



Australian Government
Department of Health

ELECTRONIC PRESCRIBING

ACTIVE INGREDIENT PRESCRIBING

REAL-TIME PRESCRIPTION MONITORING

Commonwealth Department of Health
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Electronic Prescribing - Overview

- 2018-19 Budget measure involving implementation of a national Electronic Prescribing System
 - Contributing to PBS efficiency, compliance, drug safety and data collection
- Prescribers and patients will have the choice to use an electronic PBS prescription as an alternative to a paper-based PBS prescription
- Patient choice of pharmacy remains central
- Implementation is being led by the Department of Health, in partnership with the Australian Digital Health Agency and the Department of Human Services
- Implementation expected to occur late 2019



Electronic Prescribing - Legislative Framework

- Minor amendments to the National Health (Pharmaceutical Benefits) Regulations 2017 will be required to enable Electronic Prescribing for PBS purposes
- State and territory governments are responsible for regulating the prescribing of medicines in their own jurisdictions
- Consultation with states and territories has been facilitated through the Electronic Prescribing Working Group



Electronic Prescribing - Technical Framework

- The Department of Health has contracted the Australian Digital Health Agency to develop the Electronic Prescribing technical framework
- A co-design approach with industry has been facilitated through the Electronic Prescribing Technical Working Group
- The Department of Human Services is managing the corresponding changes to the PBS Online claim for payment system



Active Ingredient Prescribing

- Active Ingredient Prescribing is part of the Electronic Prescribing Budget initiative
- It will involve amendments to prescribing clinical software to support Active Ingredient Prescribing under the PBS
- Prescribers will maintain the ability to prescribe by brand, and patients will continue to be able to request the dispensing of their brand of choice
- Implementation is expected to occur from late 2019



Real-Time Prescription Monitoring - Overview

- Over \$16 million has been committed to delivery of national Real-Time Prescription Monitoring (RTPM)
- RTPM will support clinicians and reduce the risk of harm associated with misuse or abuse of controlled medicines
- Progressing as a federated model, with jurisdictions adapting their regulatory systems to the National Data Exchange (NDE)
- The NDE will ingest and distribute prescribing and dispensing information from all states and territories to prevent cross-border drug shopping abuses



Real-Time Prescription Monitoring - Benefits

- States and territories are responsible for ensuring appropriate regulations are in place to enable RTPM
- RTPM will:
 - Provide health professionals the capability to check real-time national prescription and dispensing history of a patient
 - Identify patients at risk of dependency, misuse or abuse of high-risk medicines and deliver instant alerts to regulators to assist them in clinical decision-making
 - Monitor all controlled medicines including Schedule 8 medicines such as morphine and oxycodone
- The controlled medicines list will be different for each jurisdiction



Real-Time Prescription Monitoring - NDE

- The Department of Health has contracted Fred IT for development of the NDE core and implementation of national RTPM
- The NDE core was delivered in December 2018 and is now ready for integration with individual jurisdictions
- Next step involves phased integration of jurisdictional regulatory systems and medical software systems to the NDE
- Fred IT will work with jurisdictions and software vendors to implement the roll out of RTPM



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THANK YOU

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