

## Important information

Complete this declaration if you are taking or sending medicines out of Australia. You must include this declaration with the medicines being taken or sent out of Australia.

You may leave Australia carrying the following medicines:

- non-prescription medicine (for example, over-the-counter)
- prescription medicine where no Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) subsidy has been paid or is payable for the medicine
- prescription medicine for your personal use or for the person travelling with you (for example, child).

It is your responsibility to show that the medicine being exported fits into one of the above categories. You will need to provide evidence to the Australian Customs Service that your medicine fits into one of these categories. If you are unable to obtain a letter from your doctor or pharmacist, this declaration may be sufficient.

## 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 overseas unless it is for the personal use of the exporter, or somebody travelling from Australia with the exporter.

## The impact of illegal export of PBS medicines on Australia

Under the PBS, the Australian Government subsidises the cost of a large number of prescription medicines. In most cases patients pay only a small contribution, sometimes nothing at all, towards the full cost of a PBS medicine.

Exporting PBS subsidised medicines to people outside Australia leads to a significant financial loss to both taxpayers and the Australian Government. It is also dangerous for people to take prescription medicine that has not been prescribed for them.

## Offences

Under Section 103 of the *National Health Act 1953* the maximum penalty for a person using, disposing or otherwise dealing with a PBS medicine that has been prescribed for or supplied to them, in a way other than which it was meant, is 2 years imprisonment and/or an amount described 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 that quantity was supplied by an approved supplier for the medical or dental treatment of the exporter, or the exporter has some other cause for possessing or consigning for export that amount of the medicine.

The maximum penalty for a person exporting above 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 overseas?

You must keep all medicines in original packaging. In the case of prescription medicine, the label on the packaging must show where the medicine was dispensed, for whom the medicine was prescribed and how much was paid for the medicine.

You should also contact the embassy, high commission or consulate of the destination country to ensure the medicine is legally able to enter that country.

## For more information

If you need assistance completing this form call **1800 500 147**. For more information about exporting medicines go to [servicesaustralia.gov.au/healthprofessionals](http://servicesaustralia.gov.au/healthprofessionals)

### Filling in this form

You can complete this form on your computer, print and sign it.

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 Full name

2 Address

  
  
 Postcode

3 Phone number

 ( )

Mobile phone number

4 Email

## Medicine being exported

5 The medicine I am taking/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

6 Full name of the person for whom the medicine was prescribed for (if applicable)

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

  
  
  
  
  
  

## Exportation details

8 I am:

Taking PBS medicine overseas  **Go to 9**

Sending PBS medicine overseas  **Go to 10**

9 Passport number

Passport country of issue

Airline name and flight number

Destination

Expected length of stay outside Australia

10 Full name of the person the PBS medicine is being sent to

11 Address

  
  
 Postcode

12 Your relationship to the recipient of medication

13 Reason for intended export of PBS medicine

  

## Doctor's details

14 Full name of the doctor who prescribed the prescription medicine

15 Address

  
  
 Postcode

## Pharmacist's details

16 Full name of pharmacist and/or pharmacy that supplied the prescription medicine

17 Address

  
  
 Postcode

## Privacy notice

18 The information on this declaration is collected for the purpose of detecting and investigating breaches of the *National Health Act 1953*. We will not disclose this information to a third party unless authorised or required by law.

## Declaration

19 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

Date