

CLINICAL PHARMACY PRACTITIONER FOR REMOTE SOUTH AUSTRALIA WITH SPECIAL ABORIGINAL HEALTH SERVICE RESPONSIBILITIES

At the end of this year, there will be a unique clinical practice opportunity to join an energetic group of hospital pharmacy professionals working from the Pika Wiya Aboriginal Health Service and Port Augusta Hospital in South Australia.



During the past fourteen years, with support of dedicated and experienced technical support staff and Aboriginal Health Workers, this group have developed an enviable reputation for innovative professional pharmacy services extended to both Hospital, and Aboriginal Health Service clients from one of Australia's most interesting and congenial regional settings.

Currently there are three pharmacists providing services to an 80 bed public hospital, the key Aboriginal health service in Port Augusta, and eleven health services in remote northern South Australia.



The well-designed hospital building is situated on a promontory overlooking the head of the Spencer Gulf just three hours from metropolitan Adelaide. Services include general surgery, medicine and paediatric beds as well as South Australia's second largest renal unit. The hospital is the regional centre for medical care for most of

inland remote South Australia. Our clinical pharmacy services are widely respected and valued by the local community.

THE OPPORTUNITY

This position will appeal to experienced independent-minded clinical pharmacy practitioners who would now like to live and work in a friendly, positive and thriving regional community.

Working hours are flexible and variable. Employed hours per week range between 20 and 40. The salary package based on full-time employment is near \$120,000 per year and conditions of employment are entirely negotiable. Added to this salary, the occupant of this position is expected to continue our Aboriginal Home Medicine Review program as an independent contractor, providing significant *ad hoc* supplementation to their salary income.

Extensive recreational opportunities exist around Port Augusta including water sports and fishing, as well as bush walking and camping in the beautiful and unspoiled Flinders Ranges. Port Augusta is also close to great South Australian wine growing regions as well as to Adelaide, the State's capital with national and international airline connections.



RGH Pharmacy Consulting Services Pty Ltd as the employer is an organization committed entirely to research and education in pharmacy. It contributes its profits regularly to trust funds which are available to support research projects as well as continuing education of staff.

Further information on this position can be obtained by email or telephone: Contact Frank May at frank149@bigpond.net.au – Mobile: 040 0011 491 or Amanda Sanburg at smjsanburg@hotmail.com – Mobile: 040 534 6247

Applications by November 15th to Frank May, 149 Mills Terrace, North Adelaide SA 5006

THE SERVICES

In 2003, RGH Pharmacy Consulting Services Pty Ltd received an invitation from the Aboriginal community in Port Augusta to provide innovative clinical pharmacy services to the Pika Wiya Aboriginal Health Service.

In recent years we have played an increasingly significant part in this Service, spear-heading Pika Wiya's work initially with the QUMAX program, and now with the promising Commonwealth 'Closing the Gap' Chronic Disease initiative. Working closely, but on a fractional time basis alongside Aboriginal Health Workers and GPs at Pika Wiya, we have been able to build bridges for better health to our Aboriginal community, not only in Port Augusta but also much further afield at Copley and Nepabunna, two of Pika Wiya's associated Aboriginal Health Services.

A further significant contribution to improved Aboriginal health has been achieved through establishment of a successful home medicine review program in our communities. Local community pharmacies and our Aboriginal Health Worker colleagues and GPs have all collaborated to demonstrably deliver healthy outcomes from this initiative.

In addition, we deliver educationally oriented clinical services to remote communities. Royal Flying Doctor Service flights from Port Augusta are used for travel to remote settlements and health services across outback South Australia.

Being situated just three hours easy drive from Adelaide, the hospital is used as a teaching base for paediatric medicine by the University of Adelaide as well as for providing pharmacy students with experience in hospital pharmacy practice in a key regional setting. We have the opportunity to regularly guide learning experiences of Pharmacy students from the University of South Australia. In recent years AusAID resources have supported periodic six-week training experiences for pharmacy workers from south Pacific island nations.

Full clinical services to hospital inpatients are provided. These clinical services are appreciated by both the town general practitioners who deliver much of the medical service in the hospital, as well as by the many regular specialist medical and surgical visitors from metropolitan teaching hospitals. Services are supported with a well maintained library of in-house texts as well as ready access to electronic media.

