

# Review of position statements on antimicrobial resistance and stewardship from professional pharmacy organisations

Kathryn Lim<sup>a</sup>, Anna Olsen<sup>b</sup>, Alex Broom<sup>c</sup>, Holly Seale<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> School of Population Health, University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia

<sup>b</sup> Research School of Population Health, Australian National University, Canberra, Australia

<sup>c</sup> School of Social and Political Sciences, The University of Sydney, Australia

## Tackling antimicrobial resistance: How are pharmacists being promoted as playing a key role?

### Background

- Antimicrobial resistance is an important issue for pharmacists.
- Limited research has examined pharmacists' role within national or regional AMR governance strategies.
- Position statements illustrate how professional pharmacy organisations communicate this issue to the profession and stakeholders.

### Methods



**17 position statements**  
retained for analysis

*Sourced from International Pharmaceutical Federation member websites and general engine search*

### Key themes for analysis

- 1 Rationale for involvement
- 2 Role characterisation
- 3 Perceived impact
- 4 Perceived enablers

### Results

- Characterised as **educators and advisors** because of their **medication knowledge** and **accessibility** as a health service.
- Positioned as **essential members of the healthcare team** but **capacity and nature of involvement** framed as **influenced by place of practice** (hospital or community).
- **Limitations of pharmacists** and their positions were not discussed.

### Discussion and Opportunities for Future Research

- Descriptions of pharmacists' role **reflective of role evolution** – from a **supply to service delivery focus** - particularly in community pharmacy.
- Educator and advisory **role characterisation reflects pharmacists' own perceptions** – however, research has shown that fulfilling this role can be influenced by factors such as organisational and professional dynamics.
- Study was **limited to publicly available statements** and mostly published by high-income countries – statements from low and middle income countries or other relevant organisational documents could not be obtained for analysis.
- Opportunity exists to explore the concordance between **expectation and reality** of pharmacists' involvement in AMS as promoted.

