



Australian Government

Department of Health and Aged Care

# Electronic National Residential Medication Charts (eNRMC)

eNRMC Adoption Grant Opportunity Information Pack  
for Residential Aged Care Services

## Introduction to the eNRMC Adoption grant opportunity

In response to the Final Report of the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety, the Australian Government is addressing widespread issues associated with medication management in Residential Aged Care Services (RACS).

The Government announced the *Supporting Medication Management in Residential Aged Care Initiative* as part of the *Residential Aged Care Quality and Safety - Improving Access to Primary Care and other Health Services 2021-22* Budget measure.

The Government has provided funding of \$45.4 million over four financial years from 2021-22 to 2024-25 for implementation of the initiative.

Under the initiative, up to \$30 million (GST Exclusive) has been made available via a grant opportunity to incentivise the adoption of Transitional or Electronic Prescribing Conformant eNRMC Products in RACS.

### Residential Aged Care Services

For the purposes of the grant opportunity and Transitional Arrangement, “RACS” encompasses:

- Residential Aged Care Services
- National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Flexible Aged Care Program residential services
- Multi-Purpose Services that provide residential aged care services.

## The objective of the eNRMC Adoption grant opportunity

The desired outcome of the eNRMC Adoption grant opportunity is to increase the use of eNRMC Products in RACS. The increased use of eNRMCs contributes to improved medication management and safety practices and improved health outcomes for Australians in these settings.

## The eNRMC Transitional Arrangement – an overview

RACS can use the funding provided through the eNRMC Adoption grant opportunity to help defray the costs of adopting a “Transitional or Electronic Prescribing Conformant eNRMC Product”.

The Department of Health and Aged Care (the Department) and Australian Digital Health Agency (the Agency) has put in place an eNRMC “Transitional Arrangement” which commenced on 1 July 2022. The Arrangement allows all RACS to begin adopting and benefiting from eNRMC products as soon as possible.

The Arrangement is an interim measure while Prescription Delivery Services (PDS) and dispensing software meet the latest electronic prescribing conformance requirements. Once PDS and dispensing software have met these requirements, RACS will be able to update their eNRMC product to the “Electronic Prescribing Conformant eNRMC Product”. Under the Transitional Arrangement, electronic medication chart prescriptions will not be sent to a PDS, which means pharmacies are required to manually transcribe prescription details into their dispensing systems.

Once products are updated to Electronic Prescribing Conformant products, medication chart prescriptions will be sent to the PDS and will be retrievable by pharmacy dispensing software. The Transitional Arrangement will then end.

For more information about the Transitional Arrangement and what RACS need to do to if they adopt a Transitional eNRMC Product, please see the [Department of Health's website](#).

## When will the eNRMC Adoption grant opportunity be available?

The eNRMC Adoption grant opportunity will run over three rounds. The first round ran from July 2022 to 12 January 2023, closing earlier than anticipated as all available funding was expended. Round 2 commences on 3 July 2023. Grant applications are assessed on a rolling basis until available funding is expended. If funding is expended before the grant round closing date, the grant round will be closed early. Applicants will then need to wait for the next round to open the following financial year to apply.

Below are the dates and timings for the grant as of March 2023:

Round 1 opened	1 July 2022
Round 1 closed	12 January 2023 (originally 30 March 2023)
Round 2 opens on GrantConnect	3 July 2023
Round 2 grant applications close	28 March 2024 (or until funding is expended)
Round 3 opens on GrantConnect	1 July 2024
Round 3 grant applications close	19 December 2024 (or until funding is expended)
Approval of outcomes	5-8 weeks after receipt of application
Negotiations and award of grant agreements	2 weeks after approval of outcomes
Provision of grant funding	5-10 business days after execution of Grant Agreement.

## Who is eligible for the eNRMC Adoption grant opportunity?

To be eligible for funding under this grant opportunity a RACS must:

- be one of the following:
  - a registered RACS
  - a National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Flexible Aged Care Program Provider that delivers residential services, or
  - a Multi-Purpose Service providing residential aged care services (including those operated by State and Territory governments).
- have a current and valid residential aged care service unique system identifier issued by the Commonwealth. This could be a RACS/Residential Aged Care Facility (RACF) ID or National Approved Provider Service (NAPS) ID.
- undertake to implement a Transitional eNRMC Product or Electronic Prescribing Conformant eNRMC Product within 12 months of executing a grant agreement. The product must be listed on the [Electronic Prescribing Conformance Register](#) or [Transitional eNRMC Conformance Register](#).

# What are the funding amounts for the eNRMC Adoption grant opportunity?

The value of the grants available will be varied. Grant amounts will depend on:

- which round you submit a successful application in
- the remoteness of your RACS (as determined by the ABS Remoteness classification)
- the ownership model of your RACS and
- whether your RACS has participated in the eNRMC Trial at any time between July 2018 and March 2022.

Grant amounts decrease with each subsequent round of the grant opportunity to encourage early adoption. Details of grant funding and grant amounts for subsequent rounds are subject to change and will be published in updated Grant Opportunity Guidelines on [GrantConnect](#) prior to each round commencing. Available grant funding within each financial year is finite. If funding is expended earlier than expected for a round, the grant round will be closed and applicants will need to wait for the next round to open the following financial year.

Grant Opportunity Years	Tier 1 (Highest \$)	Tier 2 (Middle \$)	Tier 3 (Lowest \$)
<b>Round 2</b> 3 July 2023 – 28 March 2024	\$20,000	\$15,000	\$5,000
<b>Round 3</b> 1 July 2024 – 19 December 2024	\$12,000	\$7,000	N/A

\*The grant amounts for round 3 is indicative only and may be subject to change as per ongoing Government announcements.

# What are the tiers of the eNRMC Adoption grant opportunity?

Grant payments are tiered to provide a greater amount of funding for services that require more support to implement an eNRMC due to greater cost barriers. These include those in regional, remote and very remote Australia and not-for-profit services. The tier structure is:

Tier 1	Not-for-profit or profit based RACSs in the following locations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Very remote</li> <li>• Remote or</li> <li>• Outer regional</li> </ul>
Tier 2	Not-for-profit RACSs in the following locations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inner regional</li> <li>• Major cities</li> </ul> Profit based RACSs in the following locations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inner regional</li> </ul>
Tier 3	All Active eNRMC Trial participant RACS regardless of location. Profit based RACSs in the following locations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Major cities</li> </ul>

Very remote, remote and outer regional RACS are facilities located within an outer regional, remote or very remote location. RACS remoteness is identified in the most recent Aged Care Service List on the [Australian Institute of Health and Welfare’s GEN Aged Care Data website](#).

Not for Profit RACS are those classified as: Charitable, Religious, Community, Local Government or State Government.

Active eNRMC trial participants are classified as services that signed a deed of agreement with the Department to participate in the trial, were issued an eNRMC trial authorisation number, and were listed within the eNRMC trial legislative instrument. A full list of eNRMC Trial participants is available on the Federal Register of Legislation.

## How can RACS apply for the eNRMC Adoption grant opportunity?

RACS must read and understand the Grant Opportunity Guidelines and the Grant Application Form before applying. Once the grant is live, you will be able to find these documents on GrantConnect. Any alterations and addenda will be published on GrantConnect and by registering on this website, you will be automatically notified of any changes. GrantConnect is the authoritative source for grants information.

To apply, RACS must:

- complete the Application Form on GrantConnect
- provide all information requested
- address all eligibility criteria and
- submit their application by the closing date and time, as specified on the front cover of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines, using the online application form link on GrantConnect

If a RACS needs further guidance around the application process or if they are unable to submit an application, they should please contact us at [grant.atm@health.gov.au](mailto:grant.atm@health.gov.au) or by calling (02) 6289 5600.

## What are RACS obligated to do under the eNRMC Adoption grant opportunity?

Within 12 months of executing their grant agreement, grant recipients will need to:

1. adopt a Transitional eNRMC Product or Electronic Prescribing Conformant eNRMC Product, and
2. submit evidence of adoption from their eNRMC vendor and a financial declaration stating that all grant funds have been expended on eligible activities.

## What can grant money be used for?

RACS can only spend the grant on goods or services that are directly related to the sourcing, adoption or use of a Transitional eNRMC Product or Electronic Prescribing Conformant eNRMC Product. Eligible products will be listed on the Agency's [Transitional eNRMC Conformance Register](#) or, once available, the [Electronic Prescribing Conformance Register](#).

Eligible expenditure items include:

- purchase of, or subscription to, a Transitional eNRMC Product or eNRMC software modules
- upgrade or purchase of hardware or infrastructure to enable the use of an eNRMC Product (such as Wi-Fi, computers, digital portable devices, etc.)

- expenditure related to change management processes (such as wages/salaries incurred for additional hours of training, or developing policies, processes, or training materials), and
- other expenditure incurred which directly relates to the sourcing, adoption or use of a conformant eNRM Product.

In instances where an eNRM has been adopted before a grant is received, grant funds may still be used on eligible activities such as change management processes or subscription fees.

Grant recipients will be required to submit a financial declaration confirming all grant funds have been expended on eligible activities or products.

## What eNRM products are eligible for adoption under the grant opportunity?

Eligible products for adoption through the grant will be listed on:

- the [Electronic Prescribing Conformance Register](#)
- the [Transitional eNRM Conformance Register](#)

Not all software will meet the requirements to be a “Transitional eNRM Product” at the same time. This means that not all software will be listed on the [Transitional eNRM Conformance Register](#) and eligible under the grant opportunity straight away. RACS should contact their software provider to confirm their intention and timeframes to reach Transitional eNRM Product status and Electronic Prescribing conformance.

RACS are strongly encouraged to review the Guide to Safe Implementation in Residential Care Facilities and to consult with their pharmacy/ies and prescribers when selecting an eNRM system and during implementation.

## Are Trial participants who have already adopted an eNRM eligible for the grant?

RACS who participated in the eNRM Trial any time between July 2018 and March 2022 are eligible for the eNRM Adoption grant opportunity, if the eNRM product they have adopted is listed on the [Transitional eNRM Conformance Register](#) (or the [Electronic Prescribing Conformance Register](#)).

Trial participants will be categorised as a Tier 3 applicant to reflect the fact they are already significantly progressed in adopting an eNRM product. Grant funds may still be used on eligible activities to support the adoption of a Transitional eNRM Product or Electronic Prescribing Conformant eNRM Product. For example, change management processes.

### Further Information

For more information about the Transitional Arrangement and Transitional eNRM Products, please see the [Department of Health's website](#).

To apply for the eNRM Adoption grant opportunity, visit the [GrantConnect website](#). If you have questions about the grant, please contact [eNRM@health.gov.au](mailto:eNRM@health.gov.au).