



Nurse Practitioner (NP) s100 Prescribing

Nurse Practitioners included as authorised prescribers for HIV, hepatitis B and hepatitis C medicines

April 2020

What does this mean?

From 1 April 2020, Nurse Practitioners (NPs) experienced in the care and management of people living with HIV, hepatitis B and hepatitis C are eligible to prescribe Pharmaceutical Benefit Scheme (PBS) funded medicines for treatment of these blood borne viruses. NPs can already prescribe medicines to treat hepatitis C for people living in the community, but now they can also prescribe Hepatitis C medicines for people in prisons. Expanding NP prescribing to include HIV, hepatitis B and hepatitis C medicines will improve access to care for people who have a NP in the health service that they visit.

NPs have been an integral part of the Australian health system for 20 years and have been safely and effectively prescribing medicines in Australia since 2010, including Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) for the prevention of HIV and treatment for hepatitis C.

They already provide care to many people living with HIV, hepatitis B and hepatitis C in major cities, regional, rural and remote towns through health services such as:

- Sexual health clinics
- Hospitals
- General practices
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health services
- Community health centres
- Prisons

What is a Nurse Practitioner?

Within our healthcare system, NPs are the most senior nurses working in clinical settings. They have completed postgraduate Masters degree level study and are registered with the Nursing and Midwifery Board as Nurse Practitioners. NPs are already able to:

- Provide expert healthcare to all members of the community
- Raise awareness of health promotion activities and strategies for disease prevention with community members

Australasian Society for HIV, Viral Hepatitis and Sexual Health Medicine

Tel: 02 8204 0700 | www.ashm.org.au
ashm@ashm.org.au
L3, 160 Clarence Street, Sydney NSW 2000

ASHM is a peak organisation of health professionals in Australia and New Zealand who work in HIV, viral hepatitis, other BBVs and sexually transmissible infections. ASHM draws on its experience and expertise to support the health workforce and to contribute to the sector, domestically and internationally.

National Association of People with HIV Australia (NAPWHA)

Tel: 02 8568 0300 | www.napwha.org.au
info@napwha.org.au
PO Box 917 Newtown NSW 2042

NAPWHA is Australia's peak non-government organisation representing community-based groups of people with HIV. Its membership of national networks and state-based organisations reflects the diverse make-up of the HIV-positive community and enables NAPWHA to confidently represent the positive voice in Australia.

Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations (AFAO)

Tel: 02 9557 9399 | www.afao.org.au
enquiries@afao.org.au
PO Box 51 Newtown NSW 2042

AFAO is the national federation for the HIV community response in Australia. AFAO works to end HIV transmission and reduce its impact on communities in Australia, Asia and the Pacific. AFAO's members include the AIDS Councils in each state and territory.



- Write prescriptions for patients to access Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) medicines for many health conditions
- Order x-rays and tests to diagnose health conditions
- Refer patients to a specialist or hospital if needed
- Collaborate with other health professionals, for example, General Practitioners, Infectious Disease Clinicians and Sexual Health Physicians, physiotherapists, social workers and occupational therapists to support people to manage their health and wellbeing

To prescribe HIV and hepatitis B medicines NPs need to complete an accreditation course. This means some NPs may not be able to prescribe your next script immediately but will be able to do so in due course. ASHM is currently adapting its education courses for online delivery, including the HIV and Hepatitis B s100 Prescriber courses, which may delay the commencement of accreditation courses.

Search for accredited NPs by location

You can search for accredited NPs, by location, on the ASHM website:

- [HIV prescribers](#)
- [Hepatitis B prescribers](#)
- [Hepatitis C prescribers](#)

For more information, please contact ashm@ashm.org.au



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Developing a sustainable HIV,
viral hepatitis and sexual health
workforce for 30 years.

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