

Fact sheet: Continued Dispensing – Emergency Measures

Purpose

This fact sheet informs pharmacists in Queensland that they are able to supply medicines under the [National Health \(Continued Dispensing - Emergency Measures\) Determination 2020](#) (the 2020 Determination).

Background

The 2020 Determination expands the list of medicines that may be supplied by community pharmacies as a Pharmaceutical Benefit (PBS) or Repatriation Pharmaceutical Benefit (RPBS) under continued dispensing arrangements. In line with the original [National Health \(Continued Dispensing\) Determination 2012](#) (which continues) the 2020 Determination allows an approved pharmacist to supply a PBS/RPBS medicine to a patient without a current prescription, on the basis of a previous prescription from a PBS prescriber.

Information about supplying and claiming under continued dispensing arrangements is available at [Education guide – Continued Dispensing Initiative](#).

Compliance requirements

- Pharmacists in Queensland who are approved to supply medicines as a pharmaceutical benefit under the *National Health Act 1953*, and who supply a medicine under the conditions in the 2020 Determination, do not commit an offence under the [Health \(Drugs and Poisons\) Regulation 1996](#) (HDPR).
- Eligible medicines, including medicine brands, are outlined in the 2020 Determination.
- The 2020 Determination requires that an approved pharmacist consider the [Guidelines for the Continued Dispensing of eligible prescribed medicines by pharmacists](#), issued by the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia, when making a supply of a pharmaceutical benefit to a person under the Act.
- It is the responsibility of pharmacists to make sure that they are complying with the requirements of the 2020 Determination and the HDPR. All other requirements in the HDPR about the supply of a dispensed medicine, including the provisions about labelling and making a record of supply, apply.

For more information please contact:

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