Supposing S8 Medicinal Cannabis Products and S4 Cannabidiol Products in South Australia – Information for Pharmacists

This document provides guidance to pharmacists on legal and practical requirements when dispensing medicinal cannabis and cannabidiol products in SA. Pharmacists must comply with all legislated and professional practice requirements related to the dispensing and supply of medicines. For more information refer to The Pharmacy Board of Australia Guidelines for dispensing of medicines and the Drugs of Dependence Unit, SA Health.

Step 1

Check the product scheduling and State requirements.
For S8 products, check the prescription complies with requirements under the Controlled Substances Act 1984

Step 2

Check Commonwealth approval is granted for supply of the product
The supply of unregistered medicinal cannabis products is overseen by the Commonwealth TGA and Office of Drug Control (ODC).

Step 3

Accessing medicinal cannabis products available in Australia
For supply under SAS (Category B), AP or Clinical Trials Schemes
The ODC has approved sponsors who can supply particular medicinal cannabis products to pharmacies under these schemes.

Step 4

Dispensing medicinal cannabis products
The medicinal cannabis product is released by the sponsor or importer and supplied to the pharmacy for dispensing.

Notes:
> Medicinal cannabis and cannabidiol products cannot be supplied without the required Commonwealth and State approvals or notifications.
> Cannabidiol in preparations for therapeutic use must be at least 98% of the total cannabinoids to be in Schedule 4.
> Storage and transport of S8 medicines must comply with South Australian Controlled Substances Legislation. For information go to The Code of Practice for the Storage and Transport of drugs of dependence or contact the Drugs of Dependence Unit on 1300 652 584.