



# The role of emergency medicine pharmacists : what do other emergency clinicians value most?

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**Background:** Emergency Medicine pharmacist (EMP) roles include collating best-possible medication histories (BPMHs), medication reconciliation, recognising medication-related problems (MRPs) and reducing medication errors. Roles in optimisation of therapy, education, clinical rounds and resuscitation & trauma response are developing, but not universally established, throughout Australia.

**Action:** By implementing an extended hours service, EMP activity has increased in all areas of our tertiary Emergency & Trauma Centre. A reliable EMP presence at resuscitation and trauma codes provides medication-focussed, time-critical advice.

Pre- and post- service implementation questionnaires identified which EMP roles are most valued by other emergency clinicians.

Being available for **consultation**, **medication histories**, **identification of medication-related problems** and **education** are **important and fundamental** EMP roles.

An emerging role in **resuscitation and trauma** is *increasingly valued* by other emergency clinicians, and should **inform** development of future **Emergency Medicine pharmacist services**.

Figure 1. Most important EMP role pre-service expansion

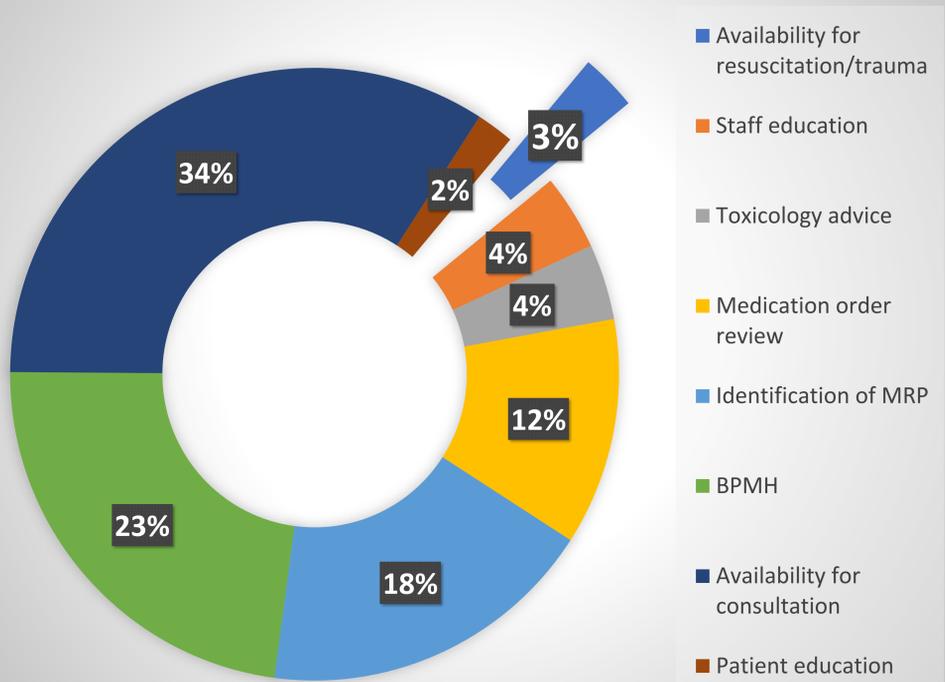
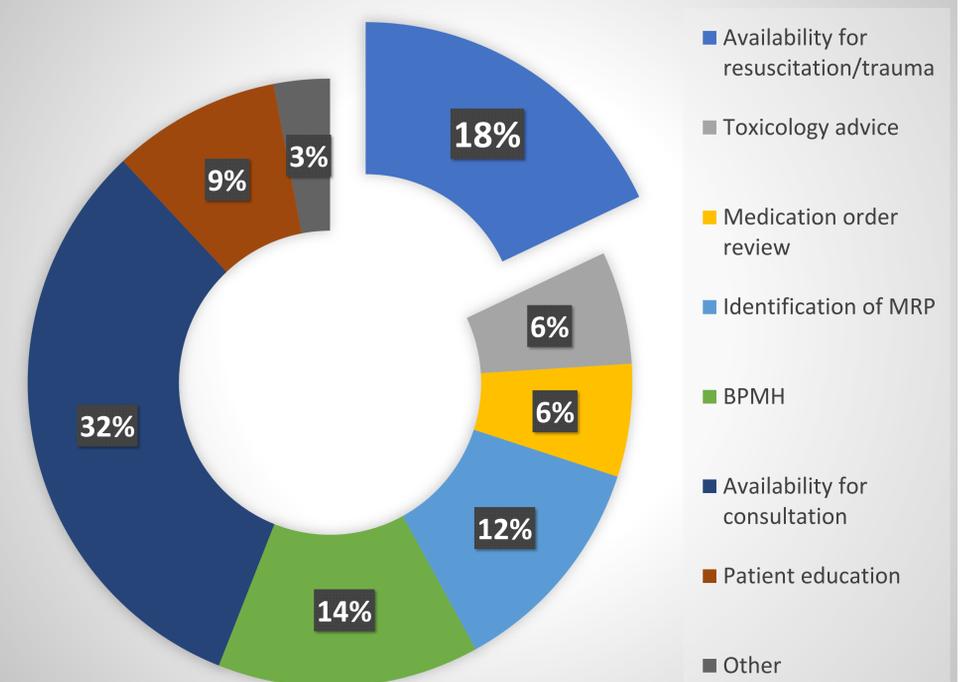


Figure 2. Most important EMP role post-service expansion



**Evaluation:** EMPs' availability and the roles of MRP-identification and medication histories are highly valued. Experience of working alongside EMPs during resuscitation and trauma codes resulted in an increase in clinicians rating that role as the most important.

