

**Subject:**

ODT Community Pharmacy Program registration and manual claiming will be available on 1 August 2023

Content:

Dear Pharmacist,

From 1 July 2023, Opioid Dependence Treatment medicines became part of the PBS Section 100 Highly Specialised Drugs (HSD) Program (Community Access) arrangements and the ODT Community Pharmacy Program commenced, with pharmacists able to begin providing funded services to patients.

The [PBS Section 100 HSD Program \(Community Access\)](#) provides eligible patients with access to ODT medicines under the PBS. Pharmacies dispensing ODT medicines need to submit their PBS claims via Services Australia.

The ODT Community Pharmacy Program, administered by the PPA, complements but is separate to the listing of ODT medicines on the PBS. The ODT Community Pharmacy Program pays Section 90 Community Pharmacies a fee for preparing and providing/administering ODT Staged Supply services and ODT injections within the pharmacy.

Based on questions received by the PPA Support Centre, you may find the following FAQs useful in helping you to implement the program:

When can I register and start claiming for the ODT Community Pharmacy Program?

Registration and manual claiming for the ODT Community Pharmacy Program will be available via the PPA Portal **from 1 August 2023**.

In recognition of the short implementation timeframes for this program, claiming deadlines will not be imposed until 30 November 2023. This means you will have until 30 November 2023 to submit claims for any services provided between 1 July to 31 October 2023. Any services provided **from** 1 November 2023 will then have a claiming deadline of the end of the month following the service (i.e. November services must be claimed by the end of December), in line with most other PPA programs.

Will there be integration between third-party software vendor packages and the PPA Portal?

Yes. The PPA is continuing to work with interested software vendors regarding integration between third-party software and the PPA Portal. Once development is complete in the Portal, the PPA will undertake the work required to allow software vendors to integrate with the Program. A testing platform will then be made available for software vendors to develop and test the required changes to their software. To date, the following vendors have indicated their intention to integrate their software with the PPA Portal as per their statements below:

- Modeus (MethDA) – *"Modeus is proactively contacting their customers as updates become available. If you require urgent MethDA software assistance or would like to know more about the Modeus ODT program, contact Modeus [here](#)"*



- StrongRoom AI – *"StrongRoom AI customers will be notified about the integration version at the time of its release"*
- idose - *"idose ODT dose management software will be fully integrated with PPA ODT program online claims"*
- Autodose – *"[Autodose](#) will contact their customers closer to the release of an integration".*

The PPA and above vendors are working as quickly as possible to have integrated claiming functionality available as soon as we can, but this will not be from 1 August 2023. We note that in the interim, i.e. from 1 August 2023 until integration occurs, pharmacies may elect to manually enter and submit their ODT Community Pharmacy claims directly into the PPA Portal or potentially wait until integrated claiming is available and submit all claims to date at that time, taking advantage of the longer initial claiming deadline of 30 November 2023.

Please note however that if for any reason your preferred software vendor does not have an operating integration by the 30 November 2023, you will need to directly enter claims into the PPA Portal prior to the deadline. Exceptional Circumstances requests will not be approved in respect of late claims where the reason relates to a delay by a software vendor to make integrated claiming available via their software.

Is there anything else my pharmacy needs to do to prepare to claim for the ODT Community Pharmacy Program?

1. If you have not already done so, please ensure you have accessed, reviewed, and understood the ODT Community Pharmacy [Program Rules](#) and [Program webpage](#).
2. Familiarise yourself with the data fields that will need to be collected/retained in order to claim ODT services from 1 August 2023. This information can be found in the following temporary data collection forms:
 - [ODT Staged Supply \(Oral/Sublingual\)](#)
 - [ODT Injection](#)

Please remember that these forms and/or other data capture spreadsheets cannot be uploaded into the PPA Portal. Information will either need to be entered directly into the Portal manually or as outlined above, uploaded via an integration once these become available.

Ensure you have the patient's informed consent prior to submitting any claims to PPA containing their information. The [PPA consent form](#) contains information regarding the intent of the consent form for claiming purposes. The **updated conversation card** should be used during your consent discussions with participants to assist with understanding the claiming and consent process. Following feedback, the updated conversation card now:

- Includes additional information to clarify the reference to overseas data sharing
- Details the similarities between the data collection and submission required for dispensing PBS scripts and enabling eligible pharmacies to participate in and claim service fees via the ODT Community Pharmacy Program.



If you have previously printed June dated versions of the PPA consent form or conversation card, we ask that you dispose of any unused copies and utilise the July dated versions going forward.

The Department's [ODT Medicines FAQs](#) include advice on how patients can elect to restrict access to their records and/or specific documents within the My Health Record (MHR) system as ODT medicines will now appear in MHR. Please note that the PPA is not linked to MHR and claims made directly through the PPA Portal *do not* appear in MHR. The PPA Support Centre is unable to assist with MHR queries.

3. Owners of pharmacies who do not yet have a PPA Portal Service Provider account can utilise the following [User Guide](#) to create an account for their pharmacy on the Portal (pages 1-17) in preparation for registering for the program when it becomes **available in the PPA Portal on 1 August 2023**
4. An additional ODT Community Pharmacy Portal User Guide will be published on the ODT [Program webpage](#) closer to 1 August, which will outline the registration and claiming process.

Further information on how to get ready for the program can be found in PPA's prior email sent to pharmacies on 19 June 2023 – you can find that email [here](#).

I still have questions regarding the PBS Section 100 HSD Program (Community Access) and the associated PBS claiming. Where can I find information about this?

Please note that the ODT Community Pharmacy Program complements, but is not part of, the PBS dispensing arrangements. The PPA therefore cannot provide advice regarding the dispensing of ODT medicines or any transition arrangements.

Information regarding the PBS listing changes including prescribing, dispensing and transitional arrangements for ODT medicines is available at www.pbs.gov.au/browse/section100-md.

Further questions regarding PBS dispensing can be directed to Services Australia on 132 290.

The following pre-recorded webinars have also been made available to provide additional information for pharmacists and primary care practitioners regarding the PBS Section 100 HSD Program (Community Access):

- [Department of Health and Aged Care webinar: Opioid Dependency Therapies – session for pharmacists](#)
- [Department of Health and Aged Care webinar: Opioid Dependency Therapies – session for primary care](#)
- [Pharmaceutical Society of Australia webinar: Navigating changes to the VIC Pharmacotherapy \(ORT\) Program](#)
- [Pharmaceutical Society of Australia webinar: Navigating changes to the NSW Opioid Treatment Program.](#)

Further information regarding the ODT Community Pharmacy Program, including a number of additional FAQs not addressed in the email above, can be found on the [PPA website available here](#).



**Pharmacy Programs
Administrator**

The PPA Support Centre is also available on 1800 951 285 or via support@ppaonline.com.au to help answer any questions you may have about the ODT Community Pharmacy Program.

Kind Regards,



**Pharmacy Programs
Administrator**