

Updating Medicine Ingredient Names PHC Remote Information Sheet

In different countries, different names are used to describe the same medical ingredient. The Therapeutic Goods Administration is working to update medicine ingredient names used in Australia to align with names used internationally. These changes will be changed over time, with the transition period ending in April 2020.

Some changes are minor, for example changing a 'y' to an 'i', and will not affect how the ingredient name is pronounced.

Other changes are more significant. For these products, medicines labels will need to use both the old and new ingredient name for another three years after the end of the transition period (until 2023) to help clients and healthcare professionals become familiar with the new names.

Adrenaline (epinephrine) and noradrenaline (norepinephrine) will continue to be labelled with both names beyond the end of the 2023 transition period.

As the changes are made in MIMS, they will be updated in MedChart, the Standard Drug List and any order forms and shelf tags. Health Centre staff will be notified of the changes as part of the regular SDL update broadcasts.

When issuing medicine which has both names on the label, health centre staff should explain these changes clearly to the patient and as required, reassure them that the actual medicine has not changed.

For more information from the TGA go to: <https://www.tga.gov.au/updating-medicine-ingredient-names>.

The poster features the Australian Government coat of arms and the text: Australian Government, Department of Health, Therapeutic Goods Administration. Below this are two green boxes: 'YOUR MEDICINE' and 'YOUR KNOWLEDGE'. The main body of the poster is red and contains the text: 'Some medicine ingredients are changing to new names.' To the right is an illustration of a white medicine bottle with a pink cap and a yellow label that says 'YOUR MEDICINE' and 'INGREDIENTS New name (old name)'. Below the main text, it says: 'The changes will align the names with those used internationally. But don't worry – the medicines or their effects are not changing.' At the bottom left, it says: 'For more information visit tga.gov.au/ingredient-names'. At the bottom right is the TGA logo with the text 'TGA Health Safety Regulation'.

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Some of the commonly used items which will be affected are listed below:

Old name	New name
Adrenaline	adrenaline (epinephrine)
Amethocaine hydrochloride	tetracaine (amethocaine) hydrochloride
Bacillus Calmette and Guerin	Mycobacterium bovis (Bacillus Calmette and Guerin (BCG) strain)
Doxycycline hydrochloride	doxycycline hyclate (hydrochloride)
Eformoterol	formoterol (eformoterol)
Frusemide	furosemide (frusemide)
Lignocaine	lidocaine (lignocaine)
Lignocaine hydrochloride	lidocaine (lignocaine) hydrochloride monohydrate
Lignocaine hydrochloride anhydrous	lidocaine (lignocaine) hydrochloride
Procaine penicillin	procaine benzylpenicillin (procaine penicillin)
Diclofenac diethylammonium	diclofenac diethylamine
Insulin - human	insulin
Amlodipine besylate	amlodipine besilate
Amoxicillin	amoxicillin
Beclomethasone Dipropionate	beclometasone dipropionate
Benztropine mesylate	benzatropine mesilate
Cephalexin	cefalexin monohydrate
Cephazolin	cefazolin
Cholecalciferol	colecalfiferol
Clomiphene citrate	clomifene citrate
Ethinylestradiol	ethinylestradiol
Indomethacin	indometacin
Prochlorperazine mesylate	prochlorperazine mesilate
Aluminium hydroxide	aluminium hydroxide hydrate
Amiloride hydrochloride	amiloride hydrochloride dihydrate
Atropine sulfate	atropine sulfate monohydrate
Calcium gluconate	calcium gluconate monohydrate
Codeine phosphate	codeine phosphate hemihydrate
Ferrous sulfate	ferrous sulfate heptahydrate
Ferrous sulfate - dried	ferrous sulfate
Flucloxacillin sodium	flucloxacillin sodium monohydrate
Glucose	glucose monohydrate
Ipratropium bromide	ipratropium bromide monohydrate
Magnesium aspartate	magnesium aspartate tetrahydrate
Magnesium sulfate	magnesium sulfate heptahydrate
Morphine sulfate	morphine sulfate pentahydrate
Naloxone hydrochloride	naloxone hydrochloride dihydrate
Paraffin - soft white	white soft paraffin