

Unrestricted Schedule 8 Medicine Prescriptions PHC Remote Information Sheet

Medical practitioners need to be familiar with the relevant provisions in the Northern Territory [Medicines, Poisons and Therapeutic Goods Act \(MPTGA\) and Regulations](#) and the Code of Practice – Schedule 8 Substances: [Volume 1 - Issuing Prescriptions Supplying Schedule 8 Substances](#) when providing clinical services related to Schedule 8 (S8) Medicines. Further information on specific aspects of prescribing S8 Medicines can be found on the [Poisons Control – Medical Practitioners](#) website. This site includes relevant forms and some information for clients.

The following table provides a summary of the legislative requirements for the supply of the **UnRestricted Schedule 8 Medicines** used in remote health centres, such as:

- Alprazolam
- Buprenorphine (except *Subutex* or *Suboxone*)
- Codeine (single ingredient preparation)
- Fentanyl
- Hydromorphone
- Ketamine
- Methadone (except liquid)
- Morphine
- Oxycodone
- Tapentadol

Content Of Prescriptions	Requirements	Electronic Health Records (EHR) ¹
Medical Practitioner Details:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Name - Professional Qualifications - Address and phone number of work location - Signature (or authorised electronic representation) 	<i>Note: The Medical Practitioner will need to sign the rural prescription generated by the EHR</i>
Client Details:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Name - Address - Date of Birth 	
Medicine Details:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Name of medicine - Form or type of preparation - Strength of medicine - Directions for administering the medicine 	
Supply Details:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Quantity in words and numbers, eg Sixty (60) tablets <i>(Note: not more than one month's supply can be requested at any one time)</i> - Start date for supply if different from the date of prescribing <p>When Medicine is to be Re-Supplied from the original Prescription (Repeat Prescription):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Quantity of re-supply - Time to elapse before re-supply <i>(minimum repeat interval)</i> 	<i>Note: The Medical Practitioner will need to manually (either typed or handwritten) enter all supply details onto the rural prescription generated by the EHR.</i>
Prescription Requirements:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Date of prescription - Must be written in ink or produced on a printer - Prescriptions are valid for a maximum of SIX months - Prescriptions for other medicines must not be written on the same prescription 	

Reference: [Requirements of Prescriptions for S8 Substances](#). Also see Atlas items: [Prescriptions](#) and [Schedule 8 Medicines](#). Note: the Information Sheet – [Restricted Schedule 8 Medicine Prescriptions](#) provides information on prescriptions for RS8 medicines: Methylphenidate and Dexamphetamine.

¹ Note: unless otherwise stated, this information will be automatically populated in EHR generated Rural Prescriptions.