



SA Community Pharmacy Oral Contraceptive Pill Resupply Services

From 6 May 2024, South Australian pharmacists will be able to provide new services under the SA Community Pharmacy Oral Contraceptive Pill (OCP) Resupply Services Scheme - supporting better access to health advice and treatment for South Australian women.

Community pharmacists who have undertaken additional training will be able to provide assessment and resupply of approved oral contraceptive pills to eligible patients in accordance with the conditions of the *Community Pharmacy OCP Resupply Services Scheme* as determined by the Minister for Health and Wellbeing by notice in the [Government Gazette on 9 April 2024](#).

Pharmacists are encouraged to consider preparing to provide OCP Resupply Services including by undertaking the approved training and becoming familiar with the conditions and details of the scheme and supporting [OCP Resupply Management Protocol](#). More information is available on the [SA Community Pharmacy OCP Resupply Services | SA Health](#) webpage.

Approved training for SA pharmacists is now available at the links below:

[Australasian College of Pharmacy \(ACP\)](#) – free for members and \$99 for non-members.

[Pharmaceutical Society of Australia \(PSA\)](#) – free for members and \$270 for non-members.

OCP - Clinical Software and Documentation

Pharmacists providing OCP Resupply Services must make a clinical record and a record in a pharmacy dispensing system regarding the sale or supply of any OCP under the Scheme. Pharmacists must also offer a record of the service to the patient.

If your pharmacy uses MedAdvisor software to record professional pharmacy services, a Service form will soon be available to support South Australian pharmacists in documenting SA Community Pharmacy OCP Resupply Services consultations, however, the form will not be available from commencement of the Scheme on 6 May 2024. It is anticipated that the MedAdvisor SA OCP Resupply Services form will be available from 27 May 2024.

To assist pharmacists providing services an electronic form will be accessible from the [SA Community Pharmacy OCP Resupply Services | SA Health](#) webpage for use from 6 May 2024. The form may be downloaded and printed, or completed electronically, to document OCP Resupply Service consultations. The completed form can be kept in the pharmacy records (electronic or physical), a copy provided to the patient as a record of the consultation, and a copy may be shared with the patient's usual medical practitioner (if the patient consents).

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Any referrals made as a result of an OCP resupply consultation will need to be generated by the usual processes of the pharmacy.

OCP - Consumer Information

Information for consumers about Community Pharmacy OCP Resupply Services will be available on the SA Health website from 6 May 2024.

Pharmacists planning to offer OCP Resupply Services are also encouraged to consider how to promote their services to consumers via existing online apps and pharmacy websites.

OCP Webinar – Save the Date

The Office of the Chief Pharmacist will provide information on the SA Community Pharmacy OCP Resupply Services in a webinar, scheduled tentatively for **Wednesday 29 May 2024**. The webinar will cover the conditions and key information such as patient eligibility, approved medication, key points of referral, and the clinical flow chart.

OCP - Pharmacist Survey

Thank you to those who have responded to our pharmacist survey so far. If you have not already responded, it's not too late! Please let us know whether or not you are intending to provide Community Pharmacy OCP Resupply Services by responding to our short [pharmacist survey here](#).

For further information, visit [SA Community Pharmacy OCP Resupply Services | SA Health](#) and for any enquiries or feedback regarding the SA Community Pharmacy OCP Resupply Services contact us at health.communitypharmacyinitiatives@sa.gov.au.

National Immunisation Program Vaccinations in Pharmacy (NIPVIP) Program - Vaccination Requirements

The National Immunisation Program Vaccination in Pharmacy (NIPVIP) Program in South Australia has been implemented with great success, with metropolitan and regional pharmacies across the state participating in the Program.

There is currently however some uncertainty regarding vaccines administered that can be claimed for payment via the [National Immunisation Program Vaccinations in Pharmacy \(NIPVIP\) Program Portal](#). To provide further clarity on vaccines that are eligible to be claimed under the NIPVIP Program, pharmacies are reminded that:

- Only vaccines distributed to pharmacies by the SA Health Vaccine Distribution Centre may be claimed under the NIPVIP Program.
- Private stock vaccines are not eligible to be claimed under the NIPVIP Program and cannot be used in lieu of government funded stock if a pharmacy has no NIPVIP vaccine stock on hand.
- Meningococcal B vaccine (Bexsero®) is not part of the NIPVIP Program and therefore cannot be claimed.
- Shingrix® continues to be unavailable to South Australian community pharmacies at present and cannot be claimed on the NIPVIP.

Pharmacies are also reminded that only approved organisations can provide immunisation services and/or participate in the NIPVIP program. Pharmacies wishing to provide immunisation services and/or participate in the NIPVIP need to apply to become an [approved organisation to deliver immunisation programs in SA](#).

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Please refer to the [National Immunisation Program Vaccination in Pharmacy \(NIPVIP\) Program - South Australia](#) webpage for further information.

Adverse event following immunisation

Pharmacists are reminded that an adverse event following immunisation (AEFI) is a notifiable condition on an ongoing basis after it was added to the list of notifiable conditions in the South Australian Public Health (Notifiable and Controlled Notifiable Conditions) Regulations 2012. Health professionals, including pharmacists, are required to notify of all AEFI except for very common or common adverse events.

Health practitioners are exempt from notifying an AEFI if they know or reasonably believe that the notification has already been made by another health practitioner who is required to notify. The general public will still be able to report AEFI to SA Health on a voluntary basis, however a report by the general public does not remove the requirement for a health practitioner to also notify.

The preferred method to submit a report to SA Health is by completing the [online Vaccine Reaction Report Form](#) using the South Australian Vaccine Safety Surveillance System (SAVSS). If you are unable to complete an online report, you can phone 1300 232 272 during business hours.

For more information about AEFI, visit the [SA Health](#) website.

Nicotine poisoning prevention in children

In 2023, there was an increase of 47% from the previous year in the number of South Australian calls made to the Poison Information Centre (PIC) due to accidental exposure to nicotine products. These nicotine products included Nicotine Replacement Therapies (gum, lozenges, sprays), cigarettes/cigarette butts and vaping/e-cigarette devices and liquids.

The full extent of accidental child exposure to nicotine is likely to be higher than reported to the Poisons Information Centre due to additional cases being taken directly to hospitals, attended by ambulance services, or not reported by families of the victims.

A reminder for pharmacists when dispensing Nicotine or selling Nicotine Replacement Therapies for patients, to encourage parents and caregivers to store all nicotine products securely out of reach of children.

Nicotine products can be commonplace in many homes and may be easily accessible to young children. The risk of severe illness if a child is exposed is high.

For more information about nicotine poisoning prevention and to download posters for display, visit www.kidsafesa.com.au/nicotinepoisonprevention

Please forward this update to any colleagues who may not have received it and contact us at Health.OfficeoftheChiefPharmacist@sa.gov.au to be added to our mailing list or with any other enquiries

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