

# Better practice guide

Medication management in the  
NSW personal injury schemes

March 2021

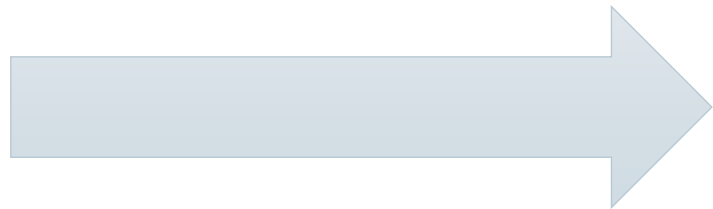


State Insurance  
Regulatory Authority

# Medication better practice guide

## Why?

- majority of people entering the WC scheme have an injury which causes pain.
- Some medications used to treat injuries sustained at work have potential for negative health outcomes.



high risk medications strategy across the personal injury schemes, leading with the workers compensation system.

# Medication better practice guide

**High risk  
medication  
focus**

## Medication codes

- Better regulatory oversight

## Standardise invoices

- Better information for insurers

## Medication review

- Promote early intervention

## PBS

- Access inbuilt safety net

# What medications are high risk?

- Opioids
- Injectable narcotics
- Medication assisted treatment of opioid dependency (MATOD)
- Benzodiazepines and Z drugs
- Medicinal cannabis

# Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS)

The prescription and supply of medications in the NSW personal injury schemes should be provided under the PBS where clinically appropriate and available

- Supports the safe and quality use of medications
- Currently we believe that a very low percentage of medication is accessed via the PBS by claimants
- New codes to identify the medications purchased through the PBS

# Pharmacy invoice requirements

Pharmacy details	Person's details	Medication details
Pharmacy name and address	Family name and given name	Date of service
Dispensing pharmacist's name	Address	PBS item code (for PBS dispensed medication)
ABN	Claim number	A copy of script for medications dispensed privately
Invoice number and date		Full description of medication*
Total amount charged		Prescriber name, address and prescriber number

# WC- transitioning from 1 January 2021

PHS001 – planned to be retired 30 April 2021

This will be replaced by four new coding categories:

- Opioids
- Benzodiazepines and z drugs
- Emerging medications
- Other

# Coding for high risk medication

## Opioids

- [PHS100](#): PBS prescribed opioids
- [PHS110](#): PBS available opioids prescribed privately
- [PHS120](#): Opioids not available on the PBS
- [PHS130](#): Injectable narcotics
- [PHS140](#): MATOD



# Coding for high risk medication

## **Benzodiazepines and z drugs**

- **PHS200**: PBS prescribed benzodiazepines
- **PHS210**: PBS available benzodiazepines prescribed privately
- **PHS220**: Benzodiazepines not available on the PBS
- **PHS230**: z drugs for anxiety and sleep

# Coding for high risk medication

Emerging medications

- **PHS300**: medicinal cannabis

Other

**PHS400**: other PBS prescribed medications

**PHS410**: other PBS medications prescribed privately

**PHS420**: Other non PBS medications

**PHS430**: over the counter medications

## Next steps

- Medication codes introduced 1 Jan with phased implementation
  - PHS001 retiring 30 April
  - FAQs - <https://www.sira.nsw.gov.au/for-service-providers/treatment-advice-centre/medication-management-in-the-nsw-personal-injury-schemes-better-practice-guide>
  - SIRA medication codes: guidance for coding - <https://www.sira.nsw.gov.au/for-service-providers/treatment-advice-centre/sira-medication-codes-guidance-for-coding>

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