

Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) – Recording patient baselines

We understand having access to PBS-subsidised medicines can be critical to patient care. That's why Services Australia is continuing to increase the number of PBS medicines that can be requested and approved using the Online PBS Authorities system (the system).

Currently for written Complex Authority Required programs (Rheumatoid Arthritis, Ankylosing Spondylitis, Psoriatic Arthritis, Severe Chronic Psoriasis, Crohn's Disease), Services Australia collects information about your patient's history and their individual targets for demonstrating a response.

What's changing

As the remaining written Complex Authority Required programs become available using the system, you may need to provide previously supplied information in your application to demonstrate patient eligibility for change, recommencement and continuing treatment.

For example, you may need to re-state the baseline value/s that were provided in the initial application to demonstrate your patient's eligibility for continuing treatment.

What you need to do

In preparation for these changes, we recommend you start documenting your patient's baseline values and previous treatment failures in their medical records now.

For further information on these changes contact Services Australia on 1800 700 270.

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>

If you require additional assistance or have any queries, please email authority.comms.change@servicesaustralia.gov.au.