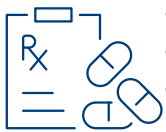


# Home Medicines Reviews: Protecting patients from medicine harm

A Home Medicines Review is a targeted, comprehensive review of a patient's medicines in collaboration with their GP.

## 1. GP refers at-risk patients



- Multiple medicines
- Chronic complex conditions
- Recent hospitalisation or care transition

Targeting those at highest risk of medicine-related harms

## 2. Visit patient in their home



- 60 minute interview which includes:
- Reviewing all prescriptions, OTC and complementary medicines
  - Checking for safety, interactions, and adherence
  - Exploring patient preferences and health beliefs

Clinical, evidence-based, and patient-centred

## 3. Write HMR report and collaborate



- Pharmacist prepares HMR report, including:
- Providing practical recommendations to make medicine use safer and more effective
  - Coordinating medication management with the patient's GP and care team

Supports coordinated and multidisciplinary care

## 4. Follow up visits for unresolved issues



- Pharmacist undertakes up to 2 follow-up visits helping patients and GPs resolve remaining medicine safety issues

Supports a cycle of collaborative care

- HMR outcomes:**
- ✓ Reduced medicine-related harm
  - ✓ Improved medicine use
  - ✓ Better health outcomes and system efficiency
- Safer, more effective use of medicines



Quality Use of Medicines & Medicines Safety is one of Australia's ten National Health Priority Areas

## Home Medicines Reviews:



Highly valued by patients



Improves medicine literacy & self-management skills



Uncover an average of 4 medicine-related problems per review<sup>1</sup>



Reduce hospitalisations and GP visits

help me keep on top of my medicines

Patient

a very powerful tool for medication appropriateness & safety

GP

Quality use of medicines





Medicine related harm



Support coordinated care for people at risk

# Preventable harm is costly – Home Medicine Reviews are a valuable investment to prevent harm

## Challenges to HMR access

 <p><b>Monthly caps</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Credentialed pharmacists are subject to a monthly service cap on number of HMRs they can deliver</li> <li>• Service volume of a demand-driven, referred program is restricted</li> <li>• Patients experience significant delays – often several months - or miss out entirely</li> </ul>	<p><b>IMPACT</b></p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fewer HMR Services delivered</li> <li>• Service fee value declines</li> <li>• Capacity constraints</li> <li>• Eroding remuneration</li> </ul>
 <p><b>Indexation frozen</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Service fees were frozen in 2019</li> <li>• The real service fee for HMRs has declined by 15.7% because of this</li> <li>• Credentialed pharmacists are forced to choose other career options and HMR access declines</li> </ul>	
 <p><b>Inflexible rules</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inflexible rules result in delays to access</li> <li>• Inability to deliver services via telehealth or outside the home creates disadvantage</li> <li>• Rural and remote areas face the greatest supply and access risk</li> </ul>	

## Solutions to improve HMR access

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**Remove monthly service caps**  
*Enable credentialed pharmacists to see patients when risk is highest*
- 

**Reinstate indexation of HMR service fee**  
*Preserve and build this critical skilled workforce*
- 

**Improve flexibility of delivery**  
*Reduce delays and increase productivity*

## Uncap care – fairer access to safe use of medicine

Support PSA's Pharmacy Program Reform Package through the First Pharmacy Programs Agreement