

Compliance and enforcement pyramid for medicines offences

Medicines and Poisons Act 2019 and Medicines and Poisons (Medicines) Regulation 2021

Queensland Health is committed to a risk-based, education-first approach to monitoring and enforcement of medicines offences under the *Medicines and Poisons Act 2019* and Medicines and Poisons (Medicines) Regulation 2021.

About the pyramid

A phased approach to monitoring and enforcement of medicines offences has been implemented with a focus on education and guidance.

- If non-compliance is identified, education and assistance for people to voluntarily comply with the legislation is typically the starting point. If this is not effective, Queensland Health may direct compliance by giving a person a compliance notice.
- If non-compliance continues, regulatory action may need to be escalated by, for example, taking administrative action such as cancelling the person's substance authority, or an approved person's authorisation. Prosecution of offences would only be considered as a final action where compliance is not being achieved and there is a continuing risk to the public.

The **Compliance and enforcement pyramid for medicines offences**, overleaf, illustrates the escalation of regulatory responses and enforcement interventions used by Queensland Health to manage non-compliance based on the risks posed to public safety.

Further information

For further information about of Queensland Health's approach to compliance monitoring and enforcement of medicines offences under the *Medicines and Poisons Act 2019* and Medicines and Poisons (Medicines) Regulation 2021:

- visit the [Compliance monitoring and enforcement of medicines offences](#) page
- download the [Regulatory framework for medicines offences](#); or
- email MedicinesCompliance@health.qld.gov.au

Compliance and enforcement pyramid for medicines offences

The risks and responses described are indicative only and not exhaustive; matters are dealt with on a case-by-case basis. Where high-risk matters or a combination of indicators of non-compliance is identified, regulatory responses may be escalated.

