

PBS API Software Vendor Webinar

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
Tue 23 September 2025 or once traffic slows coming into the meeting.



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Department of Health, Disability and Ageing

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.



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Before we begin...



Please turn off your webcam



Please mute your microphone unless speaking



Any questions? Email HPP.Support@health.gov.au



Thanks

- Thank you for those who were able to reply to the [Questionnaire](#). Your valuable input and support is appreciated and being taken on board. This will remain open after the meeting for additional/updated responses.
- We appreciate your patience and understanding with late changes and data releases. We are working to minimise these disruptions but there will be times this is out of our control.
- Thank you for collaborating with us to implement the first mid-month publication – February Continued Dispensing Emergency.



Agenda

Overview and updates

- Ceasing of legacy products

API v3 changes

- PBS API - General Update
- PBS API - Releases since last webinar

PBS updates

- Future releases
- Potential updates/changes
- Discuss survey findings

General - Discussion and questions - Not published



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GENERAL RECAP



PBS API General Recap

- V3 (3.5.7) is the current version and is the anticipated approved baseline version.
- Any change from this point will be classed as additional functionality or enhancements.
- [API catalogue](#)
- <https://data-api-portal.health.gov.au>



PBS API General Recap

When will the old forms of PBS Schedule data cease?

- Following the meeting, the survey will remain open for feedback for **1 WEEK**.
- If there are no critical gaps or errors noted in the survey feedback, we will consider 3.5.7 as “Baseline”.
- Once the Baseline is set, users will be notified of the commencement of the Transition period.
- The Transition will be at least 3 month but will not end over the end of year festive period (ie not till after Feb 2026).

What will continue to be available at <https://www.pbs.gov.au/browse/publications> or under embargo?

- Release notes
- PDF Schedules and Summary of changes
- PBS API CSV ZIP files
- Average Rates
- Services Australia Complex Authority Administration S100 items (CSV)



PBS API - Releases since last webinar

Improvements

- AMT and non-AMT
- TPUU
- MOA
- Parameter filtering and Sorting functionality as per Government API standards
- Summary of Change - Source/Target revision number
- Therapeutic Group Title/ID content in /items endpoint

For more information on releases - <https://data.pbs.gov.au/api/pbs-api.html>

<https://ause-hpsp-tst-apim01.developer.azure-api.net/api-changelog#api=pbs-api-public-v3>



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api/v3/item-overview endpoint

- This endpoint contains joined content of the full details from other related tables in a complex json structure. See <https://data-api-portal.health.gov.au/> for more details.
- Benefits
 - Improved rendering and presentation of restrictions including ordering of components withing an item code.
 - “One stop shop” for information related to an item, rather than multiple calls to different endpoints.
- Note:
 - Max response 1000 due to size.
 - Schedule code is a mandatory parameter.



The Item-Overview is a (New endpoint) an aggregated JSON response that includes comprehensive details about items, programs, restrictions, prescriptions, dispensing rules, manufacturers, and more. This structured format ensures that all relevant information is easily accessible and understandable.

```

JSON
> · "_meta" {9}
> · "_links" [4]
▼ · "data" [10]
  > · [0] {81}
  > · [1] {81}
  > · [2] {81}
  > · [3] {81}
  > · [4] {81}
  > · [5] {81}
  > · [6] {81}
  > · [7] {81}
  > · [8] {81}
  > · [9] {81}

▼ · [0] {81}
  · "li_item_id": "10001J_14023_31078_31081_31083"
  · "drug_name": "Rifaximin"
  · "li_drug_name": "Rifaximin"
  · "li_form": "Tablet 550 mg"
  · "schedule_form": "rifaximin 550 mg tablet, 56"
  · "brand_name": "Xifaxan"
  · "program_code": "GE"
  · "pbs_code": "10001J"
  · "benefit_type_code": "A"
  · "caution_indicator": "N"
  · "note_indicator": "Y"
  · "manner_of_administration": "ORAL"
  · "maximum_prescribable_pack": 1
  · "maximum_quantity_units": 56
  · "number_of_repeats": 5
  · "organisation_id": 122
  · "manufacturer_code": "NE"
  · "pack_size": 56
  · "pricing_quantity": 56
  · "pack_not_to_be_broken_ind": "N"
  · "claimed_price": 394.14
  · "determined_price": 394.14
  · "determined_qty": "N"
  · "safety_net_resupply_rule_days": 20
  · "safety_net_resup_rule_cnt_ind": "Y"
  · "extemporaneous_indicator": "N"
  · "extemporaneous_standard": null
  · "doctors_bag_group_id": null
  · "section100_only_indicator": "N"
  · "doctors_bag_only_indicator": "N"
  · "brand_substitution_group_id": null
  · "maximum_amount": null
  · "formulary": "F1"
  · "water_added_ind": "N"
  · "section_19a_expiry_date": null
  · "container_fee_type": "other"
  · "policy_applied_imdq60_base_flag": "N"
  · "policy_applied_imdq60_flag": "N"
  · "policy_applied_bio_sim_up_flag": "N"
  · "policy_applied_indig_phar_flag": "N"
  · "therapeutic_exemption_indicator": "N"
  · "premium_exemption_group_id": null
  · "doctors_bag_group_title": null
  · "therapeutic_group_id": null
  · "therapeutic_group_title": null
  · "advanced_notice_date": null
  · "supply_only_end_date": null
  · "first_listed_date": "2013-12-01"
  · "legal_unar_ind": "N"
  · "legal_car_ind": "N"
  > · "schedule" {7}
  > · "program" {2}
  · "item_prescribing_texts" [0]
  > · "item_restrictions" [1]
  > · "item_atcs" [1]
  > · "item_amts" [4]
  > · "item_dispensing_rules" [3]
  · "item_pricing_events" [0]
  > · "prescribers" [1]
  > · "manufacturer" {8}
  · "extemporaneous_wholesalers" [0]

```



Example – Item-overview endpoint.

See also link on Meeting page for full example - <https://data.pbs.gov.au/meetings/index.html>

```
    ],  
    "data": [  
      {  
        "li_item_id": "10877L_20537_1020_39337_39339",  
        "drug_name": "Follitropin alfa",  
        "li_drug_name": "Follitropin alfa",  
        "li_form": "Injection 150 I.U. in 0.25 mL pre-filled pen",  
        "schedule_form": "follitropin alfa 150 units (11 microgram)/0.25 mL injection, 5 x 0.25 mL pen devices",  
        "brand_name": "Bemfola",  
        "program_code": "GE",  
        "pbs_code": "10877L",  
      }  
    ],  
    "program": {  
      "program_title": "General Schedule",  
      "program_dispensing_rules": [  
        {  
          "dispensing_rule_mnem": "s90-cp",  
          "default_indicator": "Y",  
          "dispensing_rules": [  
            {  
              "dispensing_rule_reference": "in-s90-cp",  
              "dispensing_rule_title": "Community Pharmacy",  
              "community_pharmacy_indicator": "true"  
            },  
            {  
              "dispensing_rule_reference": "rp-np-nc-s90-cp",  
              "dispensing_rule_title": "Community Pharmacy",  
              "community_pharmacy_indicator": "true"  
            }  
          ]  
        }  
      ],  
      "item_prescribing_texts": [  
        {  
          "prescribing_txt_id": 29793,  
          "pt_position": 1,  
          "prescribing_txt": {  
            "prescribing_txt": "Biosimilar prescribing policy Prescribing of a bi",  
            "prescribing_type": "ADMINISTRATIVE_ADVICE",  
            "complex_authority_rqrd_ind": "N",  
            "assessment_type_code": null,  
            "apply_to_increase_mq_flag": "N",  
            "apply_to_increase_nr_flag": "N"  
          }  
        },  
        {  
          "prescribing_txt_id": 29791,  
          "pt_position": 2,  
          "prescribing_txt": {  
            "prescribing_txt": "Encouraging biosimilar prescribing for treatment",  
            "prescribing_type": "ADMINISTRATIVE_ADVICE",  
            "complex_authority_rqrd_ind": "N",  
            "assessment_type_code": null,  
            "apply_to_increase_mq_flag": "N",  
            "apply_to_increase_nr_flag": "N"  
          }  
        }  
      ]  
    }  
  }  
}
```



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Pricing changes

Items endpoint

- proportional_price (PREMP)

Item-dispensing-rules-relationship endpoint

- All requested pricing information and fields have been included in API
- Eliminates need for calculation of specific pricing values
- Refer to SWAGGER and/or Data Dictionary for descriptions of all new fields
- Any questions please send to HPP.Support@health.gov.au

Item-overview endpoint

- All new fields included.



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Restrictions

Working with Restrictions

- Restrictions can be constructed by using the elements on the /restrictions endpoint and applying the ordering on the element by the /restriction-prescribing-text-relationships endpoint. The /item-restriction-relationships shows the linkage of Restrictions to the relevant Item codes.
- Can also use the /Item-Overview endpoint to view a restriction in total. The “Fields” parameter functionality can be used to refine results.
- Restrictions allowing increased Maximum Quantity/Repeats
 - Field variation_rule_applied indicates if authorisation of increased quantities and/or repeats is allowed.

Recently added fields

- written_authority_required



Additional Community Supply Support (ACSS) payments

- Eighth Community Pharmacy Agreement (8CPA) - new legislated payment to community pharmacies for dispensing PBS medicines.

API changes – production release end of March 2025

- Api/v3/fees Endpoint
 - Added 'acss_imdq60_payment'. Field used to identify the fee amount associated with **Component 1**. \$4.79
 - Added 'acss_payment'. Field used to identify the fee amount associated with **Component 2**. \$0.78
- Eligible items for the payments will need to be derived via the eligible program types.



PBS API – New ID and Error response messages

For errors that occur within the API, a unique code "id" will be returned. This "id" can be sent to HPP.support@health.gov.au to assist in the issue resolution.

```
"errors": [  
  {  
    "id": "af9a8453c05b7bb7",  
    "detail": "Invalid Parameter(s) value Provided",  
    "code": "400-009",  
    "timestamp": "2025-08-12T01:32:33.507+00:00",  
    "source": [  
      {  
        "target": "parameter",  
        "parameter": "schedule_code",  
        "value": "2",  
        "example": "Schedule code should be a 4 digit code, csv formatting is accepted. e.g. '1:'  
      }  
    ]  
  }  
]
```



FUTURE UPDATES

Where to from here?



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Upcoming Releases (Date: TBC)

Potential updates to PBS policy affecting data

- Various updates to PBS policies are in planning that may impact the PBS data.
- There are a range of potential changes. Some may be new data in existing fields, some may require additional fields or endpoints to be added to the API data.
- Test data will be provided where possible for each of these updates
 - These will be provided in JSON and CSV formats
 - XML may not be released for these test files



Potential Future Releases (Date: TBC)

Software Vendor test environment

- Until available, all test files will be released as CSV and JSON downloads.

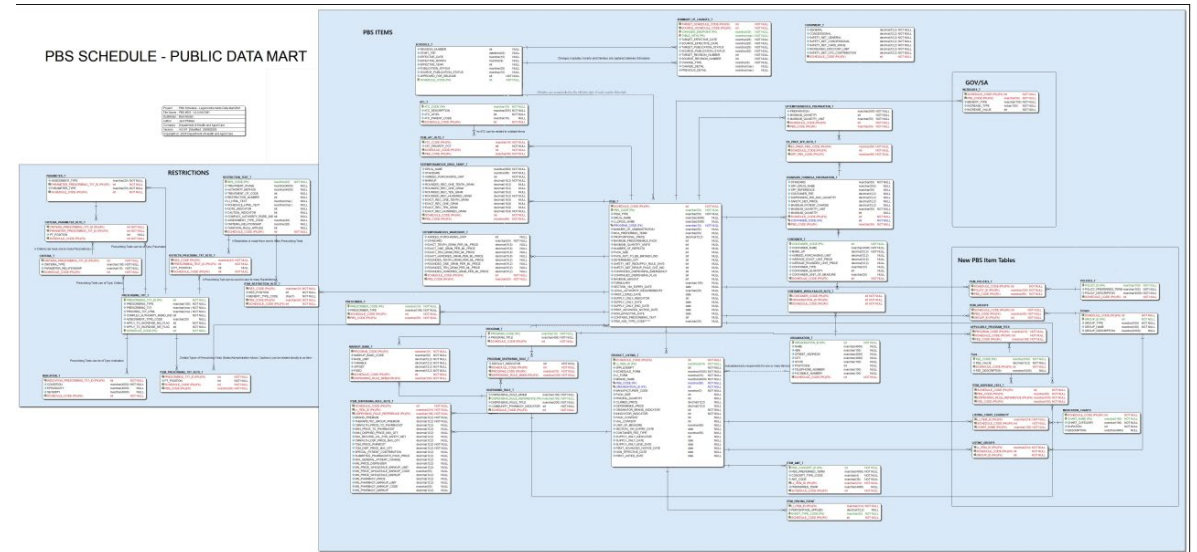
API v3 or v4.

- Improve Renewal function notifications.
- Known issue - restrictions API endpoint, the SCHEDULE_HTML_TEXT contains incorrect formatting. Currently this field combines both Schedule and LI text information.
- Improve speed of data sync to allow faster releases or other data delivery methods.
 - Requests for specific types please put into Questionnaire.
- Enforced Pagination – CSV downloads will be provided with pagination.
- Improve AMT linkages to listings for better coverage and Many to Many mappings.
- Improve Extemporaneous listings information.
- More history in the API.
- EFC improvements – ie TPUU, Vial sizes



Unplanned future release (Date: TBC)

- API v4 Major version intends to:
 - Improve functionality and structure.
 - Required breaking changes.
 - Improved ease of access.
 - Remove duplication of data by splitting/merging specific tables as required
 - Eg Item_details into Item level information and brand level information separately.
- Any changes that are non-breaking we will try to incorporate into API v3 – eg additional endpoints.



QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES



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Questionnaire and Email Queries

Release timelines/Late releases

- Working to get a more consistent and predictable release of data.
- Working to remove as many late releases as possible.
- We try to avoid late amendments to the data. Some reasons it may be required:
 - Change cannot be implemented any other way.
 - Decisions from Government in response to emergencies.
 - Critical errors to data.
- Data for late changes is released as soon as possible. We are working on ways to improve speed of release.



Questionnaire and Email Queries

Medication Charts

- Q: Should all Extemporaneous items have a value of “No” for field elect_med_chart_eligible_ind?
- A: Currently this is correct (i.e. the value is “No”). The policy area is reviewing the Med Chart data and all updates will be amended in a future schedule.

De-registered ARTG items still on PBS

- Q: Why are some items no longer on the ARTG still in PBS data
- A: Discontinued ARTG product may still be listed on the PBS for several reasons:
 - Sponsor's Request: The product cannot be delisted from the PBS without a formal request from the relevant pharmaceutical company.
 - Implementation and Processing Steps: Steps and timelines required to remove from PBS.
 - Supply Only Arrangements: This allows any remaining stock in the supply chain to be used and claimed until the product is officially removed from the PBS.



Questionnaire and Email Queries

Summary of Changes endpoint

- Known bugs with SQL statements in Summary of Changes.
- SQL statements are still available in endpoint as removing would require a breaking change. It is not recommended to use these SQL statements, as they may not be able to cater to all user implementation consistently and may not properly report all changes.
- Change_detail and Previous_detail fields provide better information for the changes and were included in the API due to the known issues with SQL statements.

API Data types

- Users have noted lack of detailed “data type” information in API.
- Recent update has improved this information.
- More detailed data types requires API v4 implementation.



PBS API – General - Discussion and questions

- ☐ This part will not be released as part of the recording.
- ☐ If you have any questions from this webinar, email HPPSupport@health.gov.au.
- ☐ We are always happy to help.



END OF WEBINAR



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