

Pharmacist workflow for prescribing and dispensing therapeutic vapes for smoking cessation and nicotine dependence – S3

Note: This workflow applies when prescribing and dispensing therapeutic vapes under the TGA Special Access Scheme Category C (SAS-C) pathway.

Accessing the SAS/AP Portal

Each pharmacist who supplies therapeutic vapes must register an account on the [SAS/AP Online Portal](#).

Confirm your pharmacy and personal registration details are up-to-date and meet the minimum registration requirements.

Refer to [support documents](#) and [videos](#) for assistance with Portal access and troubleshooting common issues, such as password resets.

1 Consult with the patient in-person

Assess the patient's needs, determine the product's clinical appropriateness considering first line options and obtain informed consent.

Provide professional advice on cessation, dosage, frequency, and interactions with other medicines.

Supply contact information for smoking cessation support services.

See PSA's [Professional Practice Guidelines: Nicotine Dependence Support](#) for further guidance.

Determine if a referral to a medical practitioner or other service provider is required. Referral may be appropriate even if a Schedule 3 vape is supplied.

2 Confirm product compliance

Confirm the therapeutic vapes you supply are included on the [TGA's list of notified vapes](#) and have not been flagged on the TGA website for supply to be stopped or discontinued.

Note: All therapeutic vapes included on the TGA list of notified vapes are unapproved goods that the TGA has not evaluated for quality, safety, efficacy or performance. Consider state and territory regulations when sourcing and dispensing therapeutic vapes (e.g. retail licensing or notification mandates).

Advertising restriction: Do not advertise supply or stock of therapeutic vapes in pharmacy or online.

3 Verify conditions of supply

Determine the product is to be used for smoking cessation or management of nicotine dependence.

Confirm the patient is 18 years or older (sight evidence of the patient's age and identity on a government-recognised ID).

Supply a quantity that does not exceed the amount reasonably required for use for one month and only supply that amount once in a month (a smaller quantity can be supplied more frequently if appropriate).

Confirm the nicotine concentration of the product does not exceed 20 mg/mL.

4 Notify the TGA

Submit a SAS-C notification for each supply transaction to the TGA via the [SAS/AP Online Portal](#). For anyone not familiar with the submission, the [TGA SAS C S3 Nicotine Submission User Guide – Pharmacists](#) is available for viewing.

5 Dispense the product

Dispense the product in accordance with state/territory legislation and professional requirements.

Dispensing vaping products creates a record that will assist you in future interactions with the patient and assessing their progress and clinical notes.

6 Document the intervention

Record the clinical notes from your consultation with the patient in the patient's clinical record.

