

PBS Authorities – Changes from 1 June 2024

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 will include the changes being made to the medicines for Chronic thromboembolic pulmonary hypertension from 1 June 2024.

These changes will make it easier for you to request authority approval for these medicines from Services Australia. You will no longer need to submit written authority applications, prescriptions and test results for certain medicines and treatment phases. Instead, you will be able to use the system to apply for authority approval and provide evidence digitally.

Summary of changes from 1 June 2024

 request Authority Online  request Authority by Telephone  upload form via HPOS or post		
Medicines	Authority Level	Details of Changes
Riociguat	Online / Written: <i>Initial treatment</i>  	Adding an online channel to existing written restrictions for an immediate assessment result for your patient.
	Online / Telephone: <i>Continuing treatment</i>  	Change to continuing Authority Required restrictions. You will no longer be required to submit a written authority application. Authority applications can be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system or by telephone.

Additional information

Where to find the changes

You can find out if a PBS medicine can be submitted digitally by checking the Administrative advice for that condition.

You can find the Administrative advice for each item under the Note in the PBS Schedule on the Department of Health and Aged Care website.

Example Administrative advice:

Note

Any queries concerning the arrangements to prescribe may be directed to Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

Prescribing information (including Authority Application forms and other relevant documentation as applicable) is available on the Services Australia website at www.servicesaustralia.gov.au

Applications for authorisation under this restriction should be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/hpos)

Alternatively, applications for authority to prescribe can be submitted online using the form upload facility in Health Professional Online Services (HPOS) at www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/hpos

Or mailed to:
Services Australia
Complex Drugs
Reply Paid 9826
HOBART TAS 7001

If you're using the authority application form via post or Health Professional Online Service (HPOS) form upload facility, you'll still need to submit authority applications, prescriptions and test result details. This will delay the assessment of the authority application.

Can PBS authority applications be submitted by post?

You can still submit applications for authority to prescribe by:

- mailing your application
- uploading documents in HPOS.

Updated versions of application forms will remain available on our website.

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**.