



Australian Government  
Australian Digital Health Agency

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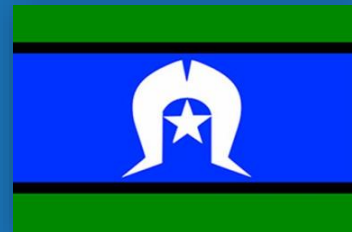
# Electronic Prescriptions

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Carey Doolan and April Burnett  
Monday 22 June 2020



# Acknowledgement



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We would like to acknowledge the traditional owners of country throughout Australia, and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures, and to Elders both past and present.

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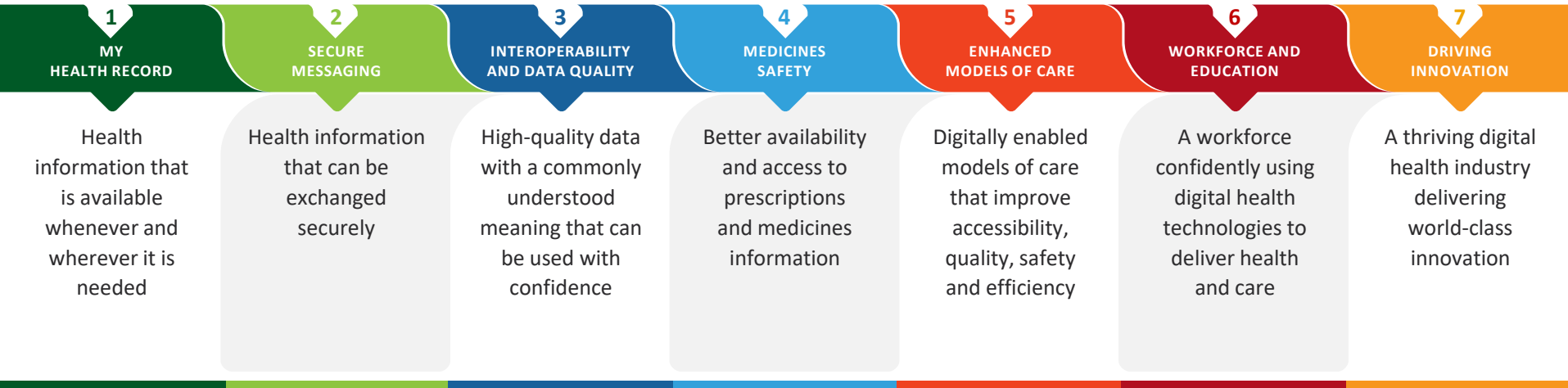
# Purpose

1. Provide an overview of the roadmap for electronic prescriptions (EP);
2. Highlight the EP functionality that will be available in the short-term;
3. Explain EP core features and benefits;
4. Outline how prescribers may use electronic prescriptions in routine practice; and
5. Clarify what organisations require to start using EP.



# National Digital Health Strategy – roadmap for delivery

Co-designed with all states and territories and agreed by COAG Health Council

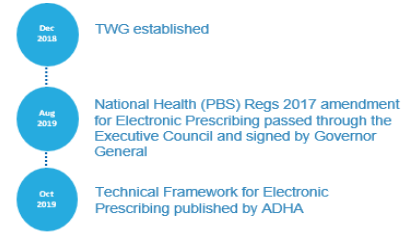


*Electronic Prescribing will assist with the aim to have “digitally enabled paper-free option for medication management in Australia by 2020”. This will allow people to manage prescriptions electronically which will increase convenience and improve medication safety.*

# The Agency's role in developing electronic prescriptions

The Department of Health and the Agency have collaborated to develop the technical components of electronic prescribing, the conformance framework and national change and adoption activities.

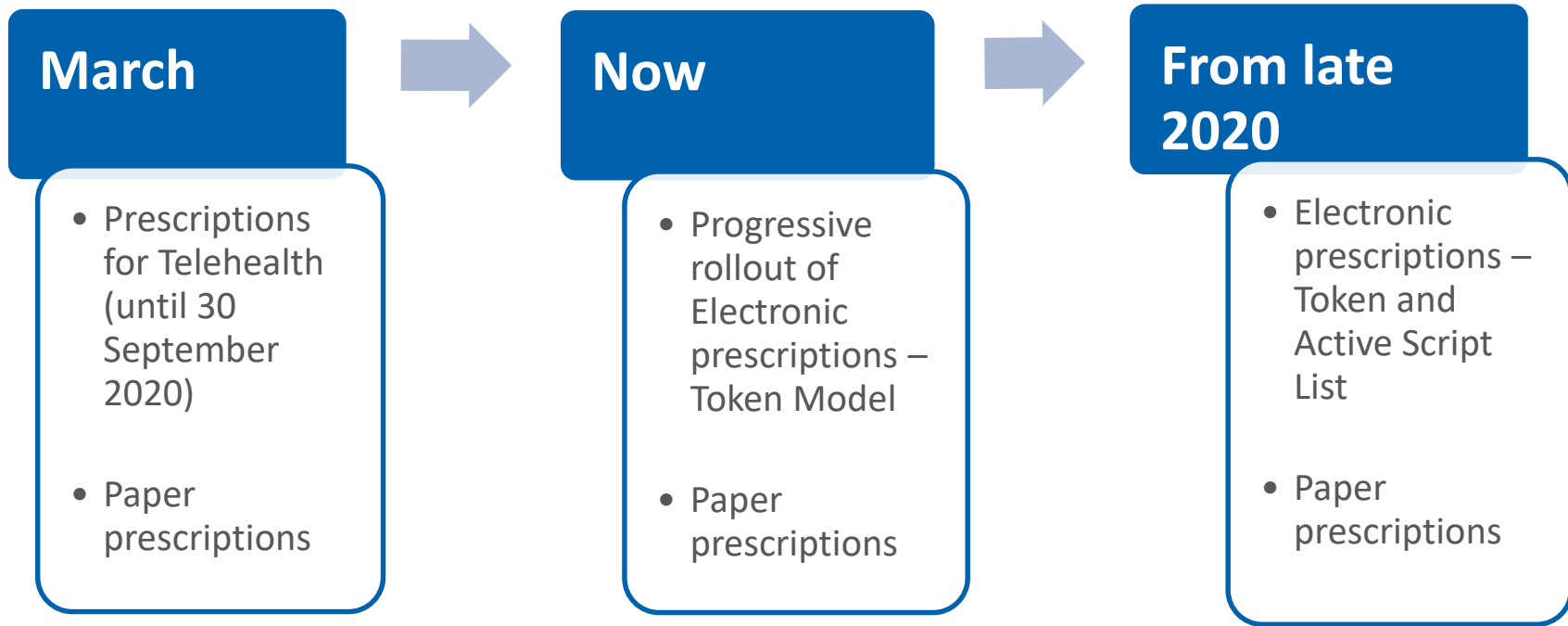
The *National Health (Pharmaceutical Benefits) Amendment (Electronic Prescriptions) Regulations 2019* identify the Agency as the organisation to which a conformant software product's **conformance identifier** is provided to in relation to software used to prepare an electronic prescription.



## 2018 - 2020 Activities



# Roadmap



<https://www.health.gov.au/resources/collections/coronavirus-covid-19-national-health-plan-resources>  
<https://www.psa.org.au/coronavirus/regulatory-changes/#digital-image-prescription>

# What are electronic prescriptions?



- Electronic prescriptions are an alternative option to paper prescriptions.
- Previously, only a paper prescription signed by a prescriber has been the legal form by which medicines can be supplied.
- Paper prescriptions and electronic prescriptions will both meet the relevant Commonwealth and State and Territory legislation.
- Electronic prescriptions will not be mandatory. Patients and prescribers will be able to choose between a paper prescription and electronic prescription.



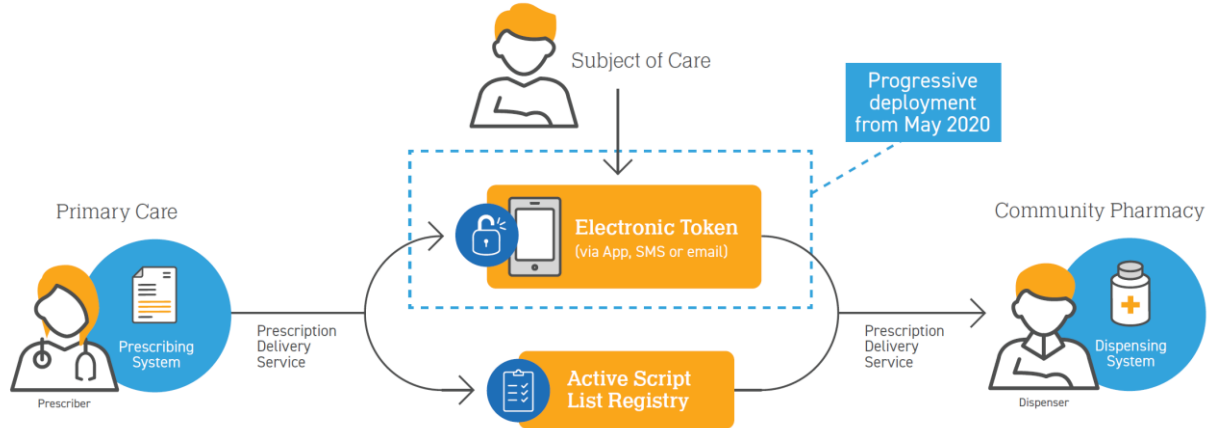
# Electronic prescriptions

## Token and Active Script List



**Token Model:** Subjects of Care may elect to manage their tokens on their mobile devices. The mobile device will display the token in a manner suitable for scanning using existing pharmacy equipment. *\*This model is being made progressively available\**

**Active Script List:** Dispensers can alternatively access an electronic prescription for a person by retrieving it from an Active Script List following presentation of adequate identification. This overcomes the issue of lost tokens and assists medicine management and adherence, especially for patients who are taking multiple medicines. *\*This model is expected to be available from August 2020\**





# Who can participate in electronic prescriptions?



## Prescribers

- Any authorised prescriber, excluding veterinarians, may utilise electronic prescribing functionality provided by their software provider.
- Refer to jurisdictional legislation for more information on authorised prescribers.



## Dispensers

- Any authorised dispenser may utilise electronic prescribing functionality provided by their software provider.
- Refer to jurisdictional legislation for more information on authorised dispensers.



## Software Providers

- Dispensing software
- Prescribing software
- Prescription Delivery Service software
- Mobile applications
- Mobile intermediaries





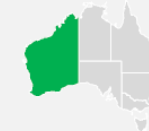



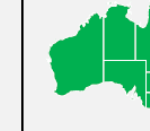


## Consumers

- Any consumer or someone acting on their behalf (agent) may choose to have a new prescription in electronic prescription form.
- Must have an Individual Healthcare Identifier (IHI) to participate.
- Existing paper prescriptions cannot be converted into an electronic prescription.



# Electronic Prescriptions: Regulatory Readiness by Jurisdiction

Jurisdiction								
 <p>NSW</p>	 <p>VIC</p>	 <p>QLD</p>	 <p>SA</p>	 <p>WA</p>	 <p>NT</p>	 <p>TAS</p>	 <p>ACT</p>	 <p>Commonwealth</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Legislation is ready for electronic prescribing.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Legislation is ready for electronic prescribing.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Legislation does not currently recognise electronic prescriptions for medicine supply.</li> <li>Qld targeting June 2020 to have legislation passed through parliament.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Legislation does not currently recognise electronic prescriptions for medicine supply.</li> <li>SA targeting June 2020 to have legislation passed through parliament.</li> <li>Exemptions are available for electronic prescribing at the clinician level.</li> <li>Health have offered support to software developers to obtain clinician level exemptions for COI purposes.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Legislation is ready for electronic prescribing</li> <li>WA Health requires written notification of software developer name and product details; Evidence of the declaration of conformance made to the Agency; and information that shows the product satisfies the Medicines and Poisons Regulations 2016</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Legislation is ready for electronic prescribing.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Legislation is ready for electronic prescribing.</li> <li>Tas Health requires an independent test of software to confirm compliance with Tas requirements.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Legislation is ready for electronic prescribing.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updates to software conformance profiles have assisted software development at the commonwealth level including:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FTEP Conformance Profile v1.1 published</li> <li>Conformance Profile v2.1 published;</li> <li>V2.2 under review;</li> <li>V2.3 for ASL under development.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Current as of 4<sup>th</sup> June 2020



# Electronic prescriptions conformance register

Conformance ID	Software Vendor	Software Product	Software Version	Product Type	Conformance Assessment Scheme (CAS) version	Conformance Profile	Declaration of Conformance form version	Conformance Start Date	Conformance End Date	Last Updated
eRxScriptExchange 1.0.0.0	Fred IT Group Pty Ltd	eRx Script Exchange	1.0.0.0	Prescription Delivery Service (PDS)	2.1	FT 1.1	1.0	4/05/2020	30/09/2020	5/05/2020
BestPractice 1.10.3.894	Best Practice Software Pty Ltd	Bp Premier	1.10.3	Prescribing System (PS)	2.1	FT 1.1	1.0	4/05/2020	30/09/2020	7/05/2020
FredNXT 1.0.18206.2	Fred IT Group Pty Ltd	Fred NXT	1.0.18206.2	Dispensing System (DS)	2.1	FT 1.1	1.0	4/05/2020	30/09/2020	7/05/2020
FredDispense 1.0	Fred IT Group Pty Ltd	Fred Dispense	1.0	Dispensing System (DS)	2.1	FT 1.1	1.0	7/05/2020	30/09/2020	7/05/2020
myScript V2.0.0.0	CW Retail Services Pty Ltd	myScript	2.0.0.0	Dispensing System (DS)	2.1	FT 1.1	1.0	20/05/2020	30/09/2020	20/05/2020
Minfos 5.12.2	Minfos Systems	Minfos	5.12.2	Dispensing System (DS)	2.1	FT 1.1	1.0	19/05/2020	30/09/2020	22/05/2020
MediSecure 3.0.0	MediSecure Pty Ltd	MediSecure	3.0.0	Prescription Delivery Service (PDS)	2.1	FT 1.1	1.0	14/05/2020	30/09/2020	22/05/2020
Aquarius 3.107.1.1	Simple Retail Pty Ltd	Aquarius	3.107.1.1	Dispensing System (DS)	2.1	FT 1.1	1.0	21/05/2020	30/09/2020	22/05/2020
Zedmed 32.0	Zedmed Pty Ltd	Zedmed	32	Prescribing System (PS)	2.1	FT 1.1	1.0	19/05/2020	30/09/2020	25/05/2020
ZDispense 2.3.0	Z Software Pty Ltd	Z Dispense	2.3.0	Dispensing System (DS)	2.1	FT 1.1	1.0	27/05/2020	30/09/2020	27/05/2020
CorumLOTSDispense 3.000.00	Corum Health Pty Ltd	Corum LOTS Dispense	3.000.00	Dispensing System (DS)	2.1	FT 1.1	1.0	12/06/2020	30/09/2020	12/06/2020

As at 15/06/2020

<https://www.digitalhealth.gov.au/get-started-with-digital-health/set-up/electronic-prescribing-overview-and-conformance-register/electronic-prescribing-conformance-register>



# Communities of Interest



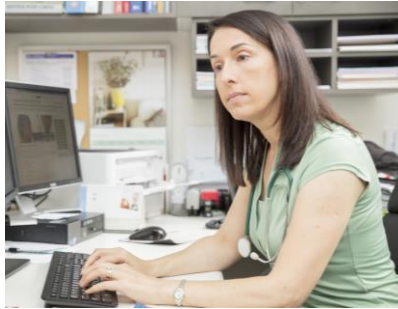
- A number of communities of interest are being established, to ensure a smooth roll-out of electronic prescriptions across the country.
- Australia's **first electronic prescription** in primary care was successfully transmitted in Anglesea, Victoria on **May 6 2020**.
- At least one general practice and at least one community pharmacy in a proximal location will be set-up as a **community of interest (COIs)**. COI's are expected to grow as more providers gain electronic prescribing capability. Anglesea in Victoria is the first community of interest.
- Further communities of interest will be established to ensure the various combinations of prescription delivery services, prescribe, dispense, and third-party intermediary applications integrate smoothly and provide a future seamless electronic prescription experience for Australians.

# Case Study – Community Patient



## Julian

- 4 years old
- Febrile, sore throat
- Concerned parents
- Consultation at GP Clinic



## Doctor

- Doctor issues an **electronic prescription** for an antibiotic
- Token is sent to Julian's parent via **SMS**

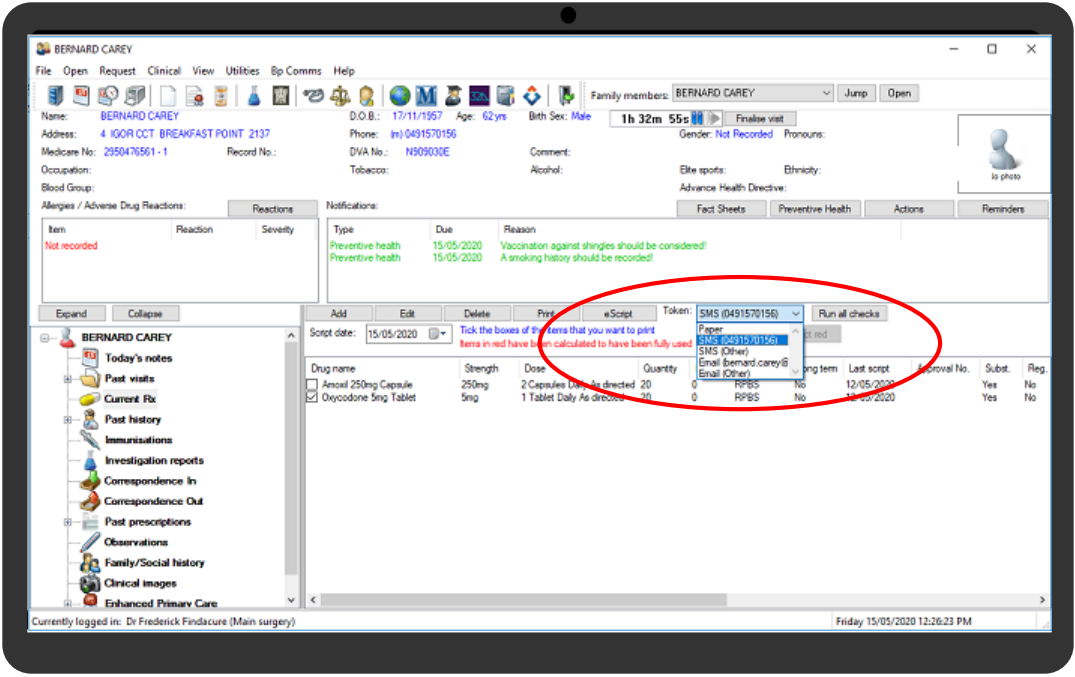


## Pharmacist

- Parent attends pharmacy and presents token for Julian's prescription
- Pharmacist scans token **QR code** from device
- Dispenses electronic prescription

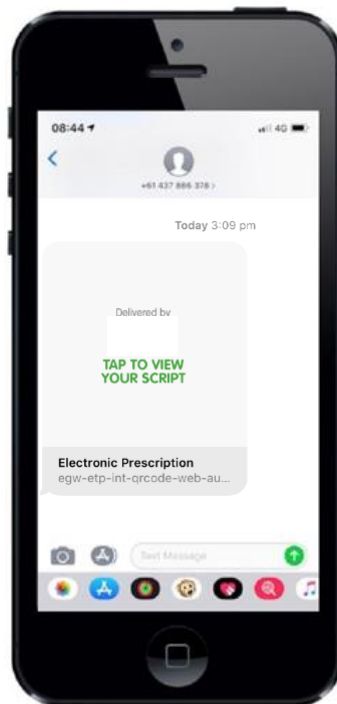


# Electronic prescriptions – Token Model Demo

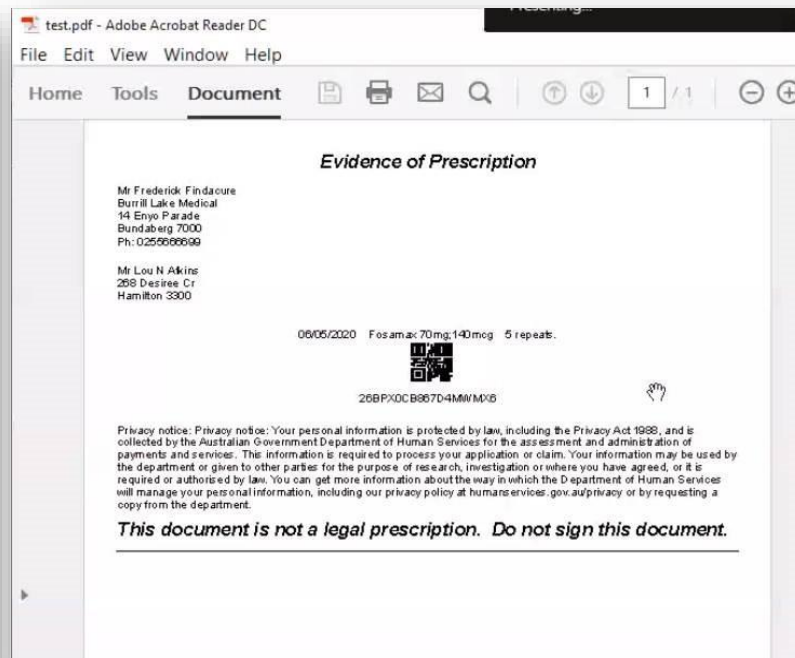
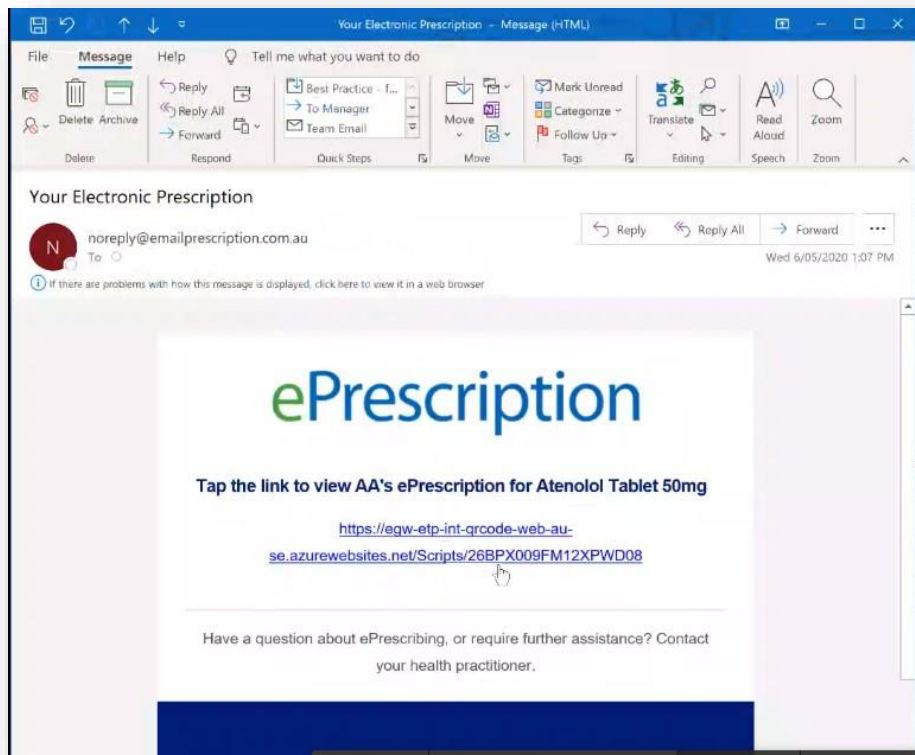


The electronic prescribing method is selected within the prescriber's clinical software

# Electronic prescriptions – Token model demo



# Electronic prescriptions – Token model demo

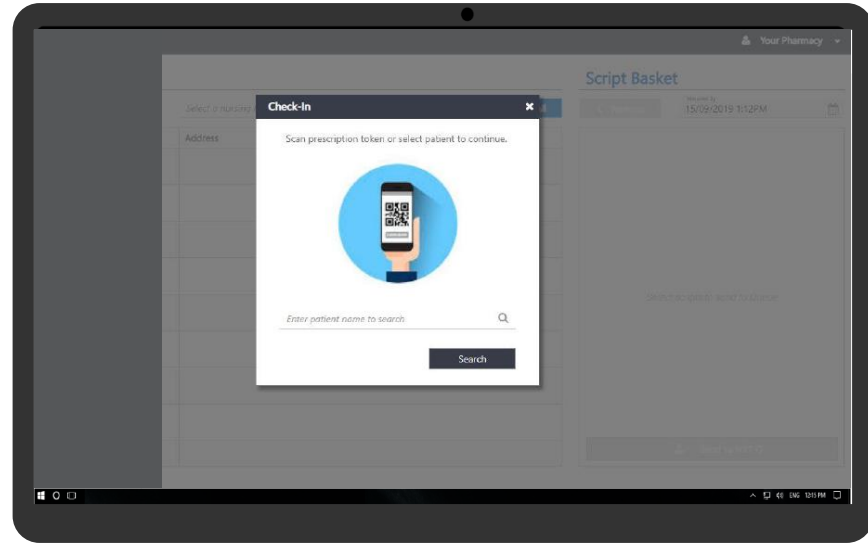


\*Note appearance may differ depending on the software

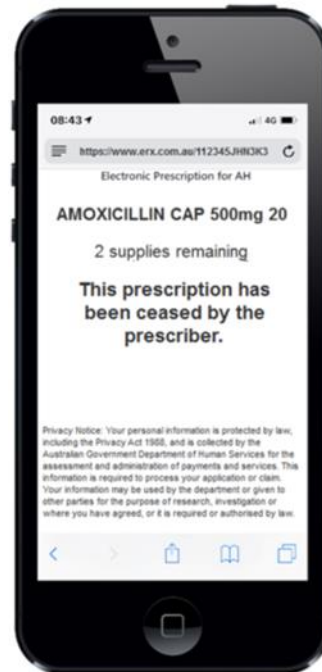
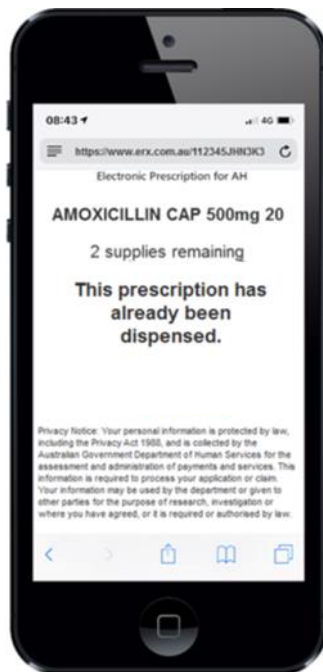
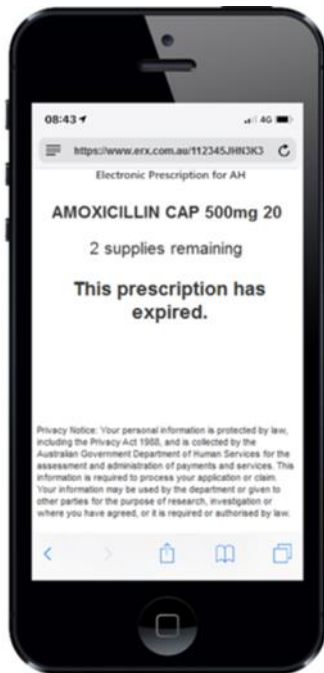


# Electronic prescriptions – Token model demo

## Pharmacy script-in counter



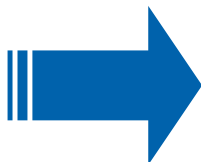
# Electronic prescriptions – Token model demo





## Scenarios

1. The patient is unable to receive a token (e.g. does not have a smart phone).
2. Token is sent to the wrong number/email.
3. Accessing prescription repeats.



## Options

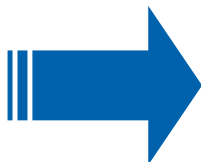
1. The patient may provide their carer's contact details to receive the token on their behalf or elect to receive a paper prescription.
2. The prescriber should ensure that the token is received during the patient consultation. However, if sent in error, the prescriber can cancel the prescription and generate a new token.
3. A new token for prescription repeat(s) will be issued to the patient by the pharmacy once the medicine has been dispensed.





## Scenarios

4. Patient deletes a token from their device.
5. Are there safeguards to prevent patients using their token at multiple pharmacies?
6. Will the software cater to legislative requirements of individual States and Territories?



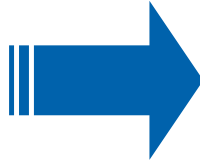
## Options

4. The prescriber can re-send the original or the latest repeat token to the patient as the prescription remains in the PDS until required by the patient.
5. Once a token has been scanned and dispensed by the pharmacy, it is invalid and cannot be reused.
6. Software providers are working diligently on the specifics however practitioners are still obliged to ensure they are compliant with legislation in their practice.



## Scenarios

7. What certificate(s) do I require to participate in electronic prescriptions?
8. Does electronic prescribing still work for prescribers if eRx or MediSecure is not installed?



## Options

7. Depending on the software provider, organisations will either require a NASH or PKI certificate and link it to HPI-O or they may require both (i.e. Medicare PKI and a NASH certificate).
8. Prescribers will need to ensure they have an active Prescription Delivery Service (via eRx/MediSecure).



## Will there be a cost for SMS?

- Until 30 September 2020, the cost of sending electronic prescription token via SMS will be funded by the Department of Health (DOH).
- Check with your software provider for the cost of sending SMS, following 30 September 2020.



# Electronic prescriptions readiness checklist

- ✓ Ensure your practice has a Healthcare Provider Identifier-Organisation (HPI-O). Information about how to register is available [here](#).
- ✓ Confirm with your software provider whether a **NASH or Medicare PKI certificate is required for access to the HI service** and link it to the HPI-O.
- ✓ Ensure your practice is **connected to a Prescription Delivery Service** such as eRx or MediSecure.
- ✓ Install upgraded software and input **HPI-O, HPI-Is** and validate patient **IHIs**.
- ✓ Update your patients' and their carers' **contact details** on file (mobile phone number/ email).
- ✓ Stay up-to-date with relevant **State and Territory legislation**.
- ✓ Discuss workflow suitable for your organisation and keep your staff informed.
- ✓ Keep in touch with your local healthcare providers (GP or pharmacy) to confirm whether they are able to generate/dispense electronic prescriptions.
- ✓ Check the [Australian Digital Health Agency Website](#) for electronic prescriptions information and updates.



## Upgrade your software today

People will soon have the option to choose an electronic prescription as an easy and convenient alternative to paper prescriptions. Make sure your software is electronic prescriptions enabled.

Learn more at [digitalhealth.gov.au](https://digitalhealth.gov.au)  
Connecting Australia to better healthcare





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# Q & A

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# Contact us

Help Centre	<a href="tel:1300901001">1300 901 001</a>
Email	<a href="mailto:help@digitalhealth.gov.au"><u>help@digitalhealth.gov.au</u></a>
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