



Communications for all PBS medication Prescribers

Subject: **Important Update – connect to the National Prescription Delivery Service**

Following the Request for Tender for Electronic Prescription Services (Ref: Health/E21- 576909) announced by the Government, Fred IT's eRx Script Exchange (eRx) was engaged as the single provider for the National Prescription Delivery Service (NPDS).

What does this mean for me?

To continue prescribing PBS medications, all providers will need to be connected to the eRx script exchange gateway **by 30 September 2023**. Beyond this time, prescribers will be unable to prescribe PBS scripts through MediSecure.

We recommend ceasing entering prescriptions into MediSecure **by 15 September 2023** to give patients enough time to get their medications dispensed.

What are my next steps?

To continue prescribing PBS medications, please register with eRx by visiting <https://www.erp.com.au/register/>, emailing eprescribing@erp.com.au, or calling **1300 700 921**.

Does this apply to paper scripts?

This advice applies to computer generated scripts that are printed and hand signed, paper scripts that contain a barcode or QR code and all electronic prescriptions. The only exception to these requirements are scripts that are handwritten, hand-signed and do not contain a barcode or QR code.

What if I am a doctor in a hospital setting?

Doctors in a hospital setting do not need to register individually, as eRx assign one eRx number per hospital under which all that site's doctors are covered via Electronic Medical Record (EMR) provider integration.

How do I find out if I am already registered with eRx?

If you are unsure if your software provider is already registered with eRx, please contact your software provider. You are able to register in the interim by visiting <https://www.erp.com.au/register/>, and once your software provider has completed their transition, you will be connected to the NPDS.

How does this affect SMS reimbursements?

Reimbursement for the cost of electronic prescribing SMS notifications will end on **30 September 2023**. SMS notifications will be free for software providers using the national PDS SMS gateway. Please contact your prescribing software provider for advice on SMS fees beyond 1 October 2023.

If you have further questions or require further information, please email EPtransitions@health.gov.au.