

PBS Data Distribution Project

Software Vendor Working Group #4

9th February 2021



Australian Government
Department of Health

www.health.gov.au

Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Recap of last meeting – 8th December 2020
3. Alpha API Feedback and Discussion
4. Discussion: Active Ingredient Prescribing
5. Discussion: Moving from Alpha to Beta
6. Next Steps
7. Other Business and Close

Welcome

PBS Data Distribution Software Vendor Working Group

Thank you to everyone in attendance, together we are modernising the consumption and data distribution model for the monthly PBS Schedule data.

Our goals are to:

- Make the data easier to understand and use in software;
- Improve data latency and data provision through best practice architecture; and
- Improve accessibility to PBS Schedule data for the public and external stakeholders (e.g. software vendors).

Project Overview

Project Scope

- Enhance the provision of PBS Schedule data to consumers, that is fit-for-purpose across the different cohorts of data consumers.
- Distribute PBS Schedule data in a relational format that is more readily consumable and predictable.

Project Timeframes

- Stage 1 was completed in June to prove architecture feasibility.
- Stage 2 commenced in July to design and build an Alpha solution for a cohort of data consumers. Remaining stages will be planned depending on outcomes of the Alpha.
- The Department will cease to provide ALL existing forms of data currently distributed to vendors at a future time to be determined through consultation.

Recap of last meeting – 8th December 2020

Alpha API Overview

- We introduced the Alpha API and discussed the design principles.
- We demonstrated the API:
 - Looked at different schedules available in the API
 - How to apply filters and download a CSV/Excel version of the data
 - Looked at the new summary of changes table
- We also discussed testing and feedback.

The screenshot displays two browser windows. The top window shows a CSV export of medication schedules from the URL `https://aucapiappbpsilot.azurewebsites.net/schedule?format=csv&include_header=true`. The data includes columns for SCHEDULE_CODE, EFFECTIVE_DATE, EFFECTIVE_MONTH, EFFECTIVE_YEAR, and LATEST_SCHEDULE_INDICATOR. Below the browser window, a table lists various medications with their details:

SCHEDULE_CODE	EFFECTIVE_DATE	EFFECTIVE_MONTH	EFFECTIVE_YEAR	LATEST_SCHEDULE_INDICATOR
2710	2020-11-01	NOVEMBER	2020	Y
2636	2020-09-01	SEPTEMBER	2020	N
2311	2020-01-01	JANUARY	2020	N
2490	2020-06-01	JUNE	2020	N
2634	2020-08-01	AUGUST	2020	N
2670	2020-10-01	OCTOBER	2020	N
2752	2020-12-01	DECEMBER	2020	N
2369	2020-03-01	MARCH	2020	N
2590	2020-07-01	JULY	2020	N
2350	2020-02-01	FEBRUARY	2020	N
2410	2020-04-01	APRIL	2020	N
2470	2020-05-01	MAY	2020	N

The bottom window shows a summary of changes for schedule code 2710, with the URL `https://aucapiappbpsilot.azurewebsites.net/summary_of_changes?schedule_code=2710&format=csv&include_header=true`. The data includes columns for SCHEDULE_CODE, CHANGE_TYPE, CHANGE_TABLE, EFFECTIVE_DATE, SQL_STATEMENT, DELISTING_INDICATOR, NEW_INDICATOR, and MODIFIED_INDICATOR. The table contains several rows of change records, including DELETE and INSERT operations on the AMT_T and ITEM_AMT_RLTD_T tables.

Recap of last meeting – 8th December 2020

Your questions and requests (from last meeting)

- Inclusion of supply only flags
- Webhooks, RSS, dev.pbs.gov.au subscriptions
- Ability to filter on multiple program codes. E.g. program_code = GE,IN
- Intra release summary of changes for embargo data
- Ability to search/query by date range
- Request/query for open API / swagger functionality
- Restriction text (LI text vs Website text)
- Streamline code history

Alpha API Feedback



Alpha API Feedback so far...

Feedback from 9 different organisations – THANK YOU!

18 new bugs have been raised across a range of areas with four resolved in the minor update released January 29.

- New Fees tables (3 Bugs)
- Restrictions(3 Bugs)
- Prescriber types (2 Bugs) - 1 Resolved
- Med Chart (2 Bugs)
- Chemo Items (2 Bugs)
- Manufacture Code (2 Bugs) - 1 resolved
- Organisation time stamps (1 Bug)
- Capitalisation issue (1 Bug)
- Accented Characters (1 Bug) - resolved
- AMT Codes (1 Bug) - resolved

There have also been 5 suggestions / requests (in addition to those raise in our last meeting). These relate to the following topics.

- Unique identifiers and persistence
- Restriction text linking / categorisation
- Guidance on recreating txt extracts
- Inclusion of Wholesale Mark-up and AHI fees
- Inclusion of LEMI data

Alpha API updates so far

We refreshed the data within the Alpha API on the 29th of January. Updates included:

- Added January 2021 schedule.
- A fix to **manufacture codes** (which were previously a numeric ID but has been change to the two letter unique code required).
- A fix to **AMT codes** (where some codes were truncated and padded with zeros)
- A fix for **special characters** (where some names included accented characters that were not presenting correctly)
- An increase in the underlying API resources to cater for increased load.

Discussion: Active Ingredient Prescribing

Active Ingredient Prescribing

List of Excluded Medicinal Items (LEMI) is a new list to support the new legislation relating to active ingredient prescribing.

- National Health (Pharmaceutical Benefits) (Active Ingredient Prescribing—Excluded Pharmaceutical Benefits) Instrument 2021 (<https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2021N00022>)

Example →

Ready-prepared pharmaceutical benefits			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Listed drug	Form	Manner of administration	Brand
Aciclovir	Eye ointment 30 mg per g, 4.5 g (Acivision)	Application to the eye	Acivision
Amino acid formula supplemented with prebiotics, probiotics and long chain polyunsaturated fatty acids	Oral powder 400 g (Neocate Syneo)	Oral	Neocate Syneo
Amino acid formula with carbohydrate, vitamins, minerals and trace elements without phenylalanine	Sachets containing oral powder 20 g, 30 (PKU Go)	Oral	PKU Go

How to integrate LEMI into our data model?

Our initial idea is to add a new table to the our data model. E.g.

PK	PBS Item Code	Start Date	End Date

Thoughts?

We have begun working with the Active Ingredient Prescribing team on developing an approach to incorporating EMI identifiers in our Beta release.

For more information, please contact AIPrescribing@health.gov.au

Discussion: Moving from Alpha to Beta

Moving from Alpha to Beta

Our approach from here:

1. Address your feedback
 - We are working within an SAFe Agile delivery model and our SCRUM team will be working on addressing bugs in 2 week increments and releasing updates when reasonable number of bugs are ready to release. (no more than 1 / month).
 - Once all bugs have been addressed we will plan to decommission the Alpha.
2. Continue to add new content as required (for example: pricing, fees etc.)
3. Further content testing
4. Design security mechanisms for the Beta
5. Develop internal support mechanisms
6. Documentation
7. The Beta will be released when we turn off the Alpha in a more polished stated. This will include
 1. A redesign and build,
 2. Implemented security mechanisms for embargo data,
 3. Improved performance

Next Steps



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Next Steps

Homework (Extension)

If you have any further feedback or haven't shared your findings yet. Please send them to: pbsdataproject@health.gov.au. We want to continue to receive feedback and improve the API together. We will provide updates via email and future working group meetings.

Software Vendor Working Group #5 – week commencing 8 March 2021

More information to be distributed ahead of the next meeting.

Questions and Feedback

Send any questions or feedback to pbsdataproject@health.gov.au.

Other Business and Questions

