

As-of-right authorisation to deal with immunisation medicines

Medicines and Poisons (Medicines) Regulation 2021 (March 2026)

Introduction

The *Medicines and Poisons Act 2019* (MPA) and the Medicines and Poisons (Medicines) Regulation 2021 (MPMR) and associated legislative instruments define the lawful actions in relation to medicines (Schedule 2 (S2), 3 (S3), 4 (S4) and 8 (S8)) of the Poisons Standard¹ for therapeutic use in Queensland.

Authorisation to initiate dealings with immunisation medicines

From 1 March 2026, the MPMR enables as-of-right authorisations for certain *health practitioners*² who have completed recognised [immunisation training](#) to deal with S4 *immunisation medicines*³ and S2 paracetamol **without** the need for a prescription, standing order or extended practice authority (EPA).

The *health practitioners* who may be authorised under these arrangements include:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practitioners ([Schedule 3, Part 1, Division 2](#))
- Midwives ([Schedule 7, Part 2, Division 2](#))
- Registered nurses ([Schedule 7, Part 3, Division 2](#))
- Pharmacists ([Schedule 9, Part 1, Division 1](#))

Administer an S4 immunisation medicine

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practitioners, midwives, registered nurses and pharmacists who have completed recognised *immunisation training* are authorised to administer **any** S4 immunisation medicine.

Administering S4 medicines generally

The requirement for completion of *immunisation training* does not apply to midwives, registered nurses and pharmacists who are authorised under the relevant schedules of the

¹ [The Poisons Standard \(the SUSMP\) | Therapeutic Goods Administration \(TGA\)](#) details the schedules for medicines and poisons and packaging and labelling requirements.

² means a health practitioner registered under the Health Practitioner National Law (Schedule 22, MPMR).

³ means a medicine that— (a) is a vaccine; or (b) includes immunoglobulins or monoclonal antibodies for the prevention of an infectious disease (Schedule 22, MPMR).

MPPMR to administer an S4 medicine, including an S4 immunisation medicine, on a prescription, standing order, and/or in accordance with the medicine's approved label.

Administering immunisation medicines under an EPA

Registered nurses and midwives who **have not** completed *immunisation training* and are working under their relevant EPA may be authorised to administer certain immunisation medicines in accordance with any requirements and conditions of the EPA.

Administer and give a treatment dose of S2 paracetamol for immunisation medicine activities

Generally, **all** Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practitioners, midwives, registered nurses and pharmacists are authorised under the relevant schedules of the MPPMR to *administer* and *give a treatment dose* of S2 paracetamol for the treatment of a side effect, or a potential side effect, of an immunisation medicine.

Administer adrenaline to treat anaphylaxis

Generally, **all** Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practitioners, midwives, registered nurses and pharmacists are authorised under the relevant schedules of the MPPMR to *administer* adrenaline to treat anaphylaxis.

Give a purchase order

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practitioners, midwives, registered nurses and pharmacists who have completed *immunisation training* are also authorised to *give a purchase order* for stock of an S4 immunisation medicine. This may include stock for an immunisation service that is a *shared clinic*⁴.

Refer to Chapter 4, Part 3 (sections 48 through to 52) of the MPPMR for further information on the requirements for giving a purchase order; and Chapter 8, Part 2 of the MPPMR in relation to shared clinic considerations, such as appointing medicine store establishers and managers (section 196 of the MPPMR) and medicine store requirements (section 198 of the MPPMR).

Immunisation training

Schedule 22 of the MPPMR defines the education and training programs recognised as *immunisation training* that must be completed for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practitioners, midwives, registered nurses and pharmacists to be authorised under the 'as-of-right' immunisation medicine authorisations.

The MPPMR also details transitional provisions to recognise the qualification and training under former EPA requirements, as summarised in the following section.

⁴ means a place at which medicines are possessed for more than one person to use for supply or administration (section 195 of the MPPMR).

Recognition of previous training and qualifications completed under former EPAs

Transitional provisions detailed in Chapter 10, Part 4 (section 258) of the MPMR recognise that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practitioners, midwives, registered nurses and pharmacists who have completed the qualifications and training requirements under a former EPA to deal with medicines for an immunisation program or service are considered to have completed *immunisation training*.

Other resources

Guideline to support the safe delivery of immunisation services in Queensland – available for download on the Queensland Health [website](#).

Further information

Immunisation medicines and guideline

Immunisation team, Communicable Disease Branch for immunisation matters and the immunisation medicine guide – immunisation@health.qld.gov.au

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