

# **Medicines and Poisons Act 2019**

## **Extended Practice Authority 'Physiotherapists'**



### **Version control**

<b>Version</b>	<b>Replaces version</b>	<b>Date approved</b>	<b>Commencement date</b>
1	NA	12 August 2021	27 September 2021

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## Extended Practice Authority 'Physiotherapists'

This extended practice authority has been made by the Director General, Queensland Health under section 232 of the *Medicines and Poisons Act 2019*. It states the scope of the regulated activities with the regulated substances which a physiotherapist is authorised to carry out for the purposes described in the table in Schedule 12, Part 4 of the Medicines and Poisons (Medicines) Regulation 2021.

A term used in this EPA that is defined in the *Medicines and Poisons Act 2019* or the Medicines and Poisons (Medicines) Regulation 2021, has the meaning stated in the *Medicines and Poisons Act 2019* or Medicines and Poisons (Medicines) Regulation 2021.

### Circumstances and conditions

1. A physiotherapist working in a public sector hospital emergency department<sup>1</sup> who has completed training in accordance with Appendix 1 and who has been credentialed<sup>2</sup> to prescribe and administer by the Hospital and Health Service in which they are working, may prescribe and administer a medicine listed in Appendix 2, column 1 only:
  - a) by a route for the medicine stated in Appendix 2, column 2; and
  - b) subject to the conditions for the medicine stated in Appendix 2, column 3 (if any).
2. A prescription issued by a physiotherapist that authorises the supply of a medicine may only be dispensed by a pharmacist at the hospital where the physiotherapist is practising and must be annotated with the wording: **'May only be dispensed at the [name of public hospital pharmacy]'**.
3. Before prescribing or administering a medicine listed in Appendix 2, the physiotherapist must be familiar with the contra-indication(s) and known side effects of the medicine and advise the patient accordingly.

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<sup>1</sup> Emergency department means a service that meets the descriptors outlined in the [Clinical Skills Capability Framework: Emergency Services](#) for a Level 4 service or above.

<sup>2</sup> Credentialed in accordance with the Health Service Directive QH-HSD-034: 2014 *Credentialing and defining the scope of clinical practice*  
[https://www.health.qld.gov.au/\\_\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0038/670979/qh-hsd-034.pdf](https://www.health.qld.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0038/670979/qh-hsd-034.pdf).

## **Appendix 1 - Approved training**

Approved training is a tertiary level study program equivalent to Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) level 8, delivered through a higher education institution accredited by the Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency.

The study program must cover the knowledge, skills and behaviours set out in the National Prescribing Service (NPS) Medicinewise Prescribing Competencies Framework<sup>3</sup>. Assessment must cover the essential competencies of clinical therapeutics, safe prescribing and quality use of medicines. A period of supervised practice must be a component of the study program and the physiotherapist prescriber must be supervised by an authorised prescriber for this element.

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<sup>3</sup> Available at <https://www.nps.org.au/prescribing-competencies-framework>

## Appendix 2 - Approved medicines

Non-opioid analgesics		
Scheduled substance	Administration route	Restrictions/Conditions
Paracetamol	Oral	
Ibuprofen	Oral	
Naproxen	Oral	
Diclofenac	Oral	
Indometacin	Oral	
Celecoxib	Oral	

Opioid analgesics		
Scheduled substance	Administration route	Restrictions/Conditions
Paracetamol + Codeine phosphate	Oral	
Codeine phosphate	Oral	
Tramadol	Oral	
Oxycodone	Oral	
Tapentadol	Oral	
Oxycodone + naloxone	Oral	

Inhaled analgesics		
Scheduled substance	Administration route	Restrictions/Conditions
Nitrous oxide and oxygen	Inhalation	A mixture containing up to 70% nitrous oxide with oxygen

Local anaesthetics		
Scheduled substance	Administration route	Restrictions/Conditions
Lidocaine (lignocaine)	Subcutaneous injection	

<b>Medicines for the relief of nausea and gastro-oesophageal reflux associated with prescribed analgesics</b>		
<b>Scheduled substance</b>	<b>Administration route</b>	<b>Restrictions/Conditions</b>
Metoclopramide	Oral	For the treatment of side effects resulting from medicines administered for the treatment of neuromusculoskeletal pain
Ondansetron	Oral	Single dose For the treatment of side effects resulting from medicines administered for the treatment of neuromusculoskeletal pain
Esomeprazole	Oral	Single dose For the treatment of side effects resulting from medicines administered for the treatment of neuromusculoskeletal pain
Omeprazole	Oral	Single dose For the treatment of side effects resulting from medicines administered for the treatment of neuromusculoskeletal pain
Pantoprazole	Oral	Single dose For the treatment of side effects resulting from medicines administered for the treatment of neuromusculoskeletal pain

<b>Antispasmodics</b>		
<b>Scheduled substance</b>	<b>Administration route</b>	<b>Restrictions/Conditions</b>
Diazepam	Oral	

<b>Management of neuropathic pain</b>		
<b>Scheduled substance</b>	<b>Administration route</b>	<b>Restrictions/Conditions</b>
Amitriptyline	Oral	
Pregabalin	Oral	