

PBS Number (PBS Item Code)

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PBS Item Code

- 4 or 5 digits plus check character
- 10000 code address space
- Unbounded growth
- 200-300 new codes issued per annum

PBS Item Codes

- Due to run out in ~~2008~~ 2009
- Most items have multiple codes
 - Multiple listings
 - Differential listings
 - Legal instruments

PBS Item Codes

- Code allocation blocks
- 2 exhausted in 2009
- 5 by 2009/2010
- Most by 2010/2011

PBS Item Codes

- More codes
 - 600 in reserved block
 - 200 LI codes (once PharmCIS online)

PBS Item Codes

- Lifespan without code reuse: 2012-2014

Extending Item Codes

- Recycle old codes
- pre-1988 item codes
- No electronic record
- 500-1000 (or more) codes

Extending Item Codes

- Reuse codes for de-listed items?
- 4 year or 10 year moratorium
- 10 year expiry, currently 600 codes
- In 2012: 1200 codes
- Not acceptable business rule for many applications

Future Codes

- PBS Number is an integer
- Decimal representation currently has 4 digits
- Future representation will have 5 digits
- Eventually will become 6, 7, etc, digits
- Check character algorithm unchanged
- PharmCIS required for 5 digits