

Fifth Report on Key Performance Measures (KPM)

for the

Seventh Community Pharmacy Agreement (7CPA)

July 2024

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# Introduction

Key Performance Measures (KPM) for the Seventh Community Pharmacy Agreement (7CPA) were developed as an evaluation framework for operation of the 7CPA. The KPM aim to enable Government, the pharmacy sector and the community to assess impacts of the 7CPA, based on the available evidence.

The KPM were a new undertaking under the 7CPA. No other evaluation mechanisms had been developed under previous Community Pharmacy Agreements. As no specific funding was made available under the 7CPA for monitoring and evaluation, the KPM have been confined to measures that stem from existing processes, available data and resources, with no additional costs to Government.

The KPM were developed in collaboration between the Department and key stakeholders including the Pharmacy Guild of Australia, the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia, the Consumers Health Forum of Australia, and the National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation.

KPM reports are published on a biannual basis, subject to the availability of required data.

The KPM report monitors key objectives and outcomes for the 7CPA to:

1. Demonstrate transparency and accountability while supplying Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) medicines for all Australians
2. Continue to supply National Diabetes Services Scheme (NDSS) products through community pharmacies
3. Support professional initiatives for pharmacists to better fulfil their current scope of practice
4. Ensure all Australians have access to pharmacy services and programs that support the safe and quality use of medicines; and
5. Support access to medicines and pharmacy services for Australians in regional, rural, and remote areas.

This is the fifth KPM report, adding information for **1 July – 31 December 2023** to previously reported data.

The information in this document should be read in conjunction with the [7CPA – Key Performance Measures and monitoring arrangements](https://www.health.gov.au/sites/default/files/2022-12/seventh-community-pharmacy-agreement-key-performance-measures-and-monitoring-arrangements.pdf) and [Key Policy Principles – KPM for 7CPA](https://www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/key-policy-principles-development-and-monitoring-of-key-performance-measures-for-the-7cpa), which are each available on the Department of Health and Aged Care’s [website](https://www.health.gov.au/resources/collections/7cpa-key-performance-measures). Earlier KPM reports for the 7CPA can also be accessed at: <https://www.health.gov.au/resources/collections/7cpa-key-performance-measures>.

# Objective 1: Demonstrate transparency and accountability while supplying Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) medicines for all Australians.

## Provision of pharmaceutical benefits in accordance with applicable laws, regulations, professional standards, codes and other requirements (7CPA, Clause 7).

The following tables present information on:

* Total prescriptions and expenditure for s90 pharmacies[[1]](#footnote-2), for PBS and Repatriation Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (RPBS) items by patient category and state / territory – *Tables 1(a)-1, 1(a)-2, 1(a)-3, 1(a)-4, 1(a)-5, 1(a)-7, 1(a)-8 and 1(a)-9*
* Patient contribution and Government cost for PBS items dispensed by s90 pharmacies *– Table 1(a)-6*
* Over and under co-payment PBS prescriptions for items dispensed by s90 pharmacies *– Table 1(a)-2*
* Discounted and non-discounted PBS/RPBS items dispensed by s90 pharmacies – *Tables 1(a)-10 and 1(a)-11*
* PBS remuneration for s90 pharmacies and wholesalers *– Tables 1(a)-12*
* PBS items supplied in bulk and individually for clients of Remote Area Aboriginal Health Services – *Tables 1(a)-13*

This report has been produced using PBS online claims data maintained by the Department of Health and Aged Care and sourced from Services Australia. Data were extracted on 13 May 2024, unless otherwise indicated. Please note that:

* PBS data does not capture over-the-counter medicines, private prescriptions (non-PBS prescriptions) or public inpatient prescriptions.
* The figures provided are subject to change due to late claims and adjustments by pharmacies.
* PBS data does not capture over-the-counter drugs, private prescriptions (non-PBS) or public inpatient prescriptions.

Table 1(a)-1: Total PBS Expenditure by Patient Category (s90 Pharmacies)

| **Patient Category** | **1 July – 31 December 2022** | **1 January - 30 June 2023** | **1 July – 31 December 2023** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **PBS Expenditure**  | **Percentage**  | **PBS Expenditure**  | **Percentage**  | **PBS Expenditure**  | **Percentage**  |
| Section 85 - Concessional | $4,215,967,472 | 61.7% | $3,452,204,383 | 56.4% |  $4,151,214,366 | 58.6% |
| Section 85 - General | $1,694,704,288 | 24.8% | $1,708,554,975 | 27.9% | $1,861,475,875 | 26.3% |
| Doctor's Bag | $27,535,152 | 0.4% | $47,887,952 | 0.8% | $59,808,829 | 0.8% |
| Section 100 | $897,956,183 | 13.1% | $910,224,595 | 14.9% | $1,016,760,296 | 14.3% |
| ***Total*** | ***$6,836,163,095*** | ***100.0%*** | ***$6,118,871,906*** | ***100.0%*** | **$7,089,259,367** | ***100.0%*** |

**Note**: Excludes expenditure for RPBS items.

Table 1(a)-2: PBS Prescription volumes by Patient Category (s90 Pharmacies)

Section 85 and Section 100, including Drs Bag and under co-payment prescriptions

| **Patient Category** | **1 July – 31 December 2022** | **1 January - 30 June 2023** | **1 July – 31 December 2023** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **PBS prescriptions** | **Percentage** | **PBS prescriptions** | **Percentage** | **PBS prescriptions** | **Percentage** |
| Concessional Non-Safety Net | 45,073,721 | 39.3% | 80,970,922 | 77.4% | 43,584,966 | 37.1% |
| Concessional Safety Net | 57,883,761 | 50.5% | 12,205,843 | 11.7% | 60,210,511 | 51.2% |
| ***Total Concessional*** | ***102,957,482*** | ***89.8%*** | 93,176,765 | 89.0% | ***103,795,477*** | ***88.3%*** |
| General Non-Safety Net | 8,456,664 | 7.4% | 11,230,282 | 10.7% | 11,543,069 | 9.8% |
| General Safety Net | 3,124,599 | 2.7% | 66,789 | 0.1% | 1,997,243 | 1.7% |
| ***Total General*** | ***11,581,263*** | ***10.1%*** | 11,297,071 | 10.8% | ***13,540,312*** | ***11.5%*** |
| Doctors Bag | 175,503 | 0.2% | 206,829 | 0.2% | 207,704 | 0.2% |
| ***Total (Over Co-payment)*** | ***114,714,248*** | ***100.0%*** | ***104,680,665*** | ***100.0%*** | ***117,543,493*** | ***100.0%*** |
| Under Co-payment scripts | 52,647,856 |  | 51,438,263 |  | 52,303,026 |  |
| ***Total (Over and Under Co-payment)*** | ***167,362,104*** |  | ***156,118,928*** |  | ***169,846,519*** |  |

Table 1(a)-3: PBS Government Cost by Patient Category (s90 Pharmacies)

Section 85 and Section 100, including Drs Bag and excluding under co-payment prescriptions

| **Patient Category** | **1 July – 31 December 2022** | **1 January – 30 June 2023** | **1 July – 31 December 2023** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Government Cost** | **Percentage** | **Government Cost** | **Percentage** | **Government Cost** | **Percentage** |
| Concessional Non-Safety Net | $2,233,738,862 | 32.7% | $3,403,105,562 | 55.6% | $2,140,879,445 | 30.2% |
| Concessional Safety Net | $2,438,367,984 | 35.7% | $499,948,714 | 8.2% | $2,528,919,928 | 35.7% |
| ***Total Concessional*** | ***$4,672,106,846*** | ***68.3%*** | ***$3,903,054,276*** | ***63.8%*** | ***$4,669,799,373*** | ***65.9%*** |
| General Non-Safety Net | $1,965,442,682 | 28.8% | $2,164,806,327 | 35.4% | $2,258,299,050 | 31.9% |
| General Safety Net | $171,078,416 | 2.5% | $3,123,351 | 0.1% | $101,352,115 | 1.4% |
| ***Total General*** | ***$2,136,521,098*** | ***31.3%*** | ***$2,167,929,678*** | ***35.4%*** | ***$2,359,651,164*** | ***33.3%*** |
| Doctors Bag | $27,535,152 | 0.4% | $47,887,952 | 0.8% | $59,808,829 | 0.8% |
| ***Total (Over Co-payment)*** | ***$6,836,163,095*** | ***100.0%*** | ***$6,118,871,906*** | ***100.0%*** | ***$7,089,259,367*** | ***100.0%*** |

Table 1(a)-4: RPBS and PBS Prescription volumes for DVA patients (s90 Pharmacies)

PBS Section 85 and Section 100 and RPBS items for DVA patients, excluding under co-payment prescriptions

| **Patient Category** | **1 July – 31 December 2022** | **1 January – 30 June 2023** | **1 July – 31 December 2023** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Subsidised prescriptions** | **Percentage** | **Subsidised prescriptions** | **Percentage** | **Subsidised prescriptions** | **Percentage** |
| Repatriation Non-Safety Net | 1,231,889 | 34.0% | 2,751,960 | 82.5% | 1,185,076 | 33.2% |
| Repatriation Safety Net | 2,395,176 | 66.0% | 582,780 | 17.5% | 2,389,701 | 66.8% |
| ***Total Repatriation*** | ***3,627,065*** | ***100.0%*** | ***3,334,740*** | ***100.0%*** | ***3,574,777*** | ***100.0%*** |

Table 1(a)-5: RPBS and PBS Government Cost for DVA patients (s90 Pharmacies)

PBS Section 85 and Section 100 and RPBS items for DVA patients, excluding under co-payment prescriptions

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Patient Category** | **1 July – 31 December 2022** | **1 January – 30 June 2023** | **1 July – 31 December 2023** |
| **Government Cost** | **Percentage** | **Government Cost** | **Percentage** | **Government Cost** | **Percentage** |
| Repatriation Non-Safety Net | $71,275,175 | 42.2% | $122,069,789 | 83.8% | $71,537,014 | 41.9% |
| Repatriation Safety Net | $97,664,503 | 57.8% | $23,658,202 | 16.2% | $99,160,508 | 58.1% |
| ***Total Repatriation*** | ***$168,939,678*** | ***100.0%*** | ***$145,727,991*** | ***100.0%*** | ***$170,697,522*** | ***100.0%*** |

Table 1(a)-6: Patient Contribution and Government Cost by Patient Category (s90 Pharmacies)

Section 85 and Section 100, including Drs Bag, excluding under co-payment prescriptions

| **Patient Category** | **1 July – 31 December 2022** | **1 January – 30 June 2023** | **1 July – 31 December 2023** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Patient Contribution\*** | **Government Cost** | **Patient Contribution\*** | **Government Cost** | **Patient Contribution\*** | **Government Cost** |
| Concessional Non-Safety Net | $293,847,652 | $2,233,738,862 | $569,560,783 | $3,403,105,562 | $304,099,210 | $2,140,879,445 |
| Concessional Safety Net | $0 | $2,438,367,984 | $0 | $499,948,714 | $0 | $2,528,919,928 |
| ***Total Concessional*** | ***$293,847,652*** | ***$4,672,106,846*** | ***$569,560,783*** | ***$3,903,054,276*** | ***$304,099,210*** | ***$4,669,799,373*** |
| General Non-Safety Net | $321,066,551 | $1,965,442,682 | $309,229,699 | $2,164,806,327 | $319,099,945 | $2,258,299,050 |
| General Safety Net | $20,529,445 | $171,078,416 | $444,541 | $3,123,351 | $13,739,972 | $101,352,115 |
| ***Total General*** | ***$341,595,996*** | ***$2,136,521,098*** | ***$309,674,240*** | ***$2,167,929,678*** | ***$332,839,917*** | ***$2,359,651,164*** |
| ***Total (excl. Drs Bag)*** | ***$635,443,648*** | ***$6,808,627,944*** | ***$879,235,022*** | ***$6,070,983,954*** | ***$636,939,127*** | ***$7,029,450,538*** |
| Doctors Bag | $0 | $27,535,152 | $0 | $47,887,952 | $0 | $59,808,829 |
| ***Total (Incl. Drs Bag)*** | ***$635,443,648*** | ***$6,836,163,095*** | ***$879,235,022*** | ***$6,118,871,906*** | ***$636,939,127*** | ***$7,089,259,367*** |

\* The patient contribution does not include the effect of the $1 PBS patient co-payment discount.

Table 1(a)-7: PBS Prescriptions by Pharmacy State/Territory and Patient Category (s90 Pharmacies), 1 July – 31 December 2022

Section 85 and Section 100, excluding Drs Bag and excluding under co-payment prescriptions

|  |
| --- |
| **PBS Prescriptions** |
| **Categories** | **NSW** | **Vic** | **Qld** | **SA** | **WA** | **Tas** | **NT** | **ACT** | **Australia** |
| **Concessional Non-Safety Net** | 14,315,616 | 11,165,738 | 9,614,120 | 3,742,884 | 4,300,192 | 1,240,785 | 219,860 | 474,526 | 45,073,721 |
| **Concessional Safety Net** | 19,119,090 | 14,237,338 | 11,939,679 | 4,883,255 | 5,258,595 | 1,723,887 | 128,049 | 593,868 | 57,883,761 |
| **General Non-Safety Net** | 2,786,740 | 1,994,280 | 1,754,879 | 520,491 | 944,614 | 187,651 | 81,633 | 186,376 | 8,456,664 |
| **General Safety Net** | 1,057,261 | 761,460 | 568,022 | 206,699 | 362,108 | 67,013 | 10,049 | 91,987 | 3,124,599 |
| ***Total*** | ***37,278,707*** | ***28,158,816*** | ***23,876,700*** | ***9,353,329*** | ***10,865,509*** | ***3,219,336*** | ***439,591*** | ***1,346,757*** | ***114,538,745*** |
| **Government Cost** |
| **Categories** | **NSW** | **Vic** | **Qld** | **SA** | **WA** | **Tas** | **NT** | **ACT** | **Australia** |
| **Concessional Non-Safety Net** | $831,704,665 | $501,275,722 | $429,938,453 | $167,315,936 | $219,417,010 | $52,966,741 | $8,182,341 | $22,937,993 | $2,233,738,862 |
| **Concessional Safety Net** | $808,632,435 | $602,860,796 | $481,804,109 | $206,318,343 | $233,622,702 | $73,385,010 | $4,630,726 | $27,113,863 | $2,438,367,984 |
| **General Non-Safety Net** | $715,714,696 | $487,108,477 | $339,475,811 | $120,715,366 | $215,484,030 | $37,874,265 | $10,180,168 | $38,889,869 | $1,965,442,682 |
| **General Safety Net** | $57,885,521 | $44,257,560 | $28,533,692 | $11,026,931 | $20,066,544 | $3,679,222 | $542,064 | $5,086,881 | $171,078,416 |
| ***Total*** | ***$2,413,937,318*** | ***$1,635,502,555*** | ***$1,279,752,064*** | ***$505,376,576*** | ***$688,590,287*** | ***$167,905,238*** | ***$23,535,299*** | ***$94,028,607*** | ***$6,808,627,944*** |
| **Total Cost\*** |
| **Categories** | **NSW** | **Vic** | **Qld** | **SA** | **WA** | **Tas** | **NT** | **ACT** | **Australia** |
| **Concessional Non-Safety Net** | $924,218,298 | $576,221,671 | $491,562,114 | $191,951,432 | $247,220,939 | $61,015,513 | $9,315,622 | $26,080,926 | $2,527,586,514 |
| **Concessional Safety Net** | $808,632,435 | $602,860,796 | $481,804,109 | $206,318,343 | $233,622,702 | $73,385,010 | $4,630,726 | $27,113,863 | $2,438,367,984 |
| **General Non-Safety Net** | $818,542,698 | $568,915,178 | $402,790,214 | $141,136,050 | $251,704,159 | $44,658,516 | $12,407,171 | $46,355,246 | $2,286,509,233 |
| **General Safety Net** | $64,786,270 | $49,378,892 | $32,184,496 | $12,396,594 | $22,457,887 | $4,104,916 | $597,062 | $5,701,744 | $191,607,860 |
| ***Total*** | ***$2,616,179,701*** | ***$1,797,376,536*** | ***$1,408,340,933*** | ***$551,802,418*** | ***$755,005,686*** | ***$183,163,955*** | ***$26,950,582*** | ***$105,251,779*** | ***$7,444,071,591*** |

\* Total Cost includes cost to the patient and cost to the Government for PBS Subsidised Prescriptions (Section 85 and Section 100 prescriptions).

Table 1(a)-8: PBS Prescriptions by Pharmacy State/Territory and Patient Category (s90 Pharmacies), 1 January – 30 June 2023

Section 85 and Section 100, excluding Drs Bag and excluding under co-payment prescriptions

|  |
| --- |
| **PBS Prescriptions** |
| **Categories** | **NSW** | **Vic** | **Qld** | **SA** | **WA** | **Tas** | **NT** | **ACT** | **Australia** |
| **Concessional Non-Safety Net** | 25,998,999 | 20,045,798 | 16,901,741 | 6,861,386 | 7,616,778 | 2,364,772 | 301,442 | 880,006 | 80,970,922 |
| **Concessional Safety Net** | 4,139,270 | 2,980,183 | 2,532,124 | 1,002,625 | 1,029,663 | 371,999 | 22,398 | 127,581 | 12,205,843 |
| **General Non-Safety Net** | 3,683,403 | 2,673,339 | 2,292,005 | 698,181 | 1,285,884 | 250,605 | 96,486 | 250,379 | 11,230,282 |
| **General Safety Net** | 24,083 | 18,713 | 10,610 | 3,555 | 6,284 | 1,132 | 236 | 2,176 | 66,789 |
| ***Total*** | ***33,845,755*** | ***25,718,033*** | ***21,736,480*** | ***8,565,747*** | ***9,938,609*** | ***2,988,508*** | ***420,562*** | ***1,260,142*** | ***104,473,836*** |
| **Government Cost** |
| **Categories** | **NSW** | **Vic** | **Qld** | **SA** | **WA** | **Tas** | **NT** | **ACT** | **Australia** |
| **Concessional Non-Safety Net** | $1,232,052,373 | $777,337,490 | $662,968,007 | $264,234,685 | $331,660,060 | $87,782,110 | $10,160,052 | $36,910,784 | $3,403,105,562 |
| **Concessional Safety Net** | $169,840,476 | $121,691,671 | $100,813,485 | $40,841,636 | $44,433,708 | $15,745,527 | $782,223 | $5,799,990 | $499,948,714 |
| **General Non-Safety Net** | $788,058,992 | $532,041,162 | $379,747,847 | $132,488,086 | $237,428,949 | $42,245,534 | $10,635,226 | $42,160,529 | $2,164,806,327 |
| **General Safety Net** | $1,087,981 | $964,983 | $480,886 | $127,691 | $301,274 | $55,215 | $6,865 | $98,456 | $3,123,351 |
| ***Total*** | ***$2,191,039,822*** | ***$1,432,035,306*** | ***$1,144,010,225*** | ***$437,692,098*** | ***$613,823,991*** | ***$145,828,386*** | ***$21,584,367*** | ***$84,969,759*** | ***$6,070,983,954*** |
| **Total Cost\*** |
| **Categories** | **NSW** | **Vic** | **Qld** | **SA** | **WA** | **Tas** | **NT** | **ACT** | **Australia** |
| **Concessional Non-Safety Net** | $1,413,502,210 | $921,936,438 | $780,070,242 | $312,932,292 | $385,016,643 | $104,229,952 | $11,787,741 | $43,190,828 | $3,972,666,344 |
| **Concessional Safety Net** | $169,840,476 | $121,691,671 | $100,813,485 | $40,841,636 | $44,433,708 | $15,745,527 | $782,223 | $5,799,990 | $499,948,714 |
| **General Non-Safety Net** | $887,227,722 | $610,080,062 | $440,469,911 | $152,216,446 | $273,162,675 | $48,857,606 | $12,681,055 | $49,340,547 | $2,474,036,025 |
| **General Safety Net** | $1,246,581 | $1,096,405 | $547,396 | $150,795 | $342,176 | $62,917 | $7,880 | $113,742 | $3,567,892 |
| ***Total*** | ***$2,471,816,989*** | ***$1,654,804,576*** | ***$1,321,901,034*** | ***$506,141,169*** | ***$702,955,201*** | ***$168,896,001*** | ***$25,258,898*** | ***$98,445,107*** | ***$6,950,218,976*** |

\* Total Cost includes cost to the patient and cost to the Government for PBS Subsidised Prescriptions (S85 and S100 prescriptions).

Table 1(a)-9: PBS Prescriptions by Pharmacy State/Territory and Patient Category (s90 Pharmacies), 1 July – 31 December 2023

Section 85 and Section 100, excluding Drs Bag and excluding under co-payment prescriptions

|  |
| --- |
| **PBS Prescriptions** |
| **Categories** | **NSW** | **Vic** | **Qld** | **SA** | **WA** | **Tas** | **NT** | **ACT** | **Australia** |
| **Concessional Non-Safety Net** | 13,865,412 | 10,720,036 | 9,265,546 | 3,604,742 | 4,234,468 | 1,191,041 | 213,843 | 489,878 | 43,584,966 |
| **Concessional Safety Net** | 19,773,910 | 14,810,473 | 12,438,650 | 5,130,511 | 5,487,377 | 1,796,155 | 141,492 | 631,943 | 60,210,511 |
| **General Non-Safety Net** | 3,754,261 | 2,771,205 | 2,367,930 | 715,552 | 1,327,928 | 250,413 | 102,561 | 253,219 | 11,543,069 |
| **General Safety Net** | 686,820 | 475,226 | 365,722 | 123,956 | 235,359 | 44,822 | 7,069 | 58,269 | 1,997,243 |
| ***Total*** | ***38,080,403*** | ***28,776,940*** | ***24,437,848*** | ***9,574,761*** | ***11,285,132*** | ***3,282,431*** | ***464,965*** | ***1,433,309*** | ***117,335,789*** |
| **Government Cost** |
| **Categories** | **NSW** | **Vic** | **Qld** | **SA** | **WA** | **Tas** | **NT** | **ACT** | **Australia** |
| **Concessional Non-Safety Net** | $814,259,317 | $474,507,731 | $412,651,631 | $154,861,844 | $207,263,766 | $47,564,443 | $7,784,440 | $21,986,272 | $2,140,879,445 |
| **Concessional Safety Net** | $834,318,143 | $624,155,403 | $506,713,571 | $213,648,400 | $240,522,947 | $75,555,568 | $4,989,939 | $29,015,957 | $2,528,919,928 |
| **General Non-Safety Net** | $819,956,801 | $560,614,223 | $396,978,933 | $137,955,283 | $246,445,934 | $42,210,188 | $11,162,818 | $42,974,868 | $2,258,299,050 |
| **General Safety Net** | $34,728,028 | $24,611,636 | $17,874,596 | $6,290,564 | $12,102,745 | $2,231,997 | $297,254 | $3,215,295 | $101,352,115 |
| ***Total*** | ***$2,503,262,290*** | ***$1,683,888,992*** | ***$1,334,218,732*** | ***$512,756,091*** | ***$706,335,392*** | ***$167,562,197*** | ***$24,234,451*** | ***$97,192,393*** | ***$7,029,450,538*** |
| **Total Cost\*** |
| **Categories** | **NSW** | **Vic** | **Qld** | **SA** | **WA** | **Tas** | **NT** | **ACT** | **Australia** |
| **Concessional Non-Safety Net** | $910,117,946 | $551,648,583 | $476,128,825 | $180,250,864 | $236,593,925 | $55,820,072 | $8,952,243 | $25,466,197 | $2,444,978,655 |
| **Concessional Safety Net** | $834,318,143 | $624,155,403 | $506,713,571 | $213,648,400 | $240,522,947 | $75,555,568 | $4,989,939 | $29,015,957 | $2,528,919,928 |
| **General Non-Safety Net** | $921,481,236 | $641,631,938 | $460,065,921 | $158,227,314 | $283,546,192 | $48,839,791 | $13,357,867 | $50,248,735 | $2,577,398,995 |
| **General Safety Net** | $39,409,781 | $28,013,122 | $20,305,007 | $7,151,109 | $13,733,258 | $2,526,217 | $327,527 | $3,626,066 | $115,092,087 |
| ***Total*** | ***$2,705,327,106*** | ***$1,845,449,046*** | ***$1,463,213,325*** | ***$559,277,688*** | ***$774,396,322*** | ***$182,741,647*** | ***$27,627,576*** | ***$108,356,955*** | ***$7,666,389,665*** |

\* Total Cost includes cost to the patient and cost to the Government for PBS Subsidised Prescriptions (S85 and S100 prescriptions).

Table 1(a)-10: Discounted and Non-Discounted PBS/RPBS Prescriptions (s90 Pharmacies)

Section 85 and Section 100, excluding Drs Bag and under co-payment prescriptions

| **Report Period** | **Prescription Type** | **Concessional** | **General** | **RPBS** | **Total** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Prescriptions** | **%** | **Prescriptions** | **%** | **Prescriptions** | **%** | **Prescriptions** | **%** |
| **1 July – 31 December 2022** | Discounted | 17,211,191 | 16.7% | 3,349,610 | 28.9% | 369,922 | 10.2% | 20,930,723 | 17.7% |
| Non-discounted | 85,746,291 | 83.3% | 8,231,653 | 71.1% | 3,257,143 | 89.8% | 97,235,087 | 82.3% |
| ***Grand Total*** | ***102,957,482*** | ***100.0%*** | ***11,581,263*** | ***100.0%*** | ***3,627,065*** | ***100.0%*** | ***118,165,810*** | ***100.0%*** |
| **1 January – 30 June 2023** | Discounted | 23,600,749 | 25.3% | 3,366,076 | 29.8% | 540,914 | 16.2% | 27,507,739 | 25.5% |
| Non-discounted | 69,576,016 | 74.7% | 7,930,995 | 70.2% | 2,793,826 | 83.8% | 80,300,837 | 74.5% |
| ***Grand Total*** | ***93,176,765*** | ***100.0%*** | ***11,297,071*** | ***100.0%*** | ***3,334,740*** | ***100.0%*** | ***107,808,576*** | ***100.0%*** |
| **1 July – 31 December 2023** | Discounted | 15,072,916 | 14.5% | 3,753,338 | 27.7% | 315,890 | 8.8% | 19,142,144 | 15.8% |
| Non-discounted | 88,722,561 | 85.5% | 9,786,974 | 72.3% | 3,258,887 | 91.2% | 101,768,422 | 84.2% |
| ***Grand Total*** | ***103,795,477*** | ***100.0%*** | ***13,540,312*** | ***100.0%*** | ***3,574,777*** | ***100.0%*** | ***120,910,566*** | ***100.0%*** |

Table 1(a)-11: Discount Range for PBS/RPBS prescriptions (s90 Pharmacies)

Section 85 and Section 100, excluding Drs Bag and under co-payment prescriptions

| **Report Period** | **Discount Range** | **Concessional** | **General** | **RPBS** | **Total** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Prescriptions** | **%** | **Prescriptions** | **%** | **Prescriptions** | **%** | **Prescriptions** | **%** |
| **1 July – 31 December 2022** | $1.00 | 16,822,212 | 97.7% | 3,293,732 | 98.3% | 360,617 | 97.5% | 20,476,561 | 97.8% |
| 0.50 - < $1.00 | 249,293 | 1.4% | 31,793 | 0.9% | 5,700 | 1.5% | 286,786 | 1.4% |
| < 50c | 59,870 | 0.3% | 7,178 | 0.2% | 1,586 | 0.4% | 68,634 | 0.3% |
| Other | 79,816 | 0.5% | 16,907 | 0.5% | 2,019 | 0.5% | 98,742 | 0.5% |
| ***Grand Total*** | ***17,211,191*** | ***100.0%*** | ***3,349,610*** | ***100.0%*** | ***369,922*** | ***100.0%*** | ***20,930,723*** | ***100.0%*** |
| **1 January –****30 June 2023** | $1.00 | 22,975,129 | 97.3% | 3,274,999 | 97.3% | 524,945 | 97.0% | 26,775,073 | 97.3% |
| 0.50 - < $1.00 | 385,018 | 1.6% | 41,766 | 1.2% | 9,430 | 1.7% | 436,214 | 1.6% |
| < 50c | 111,915 | 0.5% | 37,039 | 1.1% | 3,607 | 0.7% | 152,561 | 0.6% |
| Other | 128,687 | 0.5% | 12,272 | 0.4% | 2,932 | 0.5% | 143,891 | 0.5% |
| ***Grand Total*** | ***23,600,749*** | ***100.0%*** | ***3,366,076*** | ***100.0%*** | ***540,914*** | ***100.0%*** | ***27,507,739*** | ***100.0%*** |
| **1 July – 31 December 2023** | $1.00 | 14,743,765 | 97.8% | 3,664,312 | 97.6% | 307,863 | 97.5% | 18,715,940 | 97.8% |
| 0.50 - < $1.00 | 78,957 | 0.5% | 12,171 | 0.3% | 2,117 | 0.7% | 93,245 | 0.5% |
| < 50c | 183,769 | 1.2% | 63,746 | 1.7% | 4,486 | 1.4% | 252,001 | 1.3% |
| Other | 66,425 | 0.4% | 13,109 | 0.3% | 1,424 | 0.5% | 80,958 | 0.4% |
| ***Grand Total*** | ***15,072,916*** | ***100.0%*** | ***3,753,338*** | ***100.0%*** | ***315,890*** | ***100.0%*** | ***19,142,144*** | ***100.0%*** |

Table 1(a)-12: Remuneration to s90 Pharmacies and wholesalers for PBS/RPBS Prescriptions

Section 85 and Section 100, including Drs Bag, excluding under co-payment prescriptions

Pharmacy remuneration recognises the cost to pharmacist for the purchase of medicines; the administration, handling and storage costs entailed in dispensing medicines by the pharmacy (including associated infrastructure costs); and a pharmacist's specialised skills in dispensing the medicines.

| **Expenses for PBS and RPBS Prescriptions** | **1 July – 31 December 2022** | **1 January – 30 June 2023** | **1 July – 31 December 2023** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***Medicines Price*** |
| Ex-Manufacturer Price | $5,145,138,722 | $4,817,893,119 | $5,200,786,178 |
| Wholesale Mark-Up | $274,719,201 | $252,374,026 | $271,322,293 |
| ***Total Price to Pharmacist*** | ***$5,419,857,923*** | ***$5,070,267,145*** | ***$5,472,108,471*** |
| ***Pharmacy Costs*** |
| Administration, Handling and Infrastructure (AHI) fee | $654,773,696 | $596,896,277 | $695,446,442 |
| Dispensing Fee | $916,693,173 | $835,975,364 | $1,003,987,005 |
| Dangerous Drug Fee | $21,644,848 | $22,521,556 | $27,405,790 |
| Wastage Fee | $3,438,981 | $3,441,854 | $2,281,797 |
| Container Fee | $426,710 | $375,963 | $380,945 |
| ***Total Pharmacy Remuneration*** | ***$1,596,977,408*** | ***$1,459,211,014*** | **$1,729,501,979** |
| ***Total Cost*** | ***$7,016,835,331*** | ***$6,529,478,159*** | ***$7,201,610,451*** |

Data is for PBS and RPBS prescriptions claimed by community pharmacies and friendly societies for both Section 85 and some Section 100 items. It includes Government and patient contributions; Efficient Funding of Chemotherapy (EFC) items dispensed from March 2021; and private and public hospital HSD claims dispensed.

Table 1(a)-13: Volume and Expenditure of PBS items supplied in bulk and individually for clients of Remote Area Aboriginal Health Services (RAAHS) by state/territory

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Report Period** | **RAHHS Supply** | **NSW/TAS\*** | **NT** | **QLD** | **SA** | **WA** | ***Australia*** |
| **1 July – 31 December 2022** | Total Items\*\* | 5,589 | 526,067 | 178,418 | 37,339 | 256,213 | ***1,003,626*** |
| Total Items Cost | $142,727 | $13,970,658 | $5,331,177 | $1,015,595 | $6,679,525 | ***$27,139,682*** |
| Individual Items\*\*\* | 1,526 | 353,627 | 113,685 | 16,278 | 177,843 | ***662,959*** |
| Individual Items cost | $7,669 | $1,777,022 | $571,531 | $81,733 | $893,784 | ***$3,331,739*** |
| **1 January –** **30 June 2023** | Total Items\*\* | 4,636 | 549,034 | 177,302 | 31,940 | 243,819 | ***1,006,731*** |
| Total Items Cost | $112,367 | $14,529,994 | $4,766,765 | $922,122 | $6,394,415 | ***$26,725,663*** |
| Individual Items\*\*\* | 1,445 | 368,460 | 104,098 | 14,858 | 151,171 | ***640,032*** |
| Individual Items cost | $7,283 | $1,857,038 | $524,654 | $74,884 | $761,714 | ***$3,225,574*** |
| **1 July – 31 December 2023** | Total Items\*\* | 5,269 | 603,486 | 170,239 | 31,044 | 244,546 | ***1,054,584*** |
| Total Items Cost | $156,146 | $15,832,624 | $4,759,617 | $931,348 | $6,332,532 | ***$28,012,268*** |
| Individual Items\*\*\* | 1,514 | 441,619 | 115,776 | 14,262 | 166,230 | ***739,401*** |
| Individual Items cost | $7,888  | $2,290,010 | $598,429 | $73,949 | $861,273 | ***$3,831,548*** |

**Note**: there are no RAAHS data for VIC and ACT.

\* Data for NSW and Tasmania have been aggregated to prevent identification due to low number of individual data points available.

\*\* Total Items includes items supplied in bulk and individually.

\*\*\* Items supplied individually are taken from the no. of instances of the Patient Specific Medicine Supply Fee (PSMSF) paid for each PBS medicine ordered on a RAAHS prescription, and labelled for an individual patient, for supply through an approved RAAHS.

The PSMSF is paid in addition to the handling fee paid to eligible pharmacies for the supply of bulk PBS medicines to an approved RAAHS.

The PSMSF figures are a subset of the RAAHS figures.

From 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023 the PSMSF was $5.04 and from 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024 the PSMSF was $5.21.

The PSMSF data has been manually extracted from Services Australia Remote Area Aboriginal Health Services Access data base and is not sourced from official channels.

These data relate to the date claims are processed and may differ from other data provided by Services Australia, including PBS Expenditure data.

PSMSF values may be affected by rounding.

# Objective 1: Demonstrate transparency and accountability while supplying Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) medicines for all Australians

## Transparency of charges (7CPA, Clause 4.3).

Clause 4.3 of the Seventh Community Pharmacy Agreement (7CPA) committed the Pharmacy Guild of Australia (Guild) to ensuring that Approved Pharmacists[[2]](#footnote-3) “make consumers aware, prior to dispensing a Pharmaceutical Benefit, of any Safety Net Recording Fee and Additional Patient Charge to be charged, the fact that the Additional Patient Charge is not Commonwealth initiated, and the total cost to the consumer of that Pharmaceutical Benefit.” During the First Financial Year of the 7CPA, the Guild was required to work with the Department to develop arrangements and processes to support this commitment.

Following discussion at the first meeting of the 7CPA Pharmacy Stakeholder Consultation Committee (PSCC) in October 2020, the Guild worked with the Department to develop arrangements and processes for Approved Pharmacists to make the required disclosures and to notify consumers, prior to dispensing, of the price of the Pharmaceutical Benefit.

The draft communication resources and materials developed by the Guild, consisting of an in-pharmacy poster and supporting Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ), were subsequently discussed at the second PSCC meeting in April 2021, with further consultations between the Department, the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA), Consumers Health Forum of Australia (CHF) and the National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO), leading to consumer focus testing hosted by CHF and the Guild.

Following endorsement of the Guild’s communication resources by PSCC in July 2021, the resources were published on the Guild’s [FindaPharmacy](http://www.findapharmacy.com.au/pbs-pricing) website on 1 January 2022, to coincide with annual PBS patient co-payment changes.

The Guild will continue to provide regular updates on progress and uptake of its PBS medicines pricing resources at biannual meetings of the PSCC. Communiques arising from each meeting of the PSCC are published on the [Department’s website](https://www.health.gov.au/resources/collections/pharmacy-stakeholder-consultation-committee-tor-communiques-and-implementation-activities).

# Objective 1: Demonstrate transparency and accountability while supplying Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) medicines for all Australians

## Closing the Gap (CTG) PBS Co-Payment Program (7CPA, Clause 10).

The CTG PBS Co-payment program was established in July 2010 to improve access to affordable PBS medicines for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living with, or at risk of, chronic disease, and who in their doctor’s opinion would experience setbacks in the prevention or ongoing management of chronic disease if they did not take the prescribed medicine and would be unlikely to adhere to their medicines regimen without assistance through the program.

When obtaining PBS General Schedule medicines at their local pharmacy, eligible general patients who would normally pay the full PBS co‑payment pay the concessional rate and those eligible patients who would normally pay the concessional rate receive their PBS medicines without being required to pay a PBS co‑payment.

The following table presents information on the total number of PBS items and expenditure for the CTG PBS Co-Payment Program across states and territories. This report has been produced using PBS online claims data maintained by the Department of Health and Aged Care and sourced from Services Australia.

Table 1(c): Total number of PBS items and expenditure for CTG PBS Co-Payment Program across states and territories\*

| **Pharmacy State/Territory** | **1 July – 31 December 2022** | **1 January – 30 June 2023** | **1 July – 31 December 2023\*\*** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **No. of PBS items** | **CTG Benefit Amount** | **No. of PBS items** | **CTG Benefit Amount** | **No. of PBS items** | **CTG Benefit Amount** |
| **ACT** | 37,853 | $304,457 | 37,760 | $349,442 | 42,161 | $316,034 |
| **NSW** | 1,685,396 | $10,690,194 | 1,668,338 | $13,698,941 | 1,812,176 | $11,165,647 |
| **NT** | 117,191 | $920,885 | 120,518 | $1,070,568 | 127,945 | $956,245 |
| **QLD** | 1,330,385 | $8,762,770 | 1,317,597 | $10,928,872 | 1,414,472 | $9,178,529 |
| **SA** | 265,021 | $1,565,180 | 264,734 | $2,081,278 | 289,600 | $1,669,104 |
| **TAS** | 174,731 | $969,395 | 176,914 | $1,379,322 | 192,065 | $1,036,988 |
| **VIC** | 332,423 | $2,068,862 | 332,954 | $2,695,144 | 363,344 | $2,219,997 |
| **WA** | 442,448 | $3,015,821 | 442,309 | $3,686,398 | 472,931 | $3,112,381 |
| ***Total*** | ***4,385,448*** | ***$28,297,565*** | **4,361,124** | **$35,889,965** | ***4,714,694*** | ***$29,654,926*** |

\* The data provided is inclusive of PBS and RPBS items and expenditure and excludes Doctor’s Bag. \*\* Data extracted **13 May 2024**.

# Objective 1: Demonstrate transparency and accountability while supplying Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) medicines for all Australians

## Support the uptake of electronic prescription arrangements (7CPA, Clause 9.4).

Electronic prescribing provides an option for prescribers and their patients to use an electronic prescription as an alternative to a paper prescription. Electronic prescriptions are part of the broader digital health and medicines safety framework and are part of an Australian Government budget measure to make the PBS more efficient. Electronic prescribing aims to provide convenience and choice to patients while improving PBS efficiency, compliance and medicines safety. Electronic prescribing does not fundamentally change existing prescribing and dispensing processes: patients can still choose which pharmacy they attend to fill their prescription; and paper prescriptions are still available.

An Electronic Prescription Fee (EPF) is paid to pharmacies for the dispensing of electronic prescriptions.

Under the 7CPA (clause 9.4), the Commonwealth continues to support the uptake of electronic prescriptions by Approved Pharmacists. Following the first financial year of the 7CPA, the EPF will transition to a direct funding arrangement with Exchange Infrastructure Providers rather than Approved Pharmacists.

The transition to a direct model began with a Request for Information (RFI) to explore the current and future state of Prescription Delivery Services, closing in Oct 2021. Informed by the RFI results, the Government announced the Request for Tender for Electronic Prescription Services (Ref: Health/E21- 576909) to engage a single or multiple providers for ongoing Prescription Delivery Services. The tender closed on 2 June 2022 and in May 2023, the department signed a 4-year contract for Fred IT's eRx Script Exchange to supply the national Prescription Delivery Service from 1 July 2023.

The 15-cent electronic prescription fee (EPF) paid to pharmacies via the Community Pharmacy Agreement will end on 30 June 2023. The ending of the EPF will maintain a cost-neutral arrangement for pharmacies as they will no longer be charged a 15c fee for eligible prescriptions by the Prescription Delivery Services.

# Objective 2: Continue to supply National Diabetes Services Scheme (NDSS) products through community pharmacies

## The National Diabetes Services Scheme (NDSS) (7CPA, Clause 6 and 8).

Approved community pharmacy Access Points receive a payment of $1 plus GST for each NDSS product pack supplied to registrants.

Community Service Obligation Distributors (CSODs) receive a payment of $1 plus GST for each NDSS product pack delivered to NDSS Access Points.

Table 2: NDSS Registrants, Community pharmacy Access Points and handling fees paid

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Category** | **1 July – 31 December 2022** | **1 January – 30 June 2023** | **1 July – 31 December 2023** |
| **Total No. of NDSS registrants** | 1,487,300 | 1,451,094 | 1,463,772 |
| **Registrants registered on the NDSS Gestational Diabetes Mellitus Reminder Register** | 229,291 | 185,424 | 232,259 |
| **Total No. of approved community pharmacy NDSS Access Points** | 5,923 | 5,724 | 5,957 |
| ***Total Access Point Fees Paid*** | ***$3,636,145*** | ***$3,448,246*** | ***$3,553,235*** |

# Objective 3: Support professional initiatives for pharmacists to better fulfil their current scope of practice.

## Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) Professional Practice Standards (PPS), Practice Guidelines, and Code of Ethics (CoE) (7CPA, Clause 14).

Clause 14.2 of the Seventh Community Pharmacy Agreement (7CPA) commits the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) and the Department of Health and Aged Care, to working together in relation to the further development of the PSA Code of Ethics that underpins pharmacist practice in Australia.

The Department has chosen not to pursue an update of the PSA Code of Ethics at this time, following a review of PSA’s proposal submitted in late 2021.

Clause 14.6 of the 7CPA commits the PSA to continue to maintain the Professional Practice Standards (PPS) and relevant clinical guidelines with the aim of providing pharmacists with practice information to support the safe and quality use of medicines.

PSA launched a Self-assessment and quality improvement implementation program on 14/10/2023 to help pharmacists better understand and implement the standards into their practice.

# Objective 3: Support professional initiatives for pharmacists to better fulfil their current scope of practice.

## Credentialing of pharmacists for undertaking medication reviews

Home Medicines Reviews (HMR) and Residential Medication Management Reviews (RMMR) are medication management services initiated and supported by the Australian Government, aimed at supporting the quality use of medicines and assisting in minimising adverse medicine events by helping people understand and manage their medicines. Medication reviews are initiated by a medical practitioner and conducted by a credentialed pharmacist. The HMR involves a credentialed pharmacist making a visit to a patient’s home to provide a medication review service, while the RMMR service is provided to an eligible patient residing in an eligible Residential Care Facility. In both HMR and RMMR, after the initial interview, the credentialed pharmacist provides an HMR or RMMR report respectively to the initiating medical practitioner for consideration of issues raised.

From 21 April 2020, if clinically indicated, up to two follow-up services may be conducted to resolve medication-related problems identified at the initial interview.

Table 3(b)-1: Number and percentage of credentialed registered pharmacists eligible to provide HMR and RMMR

|  | **1 July – 31 December 2022** | **1 January – 30 June 2023** | **1 July – 31 December 2023** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Category** | **Number** | **Percentage** | **Number** | **Percentage** | **Number** | **Percentage** |
| **Accredited registered pharmacists** | 2,836 a | 7.9% | 3207 c | 8.8% | 2956e | 7.9% |
| **Total No. of registered pharmacists** | ***35,732b*** |  | ***36,425d*** |  | ***37,393f*** |  |

a - as at 19 December 2022. Information sourced from data published by [The Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia (SHPA)](https://www.shpa.org.au/), The Accredited Pharmacist Issue 22/22 dated 19 December 2022 and [Pharmacy Board of Australia (PBA)](https://www.pharmacyboard.gov.au/about/statistics.aspx).

b - as of 31 December 2022. Includes 125 pharmacists on the short-term pandemic response sub-register (this register closed on 22 September 2022).

c - as at 11 October 2023. Information sourced from PSA and data published by [SHPA Accredited Pharmacists Directory](https://www.shpa.org.au/directory). Please note that the numbers reported are derived from opt-in directories and actual numbers may therefore differ from those shown in the table.

d - as at 30 June 2023. Information sourced from data published by [Pharmacy Board of Australia (PBA)](https://www.pharmacyboard.gov.au/about/statistics.aspx).

e – Information sourced from Pharmacy Programs Administrator

f – as at 31 December 2023. Information sourced from data published by [Pharmacy Board of Australia (PBA)](https://www.pharmacyboard.gov.au/about/statistics.aspx).

**Note**: A credentialed pharmacist can provide both HMR and RMMR services.

Table 3(b)-2: Number and percentage of credentialed pharmacists actively providing HMRs and RMMRs

|  | **1 July – 31 December 2022** | **1 January - 30 June 2023** | **1 July – 31 December 2023** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Category** | **Number** | **Percentage** | **Number** | **Percentage** | **Number** | **Percentage** |
| **Average No. of credentialed pharmacists actively providing HMR/RMMR services *a*** | 1,250 | 44.1% | 1,182 | 36.9% | 1270 | 42.9% |
| **Total No. of credentialed pharmacists**  | 2,836 |  | 3207 |  | 2956 |  |

a - Information sourced from [7CPA - Pharmacy programs data](https://www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/seventh-community-pharmacy-agreements-7cpas-pharmacy-programs-data?language=en) (last updated 23 May 2024) published by the Department of Health and Aged Care.

# Objective 4: Ensure all Australians have access to pharmacy services and programs that support the safe and quality use of medicines

The 7CPA provides funding for professional pharmacy programs and services over the life of the Agreement. These programs include continuation and revision of existing pharmacy programs and services from the 6CPA and include:

* **Medication Adherence Programs**: Dose Administration Aids (DAA) and Staged Supply
* **Medication Management Programs:** MedsCheck, Diabetes MedsCheck, Home Medicines Review (HMR), Residential Medication Management Review (RMMR) and Quality Use of Medicines (QUM) in Residential Aged Care Facilities
* **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Programs:** Indigenous Dose Administration Aids (IDAA) Program and Indigenous Health Services Pharmacy Support (IHSPS) Program

Table 4-1: Total number and expenditure for Community Pharmacy Programs and Services

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Program or Service** | **1 July – 31 December 2022** | **1 January – 30 June 2023** | **1 July – 31 December 2023** |
| **Total Services** | **Expenditure** | **Total Services** | **Expenditure** | **Total Services** | **Expenditure** |
| **Dose Administration Aids**  | 7,977,630 | $49,368,323 | 8,232,658 | $50,969,636 | 8,473,613 | $52,416,629 |
| **Indigenous Dose Administration Aids** | 903,094 | $10,577,216 | 975,535 | $11,482,991 | 1,067,425 | $12,601,811 |
| **Staged Supply** | 97,258 | $4,535,245 | 103,562 | $4,745,436 | 113,319 | $5,211,658 |
| **HMR\*** | 79,891 | $14,732,760 | 64,607 | $12,597,906 | 74,024 | $14,635,475 |
| **RMMR\*** | 80,010 | $7,857,906 | 75,875 | $7,463,484 | 83,167 | $8,107,461 |
| **MedsCheck** | 206,511 | $13,739,179 | 216,939 | $14,432,954 | 239,236 | $15,916,370 |
| **Diabetes MedsCheck** | 90,427 | $9,023,714 | 103,048 | $10,283,172 | 122,372 | $12,211,502 |
| **Quality Use of Medicines in Residential Aged Care Facilities** | 110 a | $5,694,451 | 104 a | $5,788,069 | 107a | $6,076,049 |

\* Total services for HMR and RMMR programs are inclusive of services paid for first and second follow up.

a – this item reports the average number of participating service providers for this service in any one month during the reporting period. Please note that it does not represent the number of services provided.

Information sourced from [7CPA - Pharmacy programs data](https://www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/seventh-community-pharmacy-agreements-7cpas-pharmacy-programs-data?language=en) (last updated 23 May 2024 ) published by the Department of Health and Aged Care.

**Indigenous Health Services Pharmacy Support (IHSPS) Program**

The IHSPS Program was created by merging the Quality Use of Medicines Maximised for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander People (QUMAX) and S100 Pharmacy Support Allowance programs, which continued from the 6CPA during the first year of the 7CPA (until 30 June 2021).

The IHSPS Program commenced in July 2021.

Table 4-2: Number of registered IHSPS sites and expenditure recorded for IHSPS Program

| **Program** | **1 July – 31 December 2022** | **1 January – 30 June 2023** | **1 July – 31 December 2023** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Average No. of registered IHSPS sites** | **Expenditure** | **Average No. of registered IHSPS sites** | **Expenditure** | **Average No. of registered IHSPS sites** | **Expenditure** |
| **IHSPS Program** | 228 | $2,584,282 | 224 | $1,194,096 | 226 | $2,852,501 |

Information sourced from [*Rural support and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander pharmacy programs data*](https://www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/seventh-community-pharmacy-agreement-7cpas-rural-support-and-aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-pharmacy-programs-data?language=en) (last updated 1 May 2024) published by the Department of Health and Aged Care.

# Objective 5: Support access to medicines and pharmacy services for people in regional, rural and remote areas

Rural Support Programs are targeted programs and services to support access to PBS medicines and pharmacy services for people living in regional, rural and remote regions of Australia. Services supported under the 7CPA include:

* Regional Pharmacy Maintenance Allowance
* Rural Continuing Professional Education Allowance
* Emergency Locum Service
* Intern Incentive Allowance for Rural Pharmacies
* Incentive Allowance for Rural Pharmacies - Extension Program
* Rural Intern Training Allowance
* Rural Pharmacy Scholarship Scheme
* Rural Pharmacy Scholarship Mentor Scheme
* Rural Pharmacy Liaison Officer Program
* Rural Pharmacy Student Placement Allowance Program and Administrative Support to Pharmacy Schools Scheme
* Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Pharmacy Scholarship Scheme

Table 5 (below) provides data on a range of items (e.g., number of active service providers, number of approved claims, number of locum placements etc.) along with the total expenditure for each of the above programs.

Note that service providers differ based on specific programs and include pharmacists, pharmacy educators, universities and pharmacy interns, in addition to rural and remote hospital and community pharmacies.

Table 5: Number of items and expenditure recorded for regional, rural and remote pharmacy services

| **Program** | **1 July – 31 December 2022** | **1 January – 30 June 2023** | **1 July – 31 December 2023** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Item**  | **Expenditure** | **Item**  | **Expenditure** | **Item** | **Expenditure** |
| **Regional Pharmacy Maintenance Allowance (RPMA)\*** | 1,079a | $9,888,853 | 1,092a | $9,916,475 | 1,137a | $17,613,378 |
| **Rural Continuing Professional Education Allowance (CPE)** | 76b | $76,468 | 132b | $141,129 | 135b | $134,376 |
| **Emergency Locum Service (ELS)** | 36c | $64,719 | 42c | $32,309 | 51c | $55,904 |
| **Intern Incentive Allowance for Rural Pharmacies (IIARP)** | 44.5d | $142,500 | 75d | $385,833 | 80d | $302,500 |
| **Intern Incentive Allowance for Rural Pharmacies - Extension Program (IIARP-EP)** | 8.5d | $71,667 | 11d | $92,500 | 7d | $45,000 |
| **Rural Intern Training Allowance (RITA)** | 73b | $36,663 | 62b | $30,885 | 99b | $48,697 |
| **Rural Pharmacy Scholarship Scheme (RPSS)** | 52d | $251,000 | 48d | $247,000 | 47.5d | $226,000 |
| **Rural Pharmacy Scholarship Mentor Scheme (RPSMS)** | 80.5d | $16,500 | 88d | $3,375 | 98.5d | $15,000 |
| **Rural Pharmacy Liaison Officer (RPLO)** | 9d | $355,500 | 9.5d | $330,600 | 10d | $467,700 |
| **Rural Pharmacy Student Placement Allowance (RPSPA)** | 16e | $273,819 | 17e | $82,838 | 17e | $470,519 |
| **Administrative Support to Pharmacy Schools Scheme (ASPSS)** | 16e | $117,500 | 17e | $102,985 | 17e | $256,167 |
| **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Pharmacy Scholarship Scheme (ATSIPSS)** | 4d | $30,000 | 7d | $52,500 | 8d | $55,500 |

The items reported are; a-Average number of active service providers for RPMA, b- No. of approved claims, c- No. of locum placements, d- Average no. of active participants, e- Average no. of participating universities. This information was sourced from [*Rural support and Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander pharmacy programs data*](https://www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/seventh-community-pharmacy-agreement-7cpas-rural-support-and-aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-pharmacy-programs-data?language=en) (last updated 1 May 2024) published by the Department of Health and Aged Care.

\* This information was sourced from [*7CPA - Pharmacy program data*](https://www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/seventh-community-pharmacy-agreements-7cpas-pharmacy-programs-data?language=en) (last updated 23 May 2024) published by the Department of Health and Aged Care.

1. ***“s90 Pharmacies”*** are those pharmacies operated by a pharmacist approved under section 90 of the *National Health Act 1953* to dispense pharmaceutical benefits from a particular pharmacy premises. Other suppliers include approved doctors (usually practising in isolated areas) and approved hospitals. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. An ***“approved pharmacist”*** means a pharmacist approved under section 90 of the *National Health Act 1953* to dispense pharmaceutical benefits from a particular pharmacy premises. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)