

Seeking Expressions of Interest

1. Position Summary

Title: VicTAG Project Officer

Part time (24 hours per week), fixed term (until 30 June 2024)

Synopsis:

The Victorian Therapeutics Advisory Group (VicTAG) is an independent, not-for profit association. VicTAG members are hospital pharmacists and medical specialists from Victorian hospitals. The Management Committee comprises representatives from hospital Drug and Therapeutics Committees.

VicTAG's purpose is to promote quality use of medicines by sharing unbiased, evidence-based information about medication therapy and to support the goals of, and facilitate the National Medicines Policy of access, quality, and safety in the use of medicines in Victorian hospitals.

HealthShare Victoria (HSV), who are responsible for the statewide procurement of pharmaceutical products, is seeking to work collaboratively with VicTAG to develop a framework to standardise the medication safety, acceptability and suitability evaluation of pharmaceutical products submitted for the tender process.

2. Position Details

Aims and Objectives

You will be a suitably qualified pharmacist with:

- At least 4 years' experience as a hospital pharmacist, ideally with experience in medication safety.
- Excellent time management, organisational, computer, interpersonal and communication skills.

Working with VicTAG and HSV, you will embark on a statewide project to develop a framework for the medication safety, acceptability and suitability of pharmaceutical products. The aims of the project are to:

- Develop a robust medication safety acceptability and suitability evaluation framework that:
 - Ensures packaging complies with medication safety standards as set by the framework in addition to the requirements of the Therapeutic Goods Association (TGA).
 - Reduces the risk of look-alike medications.
 - Considers the practical aspects of their use, including storage requirements and ease of use.
 - Allows for the identification of potential medication safety risks and provide structured feedback to manufacturers.
- Pilot the developed framework in partnership with HSV.
- Explore and validate funding requirements for the sustainable delivery of the developed framework.

Background

Under the Health Services Act 1988, Victorian Public Health Services are required to comply with HSV contracts.

The HSV Pharmaceutical Sourcing team has a strong desire to promote and deliver improved medication safety across Victoria and the broader industry through a strategic partnership with VicTAG to collaboratively develop a medication safety and clinical evaluation framework.

The proposed outcomes of this project aim to promote and advance both organisation's capabilities to delivering positive impactful change to the improved selection and reduction of medication risks across Victorian public hospitals.

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Method

1. Develop a framework to meet the aims and key deliverables, in consultation with key stakeholders from HSV and VicTAG throughout the duration of the project.
2. Provide a final version of framework to the VicTAG Management Committee and HSV for endorsement.
3. Work in collaboration with HSV to implement framework.

Timetable

EOI closing date: **8th October 2023**

Expected Outcomes

Key deliverables:

- A robust medication safety and clinical product evaluation framework that optimises Victoria's PHS' medication safety outcomes whilst supporting HSV's current and future pharmaceutical procurement activities.
- Implement the developed framework to achieve a viable and sustainable proof of concept which supports both VicTAG and HSV's objectives towards advancing medication safety.
- Develop plans for the ongoing improvement and sustainable delivery of the VicTAG-HSV clinical evaluation framework.

4. Proposed Grant Budget

Grade 3, Year 4 salary 0.4 EFT (24 hours per week) x 6 months (to be confirmed upon appointment)

5. How to submit an Expression of Interest

- Provide information on why you would be a suitable lead for the project, including your credentials (max 250 words).
- Provide your CV.
- Provide a statement of support from the Director of Pharmacy at your health service.