

Starting the conversation about 60-day prescriptions with your doctor



Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) and 60-Day Prescriptions

The Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) is an Australian Government program that subsidises more than 900 prescription medicines, helping to make essential medicines more affordable. This makes a significant difference in reducing your healthcare expenses.



What are 60-Day prescriptions?

Almost 300 PBS medicines are available for 60-day prescriptions. If you have a stable, ongoing health condition, you could receive a 60 day supply of your medication on a single prescription. Benefits include:

- Fewer trips to the pharmacy.
- Saving time and money.

This guide is here to help you with practical tips and conversation starters, so you can confidently talk to your doctor about 60-day prescriptions. Let's break it down together.

Starting the conversation with your doctor

Talking about prescriptions might feel daunting, but it doesn't have to be. Your doctor is there to support you. By asking the right questions and exploring options like 60-day prescriptions, you can take control of your healthcare and make informed choices.

Start the conversation today to enjoy the benefits of more affordable, accessible medicines.

Here are some tips to help you open up this discussion during your next regular appointment:

- **Ask your doctor** about 60-day prescriptions and discuss how they could work for you.
- **Prepare your questions** ahead of time. Consider asking about eligibility, generic medicine options, or how the PBS Safety Net applies to you.
- **Bring a list of your current medications** to help your doctor or pharmacist review your treatment plan effectively.

Can we talk about ways to make my medications more affordable?

Are the medicines I need available for 60-day prescription, and am I eligible?



Is this medicine you're prescribing available for a 60-day prescription?

I've been receiving 60-day prescriptions for this medication. Can I continue getting a 60-day prescription?

2. Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS)

The PBS helps reduce medication costs. Ask your doctor if there are cheaper alternatives available, such as generic medicines.

Key topics to discuss

1. 60-Day prescriptions

Many medicines are available for 60-day prescriptions. Ask your doctor if your medication is listed.

Benefits of 60-day prescriptions:

- Fewer trips to the pharmacy.
- Reduced costs over time.

Tip: If you've been receiving 60-day prescriptions, gently remind your doctor to continue them.

Is there a PBS-listed, generic version of this medicine?



Talk to your pharmacist about other ways to save on your medications

3. PBS Safety Net

Once you or your family spends \$1,694.00 on PBS medicines in a calendar year, you may qualify for the PBS Safety Net, which reduces costs further. For concession card holders, the threshold is \$277.20 for 2025.

For more details, visit servicesaustralia.gov.au/pbs-safety-net-thresholds.

How close am I to reaching the PBS Safety Net this year?

I have a concession card and already get cheaper medicines. Will a 60-day prescription still save me money?

How do I apply for a PBS Safety Net card?

Is there a generic version of this medicine?

4. Generic medicines

Generic medicines are just as effective as branded ones but are often much cheaper.

Overcoming conversation barriers

Not sure how to start?
Here are some ideas:

Are there ways to reduce my medication costs?

I've heard about 60-day prescriptions and want to know if I'm eligible.

Can you help me understand what the PBS Safety Net is and how it works for me?

Next Steps

1. Make an appointment with your doctor.

Review your medications and discuss 60-day prescriptions.

2. Check your eligibility. visit health.gov.au/cheapermedicines to learn more.

3. Talk to your pharmacist. They're a great resource for managing medications. They can also help you understand your costs and the PBS Safety Net.

Do you think a 60-day prescription would be right for me?

Accessing multilingual resources

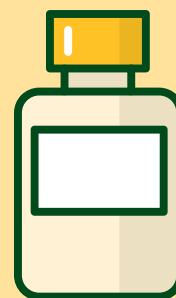
Did you know that resources about PBS and 60-day prescriptions are available in multiple languages? Your doctor or pharmacist can provide these materials to help you better understand your options.

For more information, visit health.gov.au/cheapermedicines/translated.



Where can I find translated information on the PBS and 60-day prescriptions?

What types of translated resources are available?



For more information, visit:

health.gov.au/cheapermedicines

For in-language resources, visit:

health.gov.au/cheapermedicines/translated



Australian Government
Department of Health and Aged Care



The Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme