

SafeScript NSW

Education session for Hunter New England
and Central Coast PHN

While you're waiting, register for SafeScript
now:

<https://register.safescript.health.nsw.gov.au>



3 November 2021



SafeScript NSW

Agenda

#	Topic	Presenter(s)	Time
1	What is SafeScript?	Andrew Hargreaves	15 minutes
2	Implementation support for clinicians <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Education and Training• HealthPathways• SafeScript NSW Clinical Advice Line	Andrew Hargreaves	
3	Panel discussion using case studies <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Case Study 1 - inherited patient• Case Study 2 - new patient• Case Study 3 - existing patient with unexpected history	Dr Simon Holliday Chelsea Felkai Dr Chris Hayes Dr Adrian Dunlop Kim Allgood Andrew Hargreaves	45 minutes
4	Question and Answer	All	30 minutes



Learning Objectives

At the end of this session you will be able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of what the SafeScript NSW system is, why it is needed and how it will be incorporated into clinical workflow
- Engage with the SafeScript NSW system to analyse and interpret the patient's history to inform best practice patient outcomes
- Know where to access point in time and additional resources to assist you with your clinical decision making and improve knowledge and expertise for managing patients using monitored medicines.

What is SafeScript NSW?



What is SafeScript NSW?

- SafeScript NSW is a digital health system that provides prescribers and pharmacists with access to a patient's prescription history for high-risk medicines such as opioids and benzodiazepines.
- Prescribing and dispensing information about monitored medicine is collected via the Prescription Exchange Services and stored in the NSW RTPM repository.
- Prescribers and dispensers using integrated clinical software will receive notifications to warn them when a high risk situation is detected.
- The Pharmaceutical Regulator within NSW Health will have access to the SafeScript NSW system and will progressively use the information to adopt proactive regulatory activities.



Monitored Medicines List

Category	Medicine
Opioids	Including but not limited to buprenorphine, codeine, fentanyl, hydromorphone, methadone, morphine, oxycodone, pethidine, tapentadol, tramadol
Benzodiazepines (prescribed for anxiety or sleep)	Including but not limited to alprazolam, flunitrazepam, bromazepam, clobazam, clonazepam, diazepam, lorazepam, midazolam, nitrazepam, oxazepam, temazepam
Other sleeping aids	Zolpidem, zopiclone
Psychostimulants (prescribed for ADHD)	Dexamfetamine, lisdexamfetamine, methylphenidate
Other	Ketamine, pregabalin, quetiapine All other Schedule 8 medicines not listed above



SafeScript NSW registration and use

- You should have received an email inviting you to register for SafeScript NSW.
- Once registered, you will need to make sure your software is updated and connected to the SafeScript NSW system. Information about how to do this is on our website www.safescript.health.nsw.gov.au
- Once configured, the SafeScript NSW system will operate in the background.
- When you are prescribing or dispensing a monitored medicine, a pop-up notification will display on your desktop based on information held about the patient in SafeScript NSW.



Pop up notifications

If you are using integrated software (such as Medical Director, Best Practice, Genie, Fred Dispense, Minfos and others) SafeScript NSW will send green, amber or red pop-up notifications to your desktop based on information held in the system about the patient you are treating.

Pop-up notification colour	Pop-up notification text
Green	There are no prescribing/dispensing records in SafeScript NSW for 'Firstname Lastname' within the last 90 days.
Green	Medicines prescribed to 'Firstname Lastname' within the last 90 days are from the same prescriber or the same medical practice.
Amber	Medicines prescribed to 'Firstname Lastname' within the last 90 days involve more than 1 prescriber at different medical practices. Check SafeScript NSW for more information.
Red	The medicines supplied to 'Firstname Lastname' within the last 90 days have resulted in a potentially high-risk situation that requires review. Check SafeScript NSW for more information.

SafeScript Alerts

Alerts in the SafeScript system will be displayed where a high risk situation has been detected in the patient’s record.

Alert colour	Alert rules	Does the alert trigger a pop-up notification?
Red	Concurrent prescribing of potentially harmful medicines in a 30-day period <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Combination Rule 1 - Fentanyl + a long acting opioid (not OTP)○ Combination Rule 2 - Fentanyl + a benzodiazepine / Z drug○ Combination Rule 3 - Methadone (pain products) + a long acting opioid (not OTP)○ Combination Rule 4 - Methadone (pain products) + a benzodiazepine / Z drug	Yes, a red pop-up notification is sent
Red	Multiple Prescriber Episode – this is where an individual has received a prescription for any monitored medicine from 4 or more prescribers across 4 or more medical practices in a 90-day period	Yes, a red pop-up notification is sent
Red	Opioid Dose Threshold – where an individual has an average daily opioid dose of more than 100mg per day, averaged over a 90-day period.	Yes, a red pop-up notification is sent
Amber	Multiple Pharmacist Episode – where an individual has had any monitored medicine dispensed in 4 or more pharmacies within a 90-day period.	No, a pop-up notification will not be sent about this alert. Information about the alert will be available in SafeScript NSW

Important to remember

- The alert from SafeScript NSW **does not** instruct you on what to do or whether a medicine should or should not be provided.
- This decision remains with you.
- SafeScript NSW will provide additional information and context to help inform this decision.
- You remain best placed to consult with the patient and determine whether these medicines remain the safest and best option based on the individual's health needs and circumstances.
- A number of clinician support tools and resources are being introduced to assist you.



Implementation Support for Clinicians



Education and Training

- CPD accredited eLearning modules covering:-
 1. How and when to use SafeScript NSW
 2. Information about monitored medicines and clinical practice
 3. Communication and care for patients using monitored medicines

<https://learn.nps.org.au/mod/page/view.php?id=13376>
- PHN facilitated education sessions such as this one for Prescribers and Pharmacists
- RACGP Webinar: <https://www.racgp.org.au/racgp-digital-events-calendar/online-event-items/on-demand/safescript-nsw-what-does-it-mean>
- Curated list of resources for clinicians and consumers
- Also partnering with NUAA and Painaustralia to support consumer awareness and education activities.
- Painaustralia delivered a consumer information session in September <https://youtu.be/YRn5xFgTIKU>



Enhanced HealthPathways

- HNECC PHN have created a core HealthPathway for SafeScript NSW that contains key information about the system and how to use it.
- The PHN are also developing GP and Pharmacy clinical pathways which will provide additional support and guidance to manage the patient as a result of an amber or red alert.
- The intent is to promote GP led care wherever practical, supported by appropriate allied health and other specialist services as required.
- The HNECC HealthPathways will be adopted by other PHNs across the state

The screenshot displays the Hunter New England Community HealthPathways website. At the top, a green banner encourages users to "Try out the new mobile-friendly HealthPathways" with buttons for "TRY MOBILE-FRIENDLY" and "Not now, thank you". The main header features the "Community HealthPathways" logo and the "Hunter New England" region name. A search bar and navigation links (Home, COVID-19, About HealthPathways, etc.) are visible on the left. The central content area is titled "SafeScript NSW" and includes a "Background" section with links to "About SafeScript NSW", "Information available to registered clinicians in SafeScript NSW", "Medicines monitored in SafeScript NSW", "SafeScript NSW pop-up notifications and alerts", "Technological requirements for practices and pharmacies", "SafeScript NSW education and training", "Clinical support", "Clinical HealthPathways and referral pages", "Legal requirements and privacy", and "Patient access to SafeScript NSW". Below this is an "Information" section with links for "For health professionals" and "For patients".

HealthPathways login



Hunter New England

<https://hne.communityhealthpathways.org/>

Username: hnehealth

Password: p1thw1ys

Central Coast NSW

HealthPathways

○ <https://centralcoast.healthpathways.org.au>

○ Username: centralcoast

○ Password: 1connect

SafeScript NSW Clinical Advice Line – 1800 434 155

A dedicated telephone clinical advice line will be established to support primary care providers. The service will:

- provide direct support to practitioners (prescribers and pharmacists) when responding to needs of patients who may be at risk of harm
- facilitate access to clinical advice for addiction medicine, pain management and mental health
- support safe de-escalation of high doses of benzodiazepines and opioids
- promote a transition to safer prescribing practices
- encourage inter-disciplinary management and patient focused pain self-management skills training where appropriate
- guide appropriate management and referral to other clinical services where required



Case Studies



Inherited patient - Janet

44 year old woman, patient of a retired colleague in your practice

‘Dr Smyth has prescribed oxycontin for me for years.....’

You see in the notes she has been prescribed Oxycontin 40mg twice a day for the last 6 months, initially commenced at a lower dose in ED after extensive superficial abdominal burns 3 years ago and attends the same doctor and pharmacy at regularly for prescriptions

- No other prescribed medications
- Prior history of post natal depression
- Non drinker, non smoker, no other health issues

SafeScript NSW Notification

- **Red Alert** - High dose > OMED 100mg

As a prescriber - how would you proceed?

As a pharmacist, you will also receive the red notification – how would you proceed?

Pain outcomes assessments: P.E.G.

Need to measure initially & regularly to monitor outcomes.

Takes less than a minute

1. What number best describes your pain on average in the past week:

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

No pain

Pain as bad as
you can imagine

2. What number best describes how, during the past week, pain has interfered with your enjoyment of life?

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Does not
interfere

Completely
interferes

3. What number best describes how, during the past week, pain has interfered with your general activity?

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Does not
interfere

Completely
interferes

New patient - Murray

49 year old man, new to your surgery, arrives late on Friday afternoon as walk in

'I know you're busy Doc, I won't take much of your time, I just need a repeat script.....'

Asks for Oxycontin prescription 60mg twice daily

You check SafeScript NSW and see the following in Murray's history:

- Fentanyl 25mcg patch
- Diazepam 5mg TDS
- Oxazepam 30mg QID
- Pregabalin 150mg BD

SafeScript NSW Alert

- **Red Alert** - Concurrent prescribing of high risk medications
- **Red Alert** - >4 prescribers at >4 practices in 90 days

As a prescriber - how would you proceed?

As a pharmacist, you will also receive the red notification – how would you proceed?

Your patient - Abdul

'Hi Doc, just need my Targin.....'

60 year old man, well known to you, prescribed Targin 15/7.5mg BD for severe OA both knees and hips. Past history of recurrent lower back pain, chronic insomnia

SafeScript **NSW** Notification

- **Red Alert** - >4 prescribers at >4 practices in 90 days
- **Amber Alert** - >4 pharmacies in 90 days

You access SafeScript NSW and see the following in Abdul's history:

- Endone 5mg PRN for breakthrough (60 tablets a month)
- Panadeine Forte PRN (150 tablets a month)
- Diazepam 5mg nocte (50 tablets a month)
- Pregabalin 75mg BD (56 capsules a month)
- Targin 15 / 7.5mg BD (56 tablets a month)

As a prescriber - how would you proceed?

As a pharmacist, you will also receive the red notification – how would you proceed?

Further Information

Sally Stewart

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Monitoring Program

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Or you can contact the SafeScript NSW Program Team at
the email address below:

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