

Changes to scheduled medicine authorities – Nuclear medicine technologists

Regulation changes

On 8 November 2018, the *Health (Drugs and Poisons) Regulation 1996* (HDPR) was amended to provide new authorities for certain health practitioners in relation to the use of scheduled drugs and poisons. One of these amendments provided new authorities for nuclear medicine technologists.

Who do these changes apply to?

These changes apply to nuclear medicine technologists working in Queensland who are registered under the Health Practitioner National Law to practise nuclear medicine technology in the medical radiation profession.

New authorities for nuclear medicine technologists

The changes authorise nuclear medicine technologists, at a place where the technologist performs a test to:

- administer under a clinical protocol schedule 2 and 3 poisons and specified schedule 4 restricted drugs including a histamine H2 receptor antagonist, an angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor either alone or in combination with a diuretic
- administer adrenalin of a strength not more than 0.1%, if administered by a pre-loaded device for the management of anaphylaxis if **the nuclear medicine technologist has completed a certified course of training relating to the first aid management of anaphylaxis.**

Operationalising these changes

Nuclear medicine technologists should:

- ensure that they understand the scope of the changes and training requirements and how this will impact on their clinical practice
- ensure that a clinical protocol is in place for the administration of medicines at the facility in which they practice
- note that individual section 18 approvals to use scheduled medicines are no longer required for those activities now covered by the new provisions in the HDPR.



A **clinical protocol** for a person at a place, means a document:

- stating the circumstances in which the person may use a controlled drug, restricted drug or poison
- stating the procedure for using the controlled drug, restricted drug or poison
- approved by the head of the group in which the person is employed at the place.

For more information

Review the [legislation](#)

Contact the Allied Health Professions' Office of Queensland on (07) 3328 9298 or Allied_Health_Advisory@health.qld.gov.au.