

Declared Major Events – dispensing records

Issue 40, March 2017

Target audience: pharmacists.

Background

The Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games have been declared as a major event under the *Major Events Act 2014* (the Act).

Under the Act, visiting health practitioners* who are practising in an official support capacity with a team can issue prescriptions for medicines to team members from their Commonwealth Games Association country during the exemption period 1 August 2016 to 30 April 2018.

See also the related fact sheet—Declared Major Events—wholesale sales of S2 and S3 medicines.

Purpose

Pharmacists are required to send a copy of dispensed prescriptions issued by visiting health practitioners during the exemption period to Medicines Regulation and Quality.

Dispensing prescriptions issued by a visiting health practitioner

As per Section 46(3) of the Act, pharmacists are able to dispense a prescription issued by a visiting health practitioner if you believe, on reasonable grounds, the health practitioner is authorised under the Act to issue the prescription.

Prescriptions written by visiting health practitioners may be written on plain paper. The prescription should include the usual Health (Drugs and Poisons) Regulation 1996 requirements of:

- prescriber name, address and qualifications—the address should indicate that the prescriber is an official of a participating team and where the team is based in Queensland, Australia
- patient details—the name of the hotel or other place the patient is staying is sufficient
- details of the medicine prescribed and the quantity to be supplied—prescriptions may include generic and trade names to assist the pharmacist in providing similar medication should a particular brand of the medication not be available
- signature and the date the prescription was issued
- prescriptions written overseas are not covered by the major events exemption and should not be dispensed.

* A visiting health practitioner is defined in Schedule 2 of the *Major Events Act 2014*. Under the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games Registration Exemption Notice, only visiting health practitioners intending to practice a medical profession can prescribe medicines.

Reporting requirements

If you dispense a prescription issued by a visiting health practitioner, you are required under Section 47 of the Act to send a copy of the prescription to Medicines Regulation and Quality within 14 days of dispensing the medication.

Copies of prescriptions can be sent electronically or by fax via the contact details below, or by post to:

Medicines Regulation and Quality
Locked Bag 21
Fortitude Valley BC QLD 4006

More information

Medicines Regulation and Quality

Phone: 07 3328 9808
Fax: 07 3328 9821
Email: MRQ@health.qld.gov.au