



Budget 2020-21

This information is accurate as at 6 October 2020.

Improving access to medicines – Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme and Repatriation Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme – new and amended listings

This measure enables the implementation of new and amended listings on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS). The changes are based on recommendations to government from the independent Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC).

From 1 August 2020 to 1 October 2020, 43 new and amended items have been listed on the PBS.

Medicines listed on the PBS save and protect lives by improving access to medicines. It gives Australian residents and overseas visitors from countries that fall under Reciprocal Health Care Agreements access to subsidised medicines. These medicines can be prohibitively expensive if not subsidised on the PBS.

Examples of new and amended listings from 1 August 2020 to 1 October 2020 include:

- Entrectinib (Rozlytrek®) from 1 August 2020 for the treatment of locally advanced or metastatic non-small cell lung cancer
- Tocilizumab (Atemra®) from 1 August 2020 for the treatment of active systemic juvenile idiopathic arthritis via a pen device
- Pembrolizumab (Keytruda®) from 1 September 2020 for the treatment of primary mediastinal B-cell lymphoma
- Apomorphine (Apomine solution for infusion®, Apomine Intermittent®) from 1 October 2020 for the treatment of Parkinson's Disease via a pen device.

This change is not subject to the passage of legislation.

Who does this measure affect?

This measure affects Australian residents and overseas visitors from countries under Reciprocal Health Care Agreements.

When will this start and finish?

New listings are made to the PBS monthly and this covers new listings from 1 August 2020 to 1 October 2020.