Your guide to electronic prescribing

Getting your health checked regularly by a healthcare provider is important for identifying and treating any problems early before they become serious.

Now there are more ways to catch up with your regular GP or specialist – whether in person, on the phone or online.

# **What is an electronic prescription?**

An electronic prescription is a digital version of a paper prescription. It is an alternative to a paper prescription, which your healthcare provider can send by email or text message.

The message with a link to your electronic prescription is stored on your digital device, so you can access it when you need it.

All medicines can be prescribed electronically, and this service is widely available.

# **When should you ask for an electronic prescription?**

Electronic prescriptions are convenient and easy to use, particularly when you can’t visit a GP in person.

* If you’re unwell or need to self-isolate, electronic prescriptions mean you can still get your medicines by using a pharmacy that does home delivery or by having someone collect them for you.
* Many people find electronic prescriptions save them time by making the process simpler and quicker. You can manage your electronic prescriptions through a mobile app.

# **Is this service free?**

Check if your preferred healthcare provider and pharmacy are set up to offer electronic prescriptions.

# **How to access medicines through electronic prescriptions**

1. Ask your preferred healthcare provider if they offer electronic prescriptions.
2. During your consultation your healthcare provider will send your electronic prescription to you as a text or an email with a QR code.
3. Take the electronic prescription to your pharmacy or send it to them so they can scan the QR code.
4. If you have repeats, a new text or email will be sent to you when you get your medicine from the pharmacy.
5. If needed, you can send the electronic prescription to a family member or carer so they can collect your medicine.

# **Find out more**

Caring for your health has never been easier. For more information about electronic prescribing and other services visit [australia.gov.au](https://www.australia.gov.au/)