

# Medicines, Poisons and Therapeutic Goods (Temporary Authority – Supply by pharmacists of designated Schedule 4 medicines without prescription) CHO Standing Order 2020 (No 1)

made under the

*Medicines, Poisons and Therapeutic Goods Act 2008, section 20(b)*

*Medicines, Poisons and Therapeutic Goods Regulation 2008, section 70)*

---

## 1 Name of instrument

This instrument is the *Medicines, Poisons and Therapeutic Goods (Authority for pharmacists to supply restricted medicines) CHO Standing Order 2020 (No 1)*.

## 2 Commencement and Duration

This instrument commences on the day of signing and remains in effect until 31 March 2020 unless revoked earlier.

## 3 Standing Order to prevent or mitigate a public health emergency

Persons directly or indirectly affected by the bushfire crisis affecting NSW, Victoria and the surrounding regions may have lost or be unable to access their prescribed medication(s), and it may be impractical given the bushfire crisis to obtain a new prescription(s). Given the scale of the bushfire crisis, the large number of persons potentially without medications essential to their health on-going treatment poses a risk of serious public health concern. Accordingly, this CHO Standing Order is made in order to prevent or mitigate any resulting public health emergency.

## 4 Standing Order terms and conditions

Pursuant to this CHO Standing Order pharmacists are authorised to supply a person with a designated prescription only medicine<sup>i</sup> without a prescription subject to conditions in Schedule 1 of this Standing Order.



Dr Kerry Coleman  
Chief Health Officer

9 January 2020

# Schedule 1

1. The pharmacist is satisfied that:
  - a. the person is undergoing treatment essential to the person's well-being,
  - b. the medicine has previously been prescribed for the treatment,
  - c. the person is in immediate need of the medicine for continuation of the treatment, and
  - d. it is not practicable for the person to obtain a prescription for the medicine from an authorised practitioner.
  
2. A designated prescription only medicine may only be supplied under this authority if the quantity supplied is no more than:
  - a. for a medicine that is on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme, the standard Pharmaceutical Benefits maximum quantity, or
  - b. for a medicine that is not on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme, the quantity that is contained in the smallest standard pack in which the medicine is generally available.
  
3. A written record<sup>ii</sup> of the following information is to be retained:
  - a. the pharmacist's name;
  - b. the name of the prescriber who would ordinarily have prescribed the medicine,
  - c. the patient's name and address;
  - d. the date the medicine is supplied;
  - e. the medicine's approved name and brand name;
  - f. the form, strength and quantity of the medicine.
  
4. The supplied medicine must have a label that includes the following information:
  - a. the name of the person to whom the medicine is to be supplied;
  - b. the date the medicine is supplied;
  - c. the medicine, and the form, strength and quantity of the medicine, supplied;
  - d. if the package of the dispensed medicine is not a manufacturer's pack—
    - i. the batch number or numbers of the medicine; and
    - ii. the relevant expiry date for the medicine;
  - e. the pharmacy name, business address and telephone number;
  - f. the initials or other identification of the pharmacist supplying the medicine;
  - g. directions about the use of the medicine that are adequate to allow the medicine to be taken or administered safely, including any warning statement in the medicines and poisons standard, appendix K (Drugs required to be labelled with a sedation warning) applying to the medicine;
  - h. words to the effect of 'keep out of reach of children'.

---

<sup>i</sup> Pursuant to section 250 of the Medicines, Poisons and Therapeutic Goods Regulation 2008 a **designated prescription only medicine** means a prescription only medicine other than:

- a) an anabolic steroid; and
- b) a designated appendix D medicine; and
- c) a benzodiazepine

Section 11(2) of the *Medicines, Poisons and Therapeutic Goods Act 2008* a **prescription only medicine** means a substance to which the medicines and poisons standard, Schedule 4 applies. Designated appendix D medicines are listed in Schedule 3 of the Medicines, Poisons and Therapeutic Goods Regulation 2008.

<sup>ii</sup> *Written* includes in electronic form.