Australian Government
Services Australia

medicare

PBS

Declaration for taking or sending medicines out of Australia (PB302)

Important information

If you are taking or sending medicines out of Australia, you can complete this declaration and keep it with the medicines.

You may take or send (export) medicines out of Australia if they fall into one of the following categories:

a) non-prescription medicine (for example, over-the-counter)

b) prescription medicine where no Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) subsidy has been paid or is payable for the medicine (private script/non-PBS)

c) PBS-subsidised medicine for your personal use or for the person travelling with you (for example, child)

d) PBS-subsidised medicine for the personal use of an Australian Government, state government or territory government officer working outside Australia, or the officer's spouse or dependent child.

You are responsible for showing that the medicine you are taking or sending out of Australia fits into one of the categories listed above. You may need to provide evidence to the Australian Border Force.

If you cannot get a letter from your doctor or pharmacist, this declaration may be sufficient.

A pharmacist can only provide a letter for a prescription medicine if no PBS subsidy has been paid for it.

Exporting medicines

An exporter under the *National Health Act 1953* is a person who either leaves or attempts to leave Australia taking drug like substances, or consigns for export an article containing such substances.

It is illegal to take or send PBS medicines out of Australia unless they are for the personal use of:

- the person exporting the medicine
- a person travelling with the exporter from Australia, or
- an Australian Government, state government or territory government officer working outside Australia, or the officer's spouse or dependent child.

The impact of illegal export of PBS medicines on Australia

Under the PBS, the Australian Government helps cover the cost of many prescription medicines. In most cases, patients only pay part of the cost, and some pay nothing at all.

Taking or sending PBS-subsidised medicines to people outside Australia can result in a significant cost to Australian taxpayers and the Australian Government.

Offences

Under section 103 of the *National Health Act 1953*, it is an offence to use, dispose of or otherwise deal with a PBS medicine in a way that is different from its intended purpose. The maximum penalty is 2 years imprisonment and/or a financial penalty under subsection 103(4) of the *National Health Act 1953*.

It is also an offence to export more than the designated quantity of a PBS medicine unless:

- the medicine was supplied by an approved supplier for the medical treatment of the exporter, or
- the exporter has another lawful reason for possessing or exporting that quantity of the medicine.

The maximum penalty for exporting more than the designated quantity of a PBS medicine is 2 years imprisonment. The designated quantity is calculated using a formula set out in the *National Health Act 1953*.

What is the correct way to take or send PBS-subsidised medicine out of Australia?

Keep all medicines in their original packaging. For prescription medicines, the label must show:

- where the medicine was dispensed
- who the medicine was prescribed for
- how much was paid for the medicine.

If you use a Dose Administration Aid (also known as a Webster pack), you will need a letter from your prescriber confirming that the medicine was prescribed for you. If you do not have a letter, you can complete this form instead.

Contact the embassy, high commission or consulate of the destination country to make sure the medicine can legally enter that country.

For more information

If you need assistance completing this form call **1800 500 147** (call charges may apply). For more information about exporting medicines, go to **servicesaustralia.gov.au/pbsoverseas**

If you need more space, provide a separate sheet with details.

Filling in this form

You can complete this form on your computer using Adobe Acrobat Reader, or you can print it.

For help on how to fill in our forms, go to **servicesaustralia.gov.au/formhelp**

If you have a printed form:

- Use black or blue pen.
- Print in BLOCK LETTERS.
- Where you see a box like this ☐ ***Go to 1*** skip to the question number shown.

Your details

1 Mr ☐ Mrs ☐ Miss ☐ Ms ☐ Mx ☐ Other ☐

Family name

First given name

Second given name

2 Home address (in Australia)

Postcode

3 Phone number (including area code)

Mobile phone number

4 Email

Exportation details

5 I am: **Tick one only**

Taking medicine outside Australia ☐ ***Go to 6***

Sending medicine outside Australia ☐ ***Go to 7***

6 Passport number

Country of issue

Airline name and outbound flight number (include cruise ship if applicable)

Destination

Expected length of time outside Australia

7 Full name of the person the medicine was prescribed for or being sent to

8 Your relationship to the person receiving the medicine (if applicable)

9 Address (outside Australia)

Postcode

10 Reason for taking or sending the medicine out of Australia

Medicine being exported

11 The medicine I am taking or sending out of Australia is:

Tick all that apply

Non prescription medicine ☐

Prescription medicine that has not been subsidised by PBS ☐

PBS-subsidised medicine for my personal use ☐

PBS-subsidised medicine for a person travelling in my company ☐

PBS-subsidised medicine for an Australian Government, state government or territory government officer working outside Australia, or the officer's spouse or dependent child ☐

12 Names of medicine (including strength, quantity, daily dose)

Prescriber's details

13 Full name of the medical practitioner who prescribed the prescription medicine (your main medical practitioner if you have more than one)

14 Practice address

Postcode

Pharmacist's details

15 Full name of pharmacist or pharmacy that supplied the prescription medicine

16 Business address

Postcode

Privacy notice

17 The privacy and security of your personal information is important to us and is protected by law. We collect this information to provide payments and services. We only share your information with other parties where you have agreed, or where the law allows or requires it. For more information, go to **servicesaustralia.gov.au/privacypolicy**

Declaration

18 **I declare that:**

- the information I have provided in this form is complete and correct.

I understand that:

- giving false or misleading information is a serious offence.

Your full name

Your signature

On completion, print and sign by hand.

Date (DD MM YYYY)

Reset form