

Extended practice authority

Pharmacists – version 10

This extended practice authority (**EPA**) has been made under section 232 of *Medicines and Poisons Act 2019* (Qld) by the Deputy Director-General, Health Workforce Division, as a delegate of the chief executive, Queensland Health. For the purposes of Schedule 9, Part 1, Division 1 of the *Medicines and Poisons (Medicines) Regulation 2021* (Qld) (**MPMR**) the EPA details the requirements for a pharmacist to be authorised to deal with the medicines (regulated substances) listed as authorised medicines.

A term used in this EPA has the same meaning as the same term used and defined in the *Medicines and Poisons Act 2019* or MPMR.

Part 1 – Urinary Tract Infection Community Pharmacy Service

Circumstances and conditions

- 1.1 A pharmacist who is working in a community pharmacy and has successfully completed the *Urinary tract infection training* in accordance with Appendix 1 may sell a medicine listed in Appendix 2, Column 1 of this EPA to a female patient aged between 18 and 65 years for the treatment of acute uncomplicated cystitis, without the requirement for a prescription:
 - a. subject to the restrictions for the medicine stated opposite in Appendix 2, Column 2 (if any); and
 - b. the pharmacist must take all reasonable steps to supply the medicine in accordance with the current online version of the section of the Therapeutic Guidelines titled '*Antibiotic: Urinary tract infections in adults: Acute cystitis in adults*'.
- 1.2 The pharmacist must not sell a medicine specified in Appendix 2, Column 1 of this EPA in a quantity that exceeds the smallest available size of the manufacturer's pack of the medicine.
- 1.3 The pharmacist must, when selling a medicine under Appendix 2, Column 1 of this EPA, keep a record of the sold medicine in accordance with section 160 of the MPMR; in addition to keeping a clinical record. This clinical record must include relevant patient health history, problems identified, actions taken, details of contact with other healthcare professionals, and the outcomes of any actions taken.
- 1.4 The pharmacist must make available a copy of the clinical record of the service to the patient.

Extended practice authority – Pharmacists – version 10

Version	Replaces version	Date approved	Commencement date
10	9	30 January 2026	1 March 2026



Part 2 – Hormonal Contraception Community Pharmacy Service

Circumstances and conditions

- 2.1 A pharmacist who is working in a community pharmacy and has successfully completed the *Hormonal contraception training* in accordance with Appendix 1 may prescribe a medicine listed in Appendix 3, Column 1 of this EPA to a female patient aged 16 years or older:
 - a. subject to the restrictions for the medicine stated opposite in Appendix 3, Column 2 (if any); and
 - b. the pharmacist must take all reasonable steps to prescribe the medicine in accordance with the current online version of the section of the Therapeutic Guidelines titled 'Sexual and Reproductive Health: Contraception'.
- 2.2 The pharmacist's name must appear on the prescriber register maintained by the Department for the hormonal contraception community pharmacy service.
- 2.3 When prescribing a medicine, the pharmacist must make a written prescription that is compliant with Chapter 4, Part 6, Division 3 of the MPMR.
- 2.4 The pharmacist must, when prescribing the medicine, make an individualised clinical assessment of the patient's contraceptive and sexual health needs and suitability for hormonal contraception and management; and keep a clinical record of the consultation with the patient, that includes:
 - a. Relevant patient history; and
 - b. An assessment of the requirement for the prescribed medicine; and
 - c. The management plan for treating the patient's condition including:
 - i. The name of the medicine prescribed; and
 - ii. The strength of the medicine prescribed; and
 - iii. The formulation of the medicine prescribed; and
 - iv. The instructions for use of the medicine prescribed; and
 - v. The amount of the medicine prescribed.
- 2.5 The pharmacist must not prescribe, in one prescription, greater than 12 months' supply of a medicine listed in Appendix 3 of this EPA

Part 3 – Fluoride Community Pharmacy Service

Circumstances and conditions

- 3.1 A pharmacist who is working in a community pharmacy and has successfully completed training in the application of topical fluoride varnish (*Fluoride training*) in accordance with Appendix 1 may administer a Schedule 4 medicine that is fluoride in a topical preparation for human use.

Part 4 – General Health Community Pharmacy Services

Circumstances and conditions

- 4.1 A pharmacist who is working in a community pharmacy and has successfully completed the *General health services training* in accordance with Appendix 1 may prescribe a medicine listed in Appendix 4, Column 1 of this EPA:
 - a. for the indication listed in Appendix 4, Column 2; and
 - b. subject to the restrictions stated opposite in Appendix 4, Column 3; and
 - c. the pharmacist must take all reasonable steps to prescribe the medicine in accordance with the current online version of the section/s of the Therapeutic Guidelines specified within Appendix 4, Column 1.
- 4.2 The pharmacist's name must appear on the prescriber register maintained by the Department for general health community pharmacy services.
- 4.3 When prescribing a medicine, the pharmacist must make a written prescription that is compliant with Chapter 4, Part 6, Division 3 of the MPMR.
- 4.4 The pharmacist must, when prescribing the medicine, make an individualised clinical assessment of the patient's health needs and suitability for the prescribed treatment; and keep a clinical record of the consultation with the patient, that includes:
 - a. Relevant patient history; and
 - b. An assessment of the condition that requires the prescribed medicine; and
 - c. The management plan for treating the patient's condition including:
 - i. The name of the medicine prescribed; and
 - ii. The strength of the medicine prescribed; and
 - iii. The formulation of the medicine prescribed; and
 - iv. The instructions for use of the medicine prescribed; and
 - v. The amount of the medicine prescribed.
- 4.5 The pharmacist must not prescribe, in one prescription, greater than 12 months' supply of a medicine listed in Appendix 4 of this EPA.

Appendix 1 – Training requirements

Part 1 - Urinary tract infection training requirements

Pharmacists must successfully complete one (or more) of the following training programs that must include learning objectives on classification and epidemiology of urinary tract infections, anatomy, pathogenesis, assessment and differential diagnosis, treatment and the urinary tract infection community pharmacy service:

- a. The training program developed for the Urinary Tract Infection Pharmacy Pilot – Queensland; or
- b. Training delivered through a higher education institution accredited by the Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency; or
- c. Training delivered through a Registered Training Organisation¹ accredited by the Australian Skills Quality Authority.

Part 2 - Hormonal contraception training requirements

Pharmacists must successfully complete a training program that includes and assesses the requirements specified in 1 and 2 below.

1. Learning objectives on anatomy and physiology as relevant to the provision of a hormonal contraception service, the physiology of reproductive hormones and contraception methods, the mechanisms of action, efficacy, and suitability of various contraceptive methods, contraceptive counselling and decision-making, patient assessment and formulation of treatment plans that are aligned with individual patient needs, preferences, medical history and cultural considerations, and the pharmacist's scope of practice for the Hormonal Contraception Community Pharmacy Service as described in Part 2 of this EPA; and
2. Prescribing competencies from the current version of the National Prescribing Service '*Prescribing Competencies Framework*' relevant to providing a comprehensive hormonal contraception service including communication, history-taking, assessment, the prescribing process, and development of a treatment and sexual health plan.

A training program comprising of both training requirements specified in 1 and 2 above must be:

- a. a training program developed for the Queensland Community Pharmacy Hormonal Contraception Pilot; or
- b. a training program delivered by a higher education institution accredited by the Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency; or
- c. a training program delivered through a Registered Training Organisation¹ accredited by the Australian Skills Quality Authority.

¹ See the *National Vocational Education and Training Regulator Act 2011* (Cth), section 3 for the definition of a registered training organisation.

Part 3 - Fluoride training requirements

Pharmacists must have completed training in the application of topical fluoride varnish that includes:

- a. assessing patient suitability for topical fluoride varnish application, including identification of clinical indicators, risk factors, and contraindications; and
- b. understanding the mechanism of action of topical fluoride in caries prevention; and
- c. recognising and managing potential safety risks associated with topical fluoride use; and
- d. providing patient advice on oral hygiene practices and preventive dental care.

Part 4 - General health services training requirements

Pharmacists must successfully complete a training program comprising both training requirements specified in 1 and 2 below, or a training program developed for the Queensland Community Pharmacy Scope of Practice Pilot.

1. A prescribing training program accredited to meet the standards set by the Australian Pharmacy Council's *'Accreditation Standards for Pharmacist Prescriber Education Programs'*; and
2. A clinical skills training program that includes and assesses:
 - a. learning objectives on the knowledge, skills and behaviours required to provide a comprehensive health service including ethical considerations, professional responsibilities, clinical documentation and professional communication; and
 - b. learning objectives on epidemiology, anatomy, physiology and pathophysiology as relevant to the provision of **all health services** listed in Appendix 4, Column 2, including the clinical assessment, diagnosis, therapeutic and non-therapeutic management and formulation of treatment plans that align with individual patient needs, preferences, medical history, and cultural considerations.

A training program comprising of both training requirements specified in 1 and 2 above must be a tertiary-level study program equivalent to Australian Qualifications Framework Level 8, and must be delivered through either:

- a. a higher education institution that is accredited by the Tertiary Education Quality Standards Agency; or
- b. an institution that is accredited by the Australian Skills Quality Authority.

Appendix 2 – Medicines for the Urinary Tract Infection Community Pharmacy Service

Regulated substance	Restrictions/Conditions
Cefalexin	
Fosfomycin	
Nitrofurantoin	
Trimethoprim	

Appendix 3 – Medicines for the Hormonal Contraception Community Pharmacy Service

Regulated substance	Restrictions/Conditions
Combined hormonal contraception - combined oral contraceptives (COCs) and the contraceptive vaginal ring. Excluding preparations containing 50 micrograms or more of ethinylestradiol, or preparations containing mestranol.	
Progesterone-only contraceptive pill	
Depot medroxyprogesterone (injection)	

Appendix 4 – Medicines for the General Health Community Pharmacy Services

Regulated substance	Indication	Restrictions/Conditions
A topical medicine mentioned in the current online version of the section of the Therapeutic Guidelines titled ' <i>Dermatology: Psoriasis</i> '.	Acute exacerbations of mild plaque psoriasis	For persons aged 16 years or over.
An oral medicine mentioned in the current online version of the section of the Therapeutic Guidelines titled ' <i>Gastrointestinal: Nausea and vomiting: Antiemetic drugs in adults</i> '.	Acute nausea and vomiting associated with gastroenteritis	For persons aged 18 years or over.
An oral medicine mentioned in the current online version of the sections of the Therapeutic Guidelines titled: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • '<i>Antibiotic: Traumatic wound infections: Bite wound infections, including clenched-first injury infections; or</i> • '<i>Antibiotic: Traumatic wound infections: Traumatic wound infections; or</i> • '<i>Antibiotic: Traumatic wound infections: Water-immersed wound infections</i>'. 	Acute minor wound management	For persons aged 5 years or over.
Lidocaine preparations of 1% or less in accordance with the current online version of the section of the Therapeutic Guidelines titled ' <i>Pain and analgesia: Drugs used for pain: Local anaesthetics for acute pain management</i> '.		
An oral or otic medicine mentioned in the current online version of the sections of the Therapeutic Guidelines titled: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • '<i>Pain and Analgesia: Pharmacological management of acute pain: Mild, acute nociceptive pain</i>'; or • '<i>Antibiotic: Ear, nose and throat infections: Otitis externa</i>'. 	Acute otitis externa – treatment and/or management of associated pain	For persons aged 2 years or over.

Regulated substance	Indication	Restrictions/Conditions
<p>An oral medicine mentioned in the current online version of the sections of the Therapeutic Guidelines titled:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>'Pain and Analgesia: Pharmacological management of acute pain: Mild, acute nociceptive pain'</i>; or • <i>'Antibiotic: Ear, nose and throat infections: Otitis media'</i>. 	<p>Acute otitis media – treatment and/or management of associated pain</p>	<p>For persons aged 2 years or over.</p>
<p>A medicine mentioned in the current online version of the sections of the Therapeutic Guidelines titled:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>'Respiratory: Rhinitis and rhinosinusitis: Allergic rhinitis;</i> or • <i>'Respiratory: Rhinitis and rhinosinusitis: Nonallergic rhinitis'</i>. <p>Excluding ocular medicines containing ketorolac or corticosteroids.</p>	<p>Allergic and nonallergic rhinitis</p>	
<p>A medicine mentioned in the current online version of the section of the Therapeutic Guidelines titled <i>'Gastrointestinal: Oesophageal disorders: Gastro-oesophageal reflux in adults'</i>.</p>	<p>Gastro-oesophageal reflux and gastro-oesophageal reflux disease</p>	<p>For persons aged 18 years to 55 years.</p>
<p>A topical or oral medicine mentioned in the current online version of the section of the Therapeutic Guidelines titled <i>'Antibiotic: Skin and soft tissue infections: Impetigo'</i>.</p>	<p>Impetigo</p>	<p>For persons aged 1 year or over.</p>
<p>A medicine mentioned in the current online version of the section of the Therapeutic Guidelines titled <i>'Cardiovascular: Modifiable lifestyle risk factors for atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease: Excess body weight, obesity and atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease risk'</i>.</p> <p>Excluding liraglutide, semaglutide and naltrexone + bupropion.</p>	<p>Management for overweight and obesity</p>	<p>For persons aged 18 years or over.</p>

Regulated substance	Indication	Restrictions/Conditions
A medicine mentioned in the current online version of the section of the Therapeutic Guidelines titled ' <i>Dermatology: Acne</i> '.	Mild to moderate acne	For persons aged 12 years or over.
A topical medicine mentioned in the current online version of the section of the Therapeutic Guidelines titled ' <i>Dermatology: Dermatitis: Atopic dermatitis</i> '.	Mild to moderate atopic dermatitis	For persons aged 6 months or over.
An oral medicine mentioned in the current online version of the sections of the Therapeutic Guidelines titled: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • '<i>Pain and Analgesia: Pharmacological management of acute pain: Mild, acute nociceptive pain</i>'; or • '<i>Rheumatology: Overview of limb conditions: Analgesia for acute soft-tissue limb conditions</i>'. 	Mild, acute, musculoskeletal pain	For persons aged 18 years or over.
An oral medicine mentioned in the current online version of the sections of the Therapeutic Guidelines titled: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • '<i>Pain and analgesia: Pharmacological management of acute pain: Mild, acute nociceptive pain</i>'; or • '<i>Pain and Analgesia: Managing specific pain syndromes: Pain associated with shingles (herpes zoster): Acute pain associated with shingles (herpes zoster)</i>'; or • '<i>Antibiotic: Skin and soft tissue infections: Shingles (herpes zoster)</i>'. 	Shingles – treatment and/or management of associated pain	For persons aged 18 years or over.
A medicine mentioned in the current online version of the section of the Therapeutic Guidelines titled: ' <i>Addiction: Tobacco smoking and nicotine dependence</i> '. Excluding nortriptyline and nicotine vaping products.	Treatment of nicotine dependence	For persons aged 18 years or over.

Regulated substance	Indication	Restrictions/Conditions
<p>An oral medicine mentioned in the current online version of the sections of the Therapeutic Guidelines titled:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>'Wilderness medicine: Altitude illness'</i>; or • <i>'Gastrointestinal: Nausea and vomiting'</i>. 	<p>Travel health – Acute mountain sickness - standby treatment and/or standby management of associated symptoms</p>	<p>For persons aged 8 years or over.</p>
<p>A medicine mentioned in the current online version of the sections of the Therapeutic Guidelines titled:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>'Antibiotic: Infectious diarrhoea: Travellers' diarrhoea'</i>; or • <i>'Gastrointestinal: Acute gastroenteritis: Other supportive therapy and considerations for acute gastroenteritis: Antidiarrhoeal drugs for acute gastroenteritis'</i>. 	<p>Travel health - Travellers' diarrhoea - standby emergency treatment and/or standby management of associated symptoms</p>	<p>For persons aged 2 years or over.</p>
<p>A medicine mentioned in the current online version of the section of the Therapeutic Guidelines titled <i>'Antibiotic: Parasitic infections: Malaria'</i>.</p>	<p>Travel health - Malaria - prophylaxis or standby emergency treatment of uncomplicated malaria</p>	<p>For persons aged 8 years or over.</p>