



Australian Government

Department of Health

Electronic National Residential Medication Charts (eNRMC)

State and Territory Software Requirements



The Department of Health is establishing an eNRMC Transitional Arrangement. The **Transitional Arrangement** will allow all Residential Aged Care Services to begin adopting and benefiting from eNRMC products.

The Transitional Arrangement allows RACs to benefit from the use of eNRMC products that meet the technical requirements of Conformance Profile version 3.0 (CPv3.0), while Prescription Delivery Services and dispensing software vendors continue to work towards conformance with CPv3.0. EMM vendors will need to apply to the Australian Digital Health Agency to have their product approved as a Transitional eNRMC Product which can then be used under the Transitional Arrangement.

Transitional Arrangement will be enacted through an amendment to the eNRMC Trial Legislation: National Health (Electronic National Residential Medication Chart Trial) Special Arrangement 2018. The legislation allows RACs to adopt Transitional eNRMC Products under the Transitional Arrangement. Although this federal legislation allows RACs to participate Australia-wide, these services must also meet any state or territory legislative requirements if they wish to participate.

When prescribers use a Transitional eNRMC product for prescriptions, a paper copy of the prescription is not required.

State and Territory Software Requirements

Australian Capital Territory (ACT)

No additional requirements for eNRMC products.

Please direct any enquiries to CanberraScript@act.gov.au or PSS@act.gov.au.

New South Wales (NSW)

No additional requirements for software during the period of the Transitional Arrangement.

Further information on the NSW Electronic National Residential Medication Chart trials can be found on the [NSW Health website](#).

Northern Territory (NT)

eNRMC products are expected to meet the requirements of the contents of administration orders under Section 13 of the Medicines, Poisons and Therapeutic Goods Regulations 2014 i.e:

- a) state the name of the authorised prescriber issuing it; and
- b) state the date of issue and be signed by the authorised prescriber; and
- c) state the name, address and, if applicable, hospital registration number of the person to whom the substance is to be administered; and
- d) state the name of the substance, and the dose, form and strength, to be administered; and
- e) state the route, frequency and period of administration; and
- f) state the start date for administration, if different from the date the order is issued.

If the eNRMC product generates a prescription for a Schedule 8 medicine:

- g) the DOB of the patient
- h) the quantity must be in words and numbers i.e 10 (TEN) tablets

Queensland (QLD)

Must comply with provisions of Queensland Health Departmental Standard – [Requirements for an electronic prescription management system](#) .

South Australia (SA)

In South Australia electronic medication chart prescriptions written in accordance with the National Health (Electronic National Residential Medication Chart Trial) Special Arrangement 2018 (Special Arrangement) for purposes of the Commonwealth’s trial of electronic residential medication management systems in residential aged care facilities will be taken to be medication chart prescriptions written in accordance with the National Health (Pharmaceutical Benefits) Regulations 2017, and therefore comply with legislative requirements in South Australia’s Controlled Substances (Poisons) Regulations 2011.

Under the eNRMC Trial arrangements, a Transitional eNRMC can be used to generate a legal PBS prescription for prescribing, dispensing and administration of PBS (and non- PBS) medicines without requiring a duplicate paper copy. The Australian Digital Health Agency is fast tracking the adoption of eNRMC in residential aged care facilities via the eNRMC ‘Transitional Arrangement’, which is made under the Special Arrangement and commences on 1 July 2022.

In South Australia a Transitional eNRMC must meet all the same requirements of a CPv3.0 Conformant eNRMC and be recognised by the Australia Digital Health Agency as transitionally conformant.

Provided that all aspects of prescribing, dispensing, supply, handling and administration of medicines is in accordance with South Australian Controlled Substances legislation, and the Special Arrangement, no further approvals or exemptions are required from SA Health.

Tasmania (TAS)

In Tasmania, the Poisons Regulations 2018 (Tas) require prior approval in writing from the Tasmanian Secretary for Health for:

- an electronic prescription system to issue a prescription; and
- an electronic system for prescribers to give instructions for administration of a Schedule 4 and 8 substance in a medical institution.

Normally, approval of an electronic prescribing and/or dispensing product will only be considered where:

The Australian Digital Health Agency’s (ADHA) Electronic Prescribing Conformance process has been fully completed, with addition of the Conformance ID for the vendor’s product to the Agency’s Conformant Software Register and

The software vendor has provided information to the Tasmanian Department of Health to show their product complies with the requirements of the Poisons Regulations 2018 (Tas).

Given the Department’s intention to fast track the adoption of electronic National Residential Medication Charts (eNRMC) by residential aged care facilities (RACF), they are introducing an eNRMC ‘Transitional Arrangement’, commencing on 1 July 2022. This Transitional

Arrangement is for eNRMC products that meet the technical requirements of Conformance Profile v3.0 (CPv3.0) while the Prescription Delivery Services and Dispensing Vendors continue to work towards conformance with CPv3.0.

To support the rollout of eNRMC in Tasmania, the Tasmanian Department of Health will consider approving an eNRMC for use in Tasmania in the following circumstances:

- The eNRMC product complies with the technical requirements of Conformance Profile v3.0 (CPv3.0) and is recognised by the ADHA as transitionally conformant and
- The eNRMC product will be used in a 'closed system' between the RACF and their dispensing pharmacy.

The software vendor must make the application for approval to the Tasmanian Department of Health. As part of the approval process, a demonstration of the product will be required and it is expected that vendors will facilitate any such demonstration.

For further information about the use and approval of eNRMC products (including transitional eNRMC products) in Tasmania, please contact pharmserv@health.tas.gov.au.

Victoria (VIC)

No additional requirements for software during the period of the Transitional Arrangement.

Western Australia (WA)

In Western Australia (WA), the Medicines and Poisons Regulations 2016 require each product, that is part of an electronic prescribing system, be approved by the WA Department of Health.

Normally, approval of an electronic prescribing and/or dispensing product will only be considered where:

- The Australian Digital Health Agency's (ADHA) Electronic Prescribing Conformance process has been fully completed, with addition of the Conformance ID for the vendor's product to the Agency's Conformant Software Register and
- The software vendor has provided information to the WA Department of Health to show their product complies with the requirements of the Medicines and Poisons Regulations 2016.

Given the Department's intention to fast track the adoption of electronic National Residential Medication Charts (eNRMC) by residential aged care facilities (RACF), they are introducing an eNRMC 'Transitional Arrangement', commencing on 1 July 2022. This Transitional Arrangement is for eNRMC products that meet the technical requirements of Conformance Profile v3.0 (CPv3.0) while the Prescription Delivery Services and Dispensing Vendors continue to work towards conformance with CPv3.0.

To support the rollout of eNRMC in WA, the WA Department of Health will consider approving an eNRMC for use in WA in the following circumstances:

- The eNRMC product complies with the technical requirements of Conformance Profile v3.0 (CPv3.0) and is recognised by the ADHA as transitionally conformant and
- The eNRMC product will be used in a 'closed system' between the RACF and their dispensing pharmacy.

Because any 'closed' system is specific to an individual RACF site or RACF organisation (multiple sites), the RACF (individual site or organisation), rather than the software vendor, must make the application for approval to the Department. However, as part of the approval

process, a demonstration of the product will be required, and it is expected that vendors will facilitate any such demonstration.

For further information about the use and approval of eNRM products (including transitional eNRM products) in WA, please contact MPRB.Policy@health.wa.gov.au.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information concerning the transitional arrangement and eNRM, please contact the department of health at eNRM@health.gov.au.