescribed Position under the Child Safety (Prohibited Persons) Act (2016), a current Working with Children Check (WWCC) is required from the Department for Human Services Screening Unit. For other positions, a satisfactory National Police Certificate (NPC) assessment is required.
- > For 'Prescribed Positions' under the Child Safety (Prohibited Persons) Act (2016), the individual's WWCCs must be renewed every 5 years from the date of issue; and for 'Approved Aged Care Provider Positions' every 3 years from date of issue as required by the Accountability Principles 2014 issued pursuant to the Aged Care Act 1997 (Cth).
- > Appointment is subject to immunisation risk category requirements. There may be ongoing immunisation requirements that must be met.
- > Depending on work requirements the incumbent may be transferred to other locations across SA Health to perform work appropriate to classification, skills and capabilities either on a permanent or temporary basis subject to relevant provisions of the *Public Sector Act 2009* for Public Sector employees or the *SA Health (Health Care Act) Human Resources Manual* for Health Care Act employees.
- > The incumbent may be required to participate in Counter Disaster activities including attendance, as required, at training programs and exercises to develop the necessary skills required to participate in responses in the event of a disaster and/or major incident.
- > Some out of hours may be required.
- > May be required to work a roster over 7 days including weekends and public holidays.
- > May be required to participate in rotations through other sections of the Department/Local Health network
- > May be required to work at other SA Pharmacy sites
- > Hours may vary as per departmental roster; Normal working hours between 0600 and 2200hours
- > Some travel may be required; including interstate.
- > Country based staff must; have an unrestricted drivers licence and be prepared to drive on country roads; be prepared to fly in light aircraft
- > May require a health assessment prior to commencement
- > Exposure to restricted carcinogens/cyclophosphamide may occur

General Requirements:

Managers and staff are required to work in accordance with the Code of Ethics for South Australian Public Sector, Directives, Determinations and Guidelines, and legislative requirements including but not limited to:

- > Work Health and Safety Act 2012 (SA) and when relevant WHS Defined Officers must meet due diligence requirements.
- > Return to Work Act 2014 (SA), facilitating the recovery, maintenance or early return to work of employees with work related injury / illness.
- > Meet immunisation requirements as outlined by the Immunisation for Health Care Workers in South Australia Policy Directive.
- > Equal Employment Opportunities (including prevention of bullying, harassment and intimidation).
- > Children and Young People (Safety) Act 2017 (SA) 'Notification of Abuse or Neglect'.
- > Disability Discrimination.
- > Independent Commissioner Against Corruption Act 2012 (SA)
- > Information Privacy Principles Instruction
- > Relevant Awards, Enterprise Agreements, *Public Sector Act 2009, Health Care Act 2008* and Determinations of the Commissioner for Public Sector Employment.
- > Relevant Australian Standards.
- > Duty to maintain confidentiality.
- > Smoke Free Workplace.
- > To value and respect the needs and contributions of SA Health Aboriginal staff and clients, and commit to the development of Aboriginal cultural competence across all SA Health practice and service delivery.

- > Applying the principles of the South Australian Government's Risk Management Policy to work as appropriate.
- > Waste Management Policies
- > Controlled Substances Act and Regulations
- > Pharmacy Act and Regulations
- > SHPA practice guidelines
- > SA Pharmacy Directives and Guidelines

The SA Health workforce contributes to the safety and quality of patient care by adhering to the South Australian Charter of Health Care Rights, understanding the intent of the National Safety and Quality Health Service Standards and participating in quality improvement activities as necessary.

Performance Development

The incumbent will be required to participate in the organisation's Performance Review & Development Program which will include a regular review of the incumbent's performance against the responsibilities and key result areas associated with their position and a requirement to demonstrate appropriate behaviours which reflect a commitment to SA Health values and strategic directions.

Handling of Official Information:

By virtue of their duties, SA Health employees frequently access, otherwise deal with, and/or are aware of, information that needs to be treated as confidential.

SA Health employees will not access or attempt to access official information, including confidential patient information other than in connection with the performance by them of their duties and/or as authorised.

SA Health employees will not misuse information gained in their official capacity.

SA Health employees will maintain the integrity and security of official or confidential information for which they are responsible. Employees will also ensure that the privacy of individuals is maintained and will only release or disclose information in accordance with relevant legislation, industrial instruments, policy, or lawful and reasonable direction.

White Ribbon:

SA Health has a position of zero tolerance towards men's violence against women in the workplace and the broader community. In accordance with this, the incumbent must at all times act in a manner that is non-threatening, courteous, and respectful and will comply with any instructions, policies, procedures or guidelines issued by SA Health regarding acceptable workplace behaviour.

Resilience:

SA Health employees persevere to achieve goals, stay calm under pressure and are open to feedback.

Organisational Context

Organisational Overview:

Our mission at SA Health is to lead and deliver a comprehensive and sustainable health system that aims to ensure healthier, longer and better lives for all South Australians. We will achieve our objectives by strengthening primary health care, enhancing hospital care, reforming mental health care and improving the health of Aboriginal people.

SA Health is committed to a health system that produces positive health outcomes by focusing on health promotion, illness prevention and early intervention. We will work with other government agencies and the community to address the environmental, socioeconomic, biological and behavioural determinants of health, and to achieve equitable health outcomes for all South Australians

Our Legal Entities:

SA Health is the brand name for the health portfolio of services and agencies responsible to the Minister for Health and Wellbeing. The Department for Health and Wellbeing is an administrative unit under the Public Sector Act 2009.

The legal entities include but are not limited to the Central Adelaide Local Health Network Inc., Northern Adelaide Local Health Network Inc., Southern Adelaide Local Health Network Inc., Women's and Children's Health Network Inc., Barossa Hills Fleurieu Local Health Network Inc., Eyre and far North Local Health Network Inc., Flinders and Upper North Local Health Network Inc., Limestone Coast Local Health Network Inc., Riverland Mallee Coorong Local Health Network Inc., Yorke and Northern Local Health Network Inc. and SA Ambulance Service Inc.

SA Health Challenges:

The health system is facing the challenges of an ageing population, increased incidence of chronic disease, workforce shortages, and ageing infrastructure. The SA Health Care Plan has been developed to meet these challenges and ensure South Australian's have access to the best available health care in hospitals, health care centres and through GPs and other providers.

Health Network/ Division/ Department:

SA Pharmacy was formed on 1 July 2012, consolidating the publicly managed and operated pharmacy services of the five SA Local Health Networks. The service forms part of Statewide Clinical Support Services (this also include SA Medical Imaging and SA Pathology services). SA Pharmacy is led by the Executive Director SA Pharmacy.

SA Pharmacy is committed to providing a clinically led, cost-efficient, professional pharmacy service. Contemporary pharmacy services involve a range of activities aimed at enhancing the safe and effective use of medicines. These activities include the procurement, supply, manufacture and distribution of medicines, patient-centred clinical pharmacy services and system-wide professional services such as teaching, training and research.

SA Pharmacy Vision:

To provide safe, high-quality and cost effective pharmacy services, delivered by a committed and well supported workforce, to optimise patient outcomes.

SA Pharmacy Mission:

To work innovatively and effectively in the delivery of pharmacy services that:

- > Ensure safe, timely and reliable supply of medicines
- > Minimise the likelihood of medicine-related harm and optimise clinical outcomes
- Contribute to the sustainability of safe medication use through clinical research, education and training
- > Maintain a safe workplace where staff are supported and valued.

Values

SA Health Values

The values of SA Health are used to indicate the type of conduct required by our employees and the conduct that our customers can expect from our health service:

- > We are committed to the values of integrity, respect and accountability.
- We value care, excellence, innovation, creativity, leadership and equity in health care provision and health outcomes.
- We demonstrate our values in our interactions with others in SA Health, the community, and those for whom we care.

SA Pharmacy Cultural Values

SA Pharmacy welcomes Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and values the expertise, cultural knowledge and life experiences they bring to the workplace. SA Pharmacy is a culturally inclusive work environment that is respectful of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture.

Code of Ethics

The Code of Ethics for the South Australian Public Sector provides an ethical framework for the public sector and applies to all public service employees:

- > Democratic Values Helping the government, under the law to serve the people of South Australia.
- > Service, Respect and Courtesy Serving the people of South Australia.
- > Honesty and Integrity- Acting at all times in such a way as to uphold the public trust.
- > Accountability- Holding ourselves accountable for everything we do.
- > Professional Conduct Standards- Exhibiting the highest standards of professional conduct.

As a public sector employee, you have a responsibility to maintain ethical behaviour and professional integrity standards. It is expected that you act in accordance with the Code of Ethics and contribute to a culture of integrity within SA Health.

The Code recognises that some public sector employees are also bound by codes of conduct relevant to their profession.

Handling of Official Information

By virtue of their duties, SA Health employees frequently access, otherwise deal with, and/or are aware of, information that needs to be treated as confidential.

SA Health employees will not access or attempt to access official information, including confidential patient information other than in connection with the performance by them of their duties and/or as authorised.

SA Health employees will not misuse information gained in their official capacity.

SA Health employees will maintain the integrity and security of official or confidential information for which they are responsible. Employees will also ensure that the privacy of individuals is maintained and will only release or disclose information in accordance with relevant legislation, industrial instruments, policy, or lawful and reasonable direction.

Approvals

Role Description Approval

I acknowledge that the role I currently occupy has the delegated authority to authorise this document.

Name: Matthew Tuk Role Title: General Manager

Role Acceptance

Incumbent Acceptance

I have read and understand the responsibilities associated with role, the role and organisational context and the values of SA Health as described within this document.

Name: Signature:

Date:

Version control and change history

Version	Date from	Date to	Amendment
V1	31/07/18	29/03/2019	Original version.
V2	29/03/2019	31/1/20	Addition of immunisation risk category and immunisation requirement in special conditions.
V3 31/1/20		Updated the first three paragraphs under Special Conditions regarding Criminal and Relevant History Screening requirements; working with Children Check (WWCC) requirements which must be updated every 5 years.	
			Updated under General Requirements, clause relating to:
		Children and Young People (Safety) Act 2018 (SA) 'Notification of Abuse or Neglect'.	
		Relevant Awards & Enterprise Agreements	
			Updated paragraph two under Our Legal Entities which names each of the Country Local health Networks.
V4	6/10/20	18/05/2021	Updated Immunisation Risk Category from category A to category B
V5	19/05/2021		Update to the Code of Ethics