

Changes to the PBS authority prescription process from 1 July 2024

From 1 July 2024, Services Australia will no longer accept the original prescriptions. We will only accept details of the proposed PBS prescription (and PDF form where appropriate) when seeking PBS authority approval via the post. We won't record the Authority Approval Number on the prescription or forward approved prescriptions to the patient. Where applicable, please ensure you keep a copy of the written authority application form and provide only copies of pathology results.

It's important to note, any original prescriptions Services Australia receives via the post that are written on or after 1 July 2024 will be immediately returned to you. Services Australia will retain a copy of the prescription for processing.

Once processed, the assessment outcome will be sent to you via the post. If approved, you will need to endorse the original PBS authority prescription with the PBS Approval Number and PBS item code prior to providing to your patient with a completed authority prescription.

We're also updating PBS Authority prescription pads, the 'Tick for return to patient' checkbox will be removed. You can continue to use your residual stock as it will still be valid. Changes have also enabled an increase to the number of sheets per prescription pad, from 25 to 50 sheets. This will mean you can reduce the number of pads you will need to order each time.

We understand having timely access to PBS-subsidised medicines can be critical to patient care. Did you know you can submit written PBS Authorities through the Health Professional Online Services (HPOS) Form Upload function. Also, most PBS Authorities can be requested and approved in 'real time' using the Online PBS Authorities system.

For more information about HPOS Form Upload visit www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/hpos

For more information about the **Online PBS Authorities system** visit www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/hppbsauthorities

Services Australia has a broad range of educational resources on the **Health Professional Education Resources** website. This includes simulations, podcast and an infographic on the Online PBS Authorities system. Visit <https://hpe.servicesaustralia.gov.au/pharmaceutical-benefits-scheme.html>

Visit servicesaustralia.gov.au/hpwrittenauthoritydrugs on the Services Australia website to find the most up to date authority application form for each drug, program or condition.

For more information go to servicesaustralia.gov.au/hpos