

Fact sheet for consumers

Pharmaceutical Reforms in SA Public Hospitals

There are changes to the way medicines are managed in public hospitals – called pharmaceutical reforms.

Now it's easier and safer to access the medicines you need.

Making it easier – better access

Hospital doctors will be able to write Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) prescriptions for you when you attend an outpatient clinic, are discharged from hospital, and also for a range of chemotherapy medicines.

Hospital pharmacies will provide the same quantity of medicine for the same cost as your community pharmacy. This means you will be able to choose a convenient time to visit your doctor after leaving hospital.

Making it safer – expert advice

By using the same pharmaceutical scheme as the community – the PBS – there should be less confusion and more help in preventing health problems due to under-use or over-use of medicines.

Hospitals will introduce new ways to make sure you leave hospital with a better understanding of the medicines you take.

What you need to do

You will need to bring to hospital:

- > Your current Medicare card
- > Your current concession card if you have one. (Other names for this card are: Concession card, Centre-link card, Healthcare card, DVA card, Safety Net entitlement card)
- > Your prescription record form if you have one
- > Your current medicines
- > A complete list of the medicines you are taking including over-the-counter and complementary or herbal medicines.

If you have questions, please ask for a patient information leaflet or talk to your hospital pharmacist or doctor.

Information on PBS and Safety Net

Free call: 1800 020 613

Email: pbs@medicareaustralia.gov.au

Web site: www.medicareaustralia.gov.au

For more information

Pharmaceutical Reforms
SA Health
11 Hindmarsh Square
Adelaide SA 5000
Telephone: (08) 8226 7375 / (08) 8226 7240
www.safetyandquality.sa.gov.au/pharmreforms

© Department of Health, Government of South Australia.
All rights reserved.