

# PBS API Software Vendor Webinar

## Prescribing overview and updates

This meeting **will** be recorded. If you do not wish to take part in the MS Teams recording, please do not join the meeting. By joining the meeting, you are consenting to being included in the recording.

Thank you for joining, this webinar will begin at 11am, 6 November 2024 or once traffic slows coming into the meeting.



# Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of country throughout Australia and their connections to land, sea and community. We pay our respect to their Elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today.



Australian Government

Department of Health and Aged Care

# Before we begin...



Please turn off your webcam



Please mute your microphone unless speaking



Any questions? Email [HPP.Support@health.gov.au](mailto:HPP.Support@health.gov.au)



# Agenda

## Prescribing overview and updates

### Introduction

- General recap
- Future releases
- Update on AMT v4

### v3 API changes

- Restrictions
- PBS Public data API

# PBS API General recap

- All current forms of PBS Schedule data will continue to be available as long as there are key fixes being implemented. There will be at least three months' notice of discontinuation once the API is stable.
- PDF Schedule and SOC - Will continue to be available in PDF form ongoing <https://www.pbs.gov.au/browse/publications> or under embargo.  
<https://data.pbs.gov.au/data-distribution/data-distribution.html>
- Supporting resources that have been updated
- V3 is the current version. [API catalogue](https://data-api-portal.health.gov.au) - <https://data-api-portal.health.gov.au>

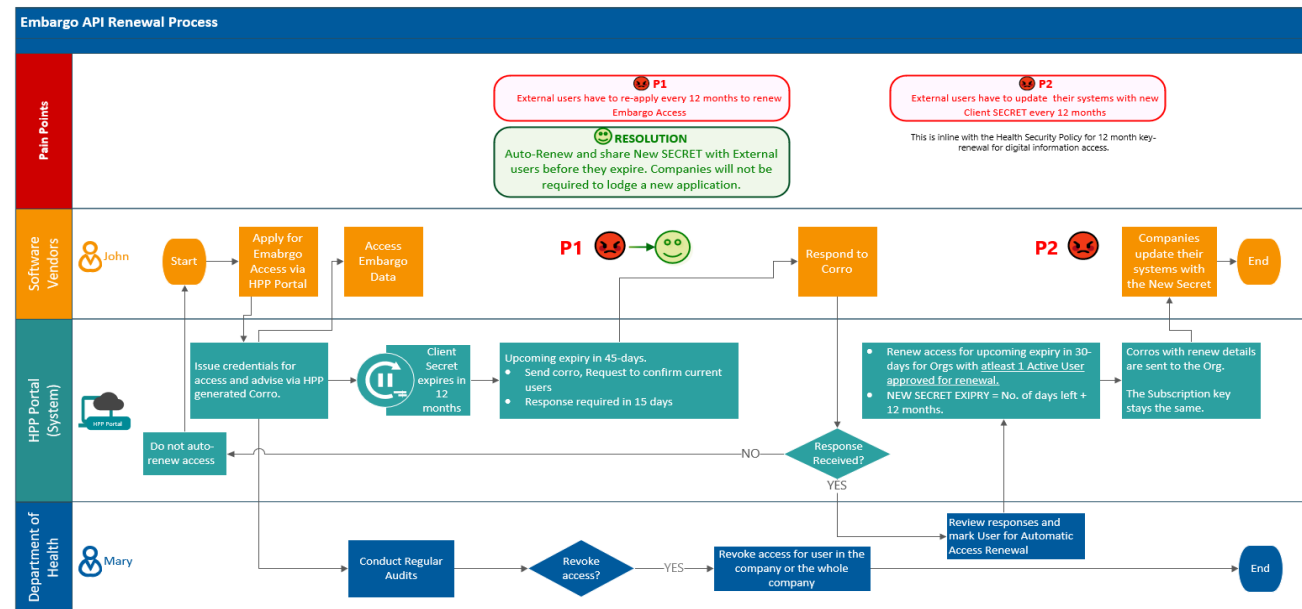


# PBS API – Future Releases

Future release (November 2024)

## Embargo API Access Renewal

- Companies will no longer need to re-apply for access renewal, if they confirm which users need to retain access beforehand
- Updated Process below; the communication will be managed via correspondence. Expect this solution to be in-place before the end of the year.



# PBS API – Future Releases

**Future release** (Date: TBC, around December trying not to interfere with production data releases)

New (For V3 only)

- New Column `changed_endpoint` added to Summary of Changes
- New column `first_listing_date` added to the restrictions table
- Schedule endpoint : Get latest schedule in newest to oldest format
- New filter added to all endpoints to show the latest schedule information only
- API Changelog Tracking Implemented for Major/Minor/Patch releases



Australian Government

Department of Health and Aged Care

# PBS API – Future Releases

**Future release** (Date: TBC, around December trying not to interfere with production data releases)

## Data Modifications (Data Enhancement)

- In `api/v3/items` endpoint, the values in `weighted_avg_disclosed_price` column has been changed to NULL.

## Data Modifications (Flags/indicators)

- In `api/v3/amt-items` endpoint, remove all Null values from flags/indicators. `exempt_ind`
- In `api/v3/items` endpoint, remove all Null values from flags/indicators. `pack_not_to_be_broken_ind`, `determined_qty`, `safety_net_resup_rule_cnt_ind`, `continued_dispensing_flag`, `continued_dispensing_emergency`, `originator_brand_indicator`, `water_added_ind`, `policy_applied_bio_sim_up_flag`, `policy_applied_imdq60_flag`, `policy_applied_imdq60_base_flag`, `policy_applied_indig_phar_flag`, `legal_unar_ind`, `legal_car_ind`





# PBS API - Future Releases

**Future release** (Date: TBC, around December trying not to interfere with production data releases)

## Data Modifications (Data Enhancement)

- Any reference to res\_code 9999\_9999\_R and prescribing\_txt\_id 119998, 119997 has been removed from item-restriction-relationships, restrictions, restriction-prescribing-text-relationships and prescribing-texts tables
- If a given item has a '**therapeutic\_exemption\_indicator**' value of 'Y'/true in the **api/v3/items endpoint**, then within the '**Item-Dispensing-Rule-Relationships**' endpoint, the **special\_patient\_contribution, brand\_premium** and **therapeutic\_group\_premium** columns is set to '**0.00**'

## Documentation updates

- API definition Updates – Swagger and data dictionary



# PBS API - Future Releases

## Future release (Date: TBC)

- AMT V4 Updates, AMT TPUU Content & Non-AMT Codes
- Incorporate the copyright statement into the API
- Embargo files disappearing
- More history in the API
- Known issue - restrictions API endpoint, the SCHEDULE\_HTML\_TEXT contains incorrect formatting. These fields combine both Schedule and LI text information.
- Improved rendering and presentation of restrictions including ordering of components withing an item code
- Possible new **/item-overview** API endpoint
- Remove API v1 beta
- Remove API v2 beta
- Known issue - /item-dispensing-rule-relationships API endpoint, the DISPENSE\_FEE\_TYPE\_CODE values are incorrect for all extemporaneous medicines. These are currently appearing with a value of 'NF'. The correct value for these items should be 'EP', as per the data dictionary. The values are correct for ready-prepared and EFC medicines )
- Known issue - /items API endpoint, The Originator\_brand\_indicator values may be incorrect.

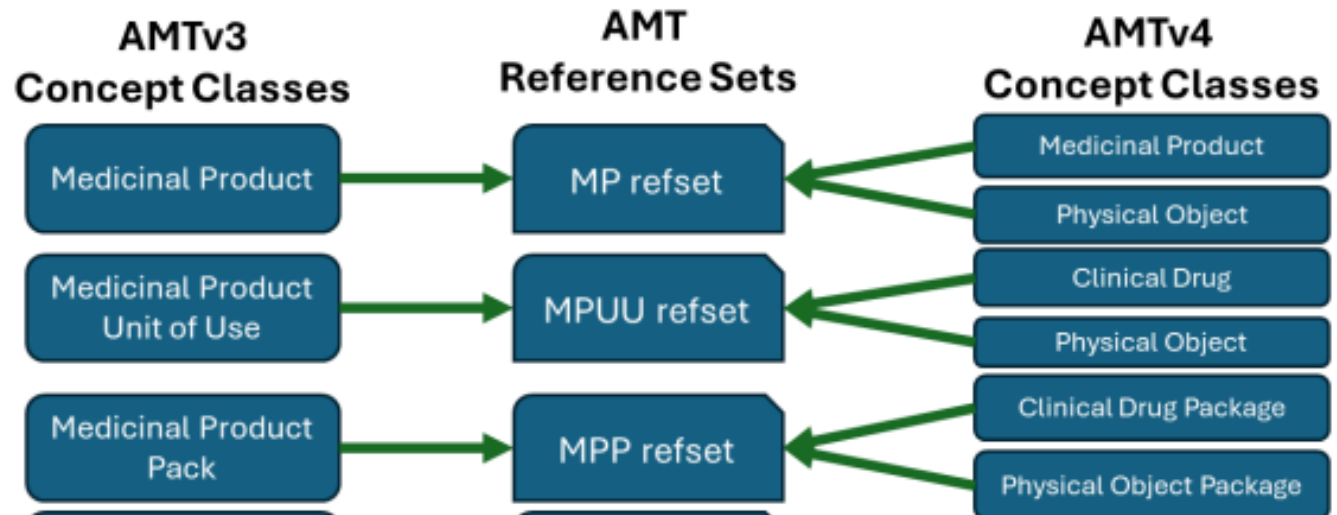


# PBS API – AMT v4

## PBS incorporation

- Early next year.
- No change to the reference set name of the 7 box set Health uses.
- Semantic tags will be added to the data dictionary for reference.

Figure 1: Relationship between Concept Classes and Reference Sets



Reference from CSIRO document.  
AMT v3 to AMT v4 &  
SNOMED CT-AU Package  
Changes  
Comparison  
and Migration  
Guidance  
March 2024



# PBS API - Authority

## Legal HSD CAR and UNAR

[Services Australia Complex Authority Administration S100 items \(CSV\)](#).

The API does not include the Section 100 Efficient Funding of Chemotherapy (EFC) items where the processing of the application for an authority to prescribe the item has a high degree of complexity.

### /items

legal\_unar\_ind

Structure:

The listed drug is defined as *Unrestricted - No Authority Required* in the Highly Specialised Drugs special arrangement. Public hospital prescriptions for UNAR drugs can be dispensed by approved s94 public hospital authorities or by s90 approved pharmacists.

legal\_car\_ind

The listed drug is defined as *Complex Authority Required* in the Highly Specialised Drugs special arrangement. Public hospital prescriptions for CAR drugs can be dispensed by approved s94 public hospital authorities or by s90 approved pharmacists.

### /restrictions end point

complex\_authority\_rqrd\_ind

This indicates whether an item (prescribing rule) is Complex Authority Required. This is the indicator that is used to determine legislative HSD 100 CAR for HSD items. Please note, this indicator covers items other than legislative HSD 100 CAR.

Values: *Y* - Is Complex, *N* - Not Complex



# PBS API - Authority

## Flag Compliance with Written Authority Required procedures

- API does flag where 'Compliance with Written Authority Required procedures' is needed.
- `assessment_type_code = Full flag`



# PBS API – restrictions

## Known V3 model issues

- eg 11621P\_7851\_391\_46688\_46709
- /Items, caution\_indicator = Y and note\_indicator = Y
- /item-restriction-relationships
  - 5224\_5224\_R Benefit type S, restriction\_indicator Y
  - 23291\_N Benefit type S, restriction\_indicator N
  - **Where is the Caution - Part of the 5224\_5224\_R**
- /restrictions
  - 5224\_5224\_R caution\_indicator = N and note\_indicator = N
  - 23291\_N authority\_method = Null, caution\_indicator = N and note\_indicator = Y
- /prescribing-texts
  - 5224\_5224\_R 14511 Caution, 14512 Caution, 14507 INDICATION, 14509 Criteria , 13099 ADMINISTRATIVE\_ADVICE
  - 23291\_N – 23291 Admin advice

ISOTRETINOIN

Source General Schedule  
Body System DERMATOLOGICALS > ANTI-ACNE PREPARATIONS > ANTI-ACNE PREPARATIONS FOR SYSTEMIC USE

• Caution

This drug causes birth defects.

**Caution**

This drug has been reported to cause other frequent and potentially serious toxicity.

• Note

Care must be taken to comply with the provisions of State/Territory law when prescribing this drug.

**Note**

Pharmaceutical benefits that have form pack size isotretinoin 20 mg capsule, 60 and isotretinoin 20 mg capsule, 30 are equivalent for the purposes of substitution.

• ▲ Authority Required (STREAMLINED)  
5224

Severe cystic acne

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be unresponsive to other therapy.

Code & Prescriber	Medicinal Product Pack (Name, form & strength and pack size)	Max qty packs	Max qty units	No. of repeats	DPMQ	Max Safety Net	General Patient Charge
11621P	ISOTRETINOIN Isotretinoin 20 mg capsule, 30 (PI, CMI)	2	60	3	\$44.25	\$31.60	\$31.60

Available brands

- Roaccutane



# PBS API - Authority

/Restrictions endpoint, the schedule\_html\_text contains incorrect formatting and data.

- Contains basic HTML text.
- Know issue. Within the */restrictions* API endpoint, the SCHEDULE\_HTML\_TEXT contains incomplete information . These fields combine both Schedule and LI text information.
- For information on how to combine restriction elements refer to [PBS DDS - Piecing together restriction fragments V1.1.docx](#) on the [Knowledge Articles page](#).
- Some of the confusion may be fixed by upcoming proposed changes in a new *'/item-overview'* or *'/item-restrictions-overview'* endpoint.
- What would be most useful?



# PBS API – restrictions

Any other general questions?





# API data to PBS text files

Please be aware that the Department does not endorse the current text files

- The current text files are no longer fit for purpose, they have become an over-simplification of the PBS.
- The API has been developed with a view that different end users can seek to obtain only the data they specifically need (e.g. prescribers might not need pricing information but need to access other information for the purpose of prescribing).
- New documentation with better SQL matching outputs to the current text files will be published soon. *Please note that these SQL queries are for reference purposes only to help identify relationships between text files and the API data. Not designed to be use as your end product solution.*
- Some show differences due to extra white spaces in the middle or at the end of sentences. This issue is consistent with the PBS data, where spaces or returns are displayed as spaces.



# PBS Text File -> API Mapping Information Summary

Text File Name	Readiness Status and Key Differences
AMT	<p>Status :- <b>In Progress</b> <b>Current text file will be available until issues are resolved.</b></p> <p>1. We have identified an issue in the following text file columns: tpp_pt – Content does not exist in the API for Non-AMT. comp-tpp (Proportional Published Ex-Manufacturer Price)– Content does not exist in the API. tpuu_id – Content does not exist.</p> <p>2. PFDI is not in API data. From 1 July 2020, the Premium-free Dispensing Incentive (PFDI) was discontinued, with funding reallocated to other 7CPA components including the significant increases to the dispensing fee, AHI and dangerous drug fee.</p>
ATC	<p>Status :- <b>Complete</b> Testing has been completed. The extracted text files and API data show differences due to extra white spaces in the middle or at the end of sentences. This issue mirrors the PBS data, where spaces or returns are displayed as spaces.</p>
Manufacturer data	<p>Status :- <b>Complete</b> The extracted text files and API data show a formatting difference in the mnfr-telephone column. The API data includes the country code, which is consistent with the PBS data.</p>
Continued Dispensing (CD)	<p>Status :- <b>Complete</b> All columns and data are matching between the text files and the API result-set.</p>
Medication Chart	<p>Status :- <b>Complete</b> All columns and data are matching between the text files and the API result-set.</p>
Prescriber Type	<p>Status :- <b>Complete</b> The extracted text files and API data show differences in the drug name text in a few cases.</p>



# PBS Text File -> API Mapping Information Summary

Text File Name	Readiness Status and Key Differences
Drug data	<p>Status :- <b>Complete</b></p> <p>In the drug text files, fields like mp-pt have an 80-character length limit, but the API is displaying the full content without truncation.</p> <p><b>sample data</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>in text for mp-pt column</b> :- amino acid synthetic formula supplemented with long chain polyunsaturated fatty</li><li>• <b>api response it displays</b> :- amino acid synthetic formula supplemented with long chain polyunsaturated fatty <b>acid</b></li></ul> <p>Truncated drug name from the text files have caused issues with prescribers and dispensers in the past. Current XML and API do not have this issue.</p>
Fees	<p>Status :- <b>In Progress</b></p> <p>Current text file will be available until issues are resolved.</p>
Safety Net	<p>Status :- <b>Complete</b></p> <p>All columns and data are matching between the text files and the API result-set.</p>
Pharmacy PBS Item Table	<p>Status :- <b>Complete</b></p> <p>All columns and data are matching between the text files and the API result-set.</p> <p>We are not considering those records from Pharmacy PBS Item Table Txt file which contains end-date.</p>
Authorities Restrictions	<p>Status :- <b>Complete</b></p> <p>The extracted text files and API data show differences due to extra white spaces in the middle or at the end of sentences.</p> <p>This issue is consistent with the PBS data, where spaces or returns are displayed as spaces.</p>
Restriction Extract (Delimited/Fixed)	<p>Status :- <b>Complete</b></p> <p>There are two restriction text files, Fixed and Delimited, but only one example is provided.</p> <p>The main difference noted is that the misc-flag column exists in the text file but not in the API result-set.</p>



# PBS Text File -> API Mapping Information Summary

Text File Name	Readiness Status and Key Differences
Link Extract	<p>Status :- <b>Complete</b></p> <p>All columns and data are matching between the text files and the API result-set where data is available.</p> <p>The following fields will not be displayed in the API response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>increase-code – not re-creatable.</li><li>start-date – restriction start date will be added soon.</li><li>end-date – when it stops being in the data is when it ends.</li></ul>
Note extract	<p>Status :- <b>Complete</b></p> <p>The extracted text files and API data show differences with spacing between or at the end of text in sentences. This issue is consistent with the PBS data, where spaces or returns are displayed as spaces.</p>
Caution extract	<p>Status :- <b>Complete</b></p> <p>All columns and data are matching between the text files and the API result-set.</p>
streamlined.txt	<p>Status :- <b>Complete</b></p> <p>All columns and data are matching between the text files and the API result-set.</p>
Control Text	<p>Status :- <b>Rejected</b></p> <p>The control.txt file is solely for extracting text, and if a publication date is needed, it can be retrieved through the schedule endpoint. The control.txt file has now been removed.</p>
Dispensing Incentive Items (DI)	<p>Status :- <b>Rejected</b></p> <p>From 1 July 2020, the Premium-free Dispensing Incentive (PFDI) was discontinued.</p>



# Discussion

