



Sharon Grierson MP
Federal Member for Newcastle

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Newcastle Uni Doctor Appointed to New Medicines Safety Advisory Committee

Federal Member for Newcastle, Sharon Grierson MP, today congratulated Dr Jane Robertson, a clinical pharmacist at the University of Newcastle, on her appointment to the new Advisory Committee on the Safety of Medicines (ACSOM).

"It is pleasing to see Dr Robertson's expertise being recognised by the Federal Government at this level," Ms Grierson said.

ASCOM is a key advisory committee to Australia's medicines regulator, the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA).

Dr Robertson has extensive expertise in pharmacy and pharmacoepidemiology, and is currently a member of the expert panel advising the TGA on the safety monitoring of the H1N1 influenza vaccine.

"Dr Robertson's appointment further enhances the University of Newcastle's national reputation," Ms Grierson said.

The ACSOM replaces and expands on the role of the Adverse Drug Reactions Advisory Committee (ADRAC) and focuses on the safety aspects of medicine regulation and the detection, assessment, understanding and prevention of adverse effects.

The ACSOM will provide expert advice to the TGA on the safety of medicines including the quality and appropriateness of new risk management plans for a medicine over its entire life cycle.

These risk management plans are a valuable addition to current activities overseeing medicine safety.

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