

PBS Authorities –Digital access to eye and vision care authority medicines




We understand having access to PBS-subsidised medicines can be critical to patient care. That's why Services Australia and the Department of Health and Aged Care are continuing to work together to increase the number of PBS medicines that can be requested and approved in 'real time' using the Online PBS Authorities system (the system). This includes the recent changes made to the eye and vision care medicines from 1 November 2022.



For initial eye and vision care medicines treatment, join the 24 percent of prescribers currently using the system. The system makes it easier for you to request an authority approval from Services Australia by providing an immediate processing response, avoiding any postage and processing delays.

Did you know some of the continuing treatments are now Authority Required (Streamlined). This means you no longer need to request prior authority approval from Services Australia to prescribe the medication. Instead, you must annotate the prescription by providing the four or five digit streamlined authority code for the medicine being prescribed. This can be found next to the appropriate indication in the PBS Schedule.

It is important to note with this change, Services Australia is no longer required to assess the eligibility for these streamlined PBS-subsidised medicines for continuing treatment. Applications that are Authority Required (Streamlined) received by Services Australia will be returned to the prescriber without assessment.

Summary of November 2022 Changes

 Request Authority Online	 Request Authority by Telephone	 Upload form via HPOS or post
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Condition/s	Drug/s	1 November 2022 Authority Level	1 November 2022 Changes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diabetic macular oedema Retinal vein occlusion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aflibercept Dexamethasone implant Ranibizumab 	Written (Electronic): Initial treatment 	Adding an online channel to existing written restrictions for an immediate assessment result for your patient
		Streamlined Continuing treatment	Changing the Authority Level from Telephone/Electronic to Streamlined
Subfoveal choroidal neovascularisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aflibercept Brolucizumab Ranibizumab 	Written (Electronic): Initial treatment 	Adding an online channel to existing written restrictions for an immediate assessment result for your patient

		<i>Streamlined</i> Continuing treatment	Changing the Authority Level from Telephone/Electronic to Streamlined (aflibercept and ranibizumab only)
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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 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.

Kind regards,

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