



Case study – Mark



Mark, 56, lives on the New South Wales central coast and works as a fitness instructor in a local gym. He has lived with asthma since he was six months old.

To treat his asthma, Mark regularly uses medication, including several different inhalers.

“I have had asthma my entire life, I never got rid of it. I take medication on a daily basis to keep me well and to help keep me functioning,” Mark says.

From 1 January 2023, the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) co-payment for general patients was reduced from \$42.50 to \$30.

Mark says the changes to the PBS means he is saving around \$37 a month, with inhalers comprising the majority of his medication costs.

“With the inhalers I take, three are listed on the PBS,” Mark says.

“With the recent reduction, the cost per inhaler is now \$30 each, and this is first time I have ever seen a change in my lifetime. Any sort of reduction is helpful.

“There are other people who have conditions that are way more severe than what I have, and the PBS helps others to get access to medications that are very beneficial for them.”

Visit health.gov.au/pbs for more information or talk to your pharmacist about how the PBS can help manage the cost of your medication.