



SONYA SCRIMSHAW

Pharmacy Technician
Life Pharmacy North City, Porirua

WINNER
NZ Primary Health Care Awards
Community Pharmacy Technician
of the Year

What do you enjoy most about your role?

I enjoy interacting with the public and the feeling that I'm making a contribution to the community. I have always tried to learn people's names and possibly that's part of the reason they keep coming back. Some of them come looking for me. It's probably because I've been here for six years.

Why is your role essential to your workplace and the profession?

Technicians are the glue that sticks everything together. We get everything organised for the pharmacists, so they can do the bit they are trained for, which is the important medicines part and the customers. Technicians get the stock in, get the paperwork done, and keep things in order.

How has your role changed since you first started as a technician?

I'm doing a lot bigger variety of things and spending a lot more time with customers. I think I'm officially the second in charge now, so I have a bit more say on how things are run. That's mostly because nobody wants to learn what I do, so it's easier to let me do it my own way.

I'd never heard of a Pharmacy Technician, until one day I saw an ad in the paper. It sparked my interest and I thought, 'that sounds like something I could do'. So, at a time when I was looking for work, it just appealed.

Where do you see the pharmacy profession heading in the future?

Our pharmacy is delivering COVID-19 vaccinations now. Every year we do more and more vaccinations. Technicians may end up being drafted in to help with vaccinations in coming years. That would provide technicians with another career opportunity if they wanted to take that up.



PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY
of New Zealand Incorporated



#RxTechDay