

**POISONS AND THERAPEUTIC GOODS REGULATION 2008**  
**Exemption for electronic prescriptions**

I, Judith Mackson, Chief Pharmacist, a duly appointed delegate of the Secretary, NSW Health, do hereby **exempt** the persons listed in Column A of Schedule 1 from the requirements of the *Poisons and Therapeutic Goods Regulation 2008* (the Regulation) listed in the corresponding row of Column B of Schedule 1, subject to the conditions listed in the corresponding row of Column C of Schedule 1, pursuant to the clause of the Regulation specified in the corresponding row of column D of Schedule 1.

This instrument remains in force until varied, replaced or revoked, and in any case no later than 30 September 2023.



JUDITH MACKSON  
Chief Pharmacist

Date: 15 September 2020

Delegation Numbers: PH359, PH488, PH363, PH489, PH513, PH514, PH515, PH519, PH520, PH521.

**Schedule 1**

**Definitions:**

**compliant electronic system** is defined as a prescribing, dispensing or prescription exchange system which appears on the Electronic Prescribing Register of Conformance with a currently valid **Conformance ID** issued by the Commonwealth Government's Australian Digital Health Agency.

Column A Class of persons exempted from requirement specified in Column B	Column B Clauses of the Poisons and Therapeutic Goods Regulation 2008	Column C Conditions of exemption	Column D Clauses of the Poisons and Therapeutic Goods Regulation 2008 under which the exemptions are issued
Practitioners (other than veterinary practitioners) authorised to issue prescriptions for restricted substances under the Regulation	The requirements set out in subclauses 35(2A)(a) and 35(3) [that is, the requirements for handwriting, underlining and initialling prescriptions]	<p>The authorised practitioner must issue the prescription using a compliant electronic prescribing system and include in the prescription the following details:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) the Conformance ID of the system</li> <li>b) (i) the patient's full name, physical address, and date of birth, or (ii) if the treatment is for a patient's partner and the prescription is for azithromycin for the treatment of chlamydia: - the name and email address or mobile phone number of the partner</li> <li>c) the prescriber's name, practice address and telephone number</li> <li>d) the date of prescribing</li> <li>e) the name of the restricted substance and (if not readily apparent) the strength and dose form</li> <li>f) the quantity of the restricted substance to be supplied</li> <li>g) the maximum number of times the restricted substance may be supplied on the prescription</li> <li>h) in the case of a prescription for a special restricted substance, the intervals at which the substance may be supplied on the prescription</li> <li>i) adequate directions for use.</li> </ul>	Subclause 35(5) subject to conditions under subclause 35(6)
Pharmacists	The requirements set out in subclauses 41(1), 41(2), 42(1) and 42(2) [that is, the requirements for endorsing and cancelling prescriptions in ink and keeping, separately, prescriptions for special restricted substances]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) The prescription must have been issued and received using compliant electronic system/s with the Conformance ID/s of the system/s visible to the dispensing pharmacist.</li> <li>b) The pharmacist must record the dispensing of the prescription through a compliant electronic dispensing system.</li> <li>c) In the case of a prescription for a special restricted substance, if there are no repeat supplies prescribed or the intervals between repeat supplies are not clearly stated, the pharmacist must ensure that the prescription is dispensed only once.</li> </ul>	Subclauses 41(3), 41(4), 42(3) and 42(4)

Column A Class of persons exempted from requirement specified in Column B	Column B Clauses of the Poisons and Therapeutic Goods Regulation 2008	Column C Conditions of exemption	Column D Clauses of the Poisons and Therapeutic Goods Regulation 2008 under which the exemptions are issued
Practitioners (other than veterinary practitioners) authorised to issue prescriptions for drugs of addiction under the Regulation	The requirements set out in subclauses 80(2)(a) and 80(3) [that is, the requirements for handwriting, underlining and initialling prescriptions]	<p>The authorised practitioner must issue the prescription using a compliant electronic prescribing system and include in the prescription the following details:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) the Conformance ID of the system</li> <li>b) the patient's name, physical address, and date of birth</li> <li>c) the authorised practitioner's name, practice address and telephone number</li> <li>d) the date of prescribing</li> <li>e) the name of the drug of addiction and (if not readily apparent) the strength and dose form</li> <li>f) the quantity of the drug of addiction to be supplied</li> <li>g) the maximum number of times the drug of addiction may be supplied on the prescription</li> <li>h) the intervals at which the drug of addiction may be supplied on the prescription</li> <li>i) for a prescription for a type A drug of addiction, the reference number under section 29 of the Poisons and Therapeutic Goods Act 1966 or Part 8 of the Regulation</li> <li>j) adequate directions for use.</li> </ul>	Subclause 80(5) subject to conditions under subclause 80(6)
Pharmacists	The requirements set out in subclauses 88(1), 88(2), 89(1) and 89(2) [that is, the requirements for endorsing and cancelling prescriptions in ink and keeping drug of addiction prescriptions, separately from other prescriptions]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) The prescription must have been issued and received using compliant electronic system/s with the Conformance ID/s of the system/s visible to the dispensing pharmacist.</li> <li>b) The pharmacist must record the dispensing of the prescription through a compliant electronic dispensing system.</li> <li>c) If there are no repeat supplies prescribed or the intervals between repeat supplies are not clearly stated, the pharmacist must ensure that the prescription is dispensed only once.</li> </ul>	subclauses 88(3), 88(4), 89(3) and 89(4)