

Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) state/territory data extract 2013-14

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Data Set Specification
METEOR identifier:	602524
Registration status:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Commonwealth Department of Health, Standard 17/12/2015
DSS type:	Data Set Specification (DSS)

Scope:

This data set specification describes the output data set made available to each Australian state and territory via the Commonwealth Department of Health's Enterprise Data Warehouse (EDW) in relation to the ongoing operations of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS). It describes the PBS data items supplied in respect of the 2013-14 reference year, i.e. those data records where the date of completed validation is between 1 July 2013 and 30 June 2014 inclusive.

The data set contains data as presented for analysis by users of the EDW, i.e. the data has generally undergone some degree of validation or reformatting in comparison with the raw input data sets provided to the Department of Health by the Commonwealth Department of Human Services.

The PBS is a programme under which the cost of prescription medications provided to consumers is subsidised by the Australian Government. Under the PBS, the government subsidises the cost of medicine for most medical conditions.

Benefits provided under the PBS, in the form of subsidised over-the-counter prices for prescription medications, are available to all Australian residents who hold a Medicare card, as well as to visitors to Australia from countries with which Australia has a Reciprocal Health Care Agreement (RHCA). As at 1 July 2015, the countries with which Australia has an RHCA include the United Kingdom, Ireland, New Zealand, Malta, Italy, Sweden, the Netherlands, Finland, Norway, Belgium and Slovenia.

Under the PBS, some types of medical professionals can only prescribe a subset of the medications listed in the general PBS schedule, e.g. dental practitioners can only prescribe the dental care medicines listed in the separate Dental schedule. Similarly, optometrists can only prescribe the eye care medicines listed in the separate Optometrical schedule.

Most of the medicines listed in the various PBS schedules are dispensed by pharmacists and used by patients at home. Some medicines, e.g. chemotherapy drugs, are dangerous to administer without medical supervision and are only accessible at specialised medical services, usually hospitals.

The PBS is managed by the Department of Health and administered by the Department of Human Services. The PBS is governed by the *National Health Act 1953* (Cwth) and the *National Health (Pharmaceutical Benefits) Regulations 1960* (Cwth).

The data set also contains data sourced from a number of assistance programmes that are related to but not strictly part of the PBS, e.g. the Repatriation Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (RPBS) and the Stoma Assistance Scheme (SAS).

The RPBS is a scheme administered by the Department of Veterans' Affairs under which the cost of prescription medications provided to veterans of Australia's defence force, their widows/widowers and dependants is subsidised by the Australian Government. The RPBS offers a wider range of medications at concessional rates than the PBS.

The Stoma Appliance Scheme (SAS) provides support to people with a stoma by improving access to the most suitable and clinically appropriate stoma-related products. A stoma is a temporary or permanent body opening, either natural or surgically created, which connects a portion of the body cavity to the outside environment to allow bodily waste to leave the body.

In some use cases, data produced in accordance with the structures described in this data set specification may need to be suppressed, de-identified or perturbed by the Department of Health in order to protect the privacy and/or confidentiality of individual patients, prescribers or pharmacies.

Collection and usage attributes

Statistical unit: The data described in this data set specification is administrative by-product data generated by the ongoing daily operations of the PBS and allied schemes including the RPBS and SAS.

In broad terms, a new PBS data record is generated each time a prescription written by an authorised [PBS prescriber](#) for a medicinal product included in the Schedule of the PBS is dispensed by an approved supplier.

Guide for use: The applicable co-payment amounts, i.e. the contribution paid by patients towards Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme/Repatriation Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme medicinal products, for the 2013-14 financial year are as follows:

Table 1: Co-payment amounts for 2013-14

<i>Date</i>	<i>General co-payment</i>	<i>Concessional co-payment</i>
1 January 2013 – 31 December 2013	\$36.10	\$5.90
1 January 2014 – 31 December 2014	\$36.90	\$6.00

The applicable Safety Net thresholds for the 2013-14 financial year are as follows:

Table 2: Safety Net thresholds for 2013-14

<i>Date</i>	<i>General patients</i>	<i>Concessional patients</i>
1 January 2013 – 31 December 2013	\$1,390.60	\$354.00
1 January 2014 – 31 December 2014	\$1,421.20	\$360.00

Under the general PBS, in 2014 a general patient would have paid a maximum over-the-counter price of \$36.90 for each prescribed PBS medicinal product, plus any applicable special patient contribution, brand premium or therapeutic group premium. If the total amount spent by the patient during the year reached the general Safety Net threshold of \$1,421.20, the maximum over-the-counter price paid for any additional item during the remainder of the year would be \$6.00, plus any applicable special patient contribution, brand premium or therapeutic group premium.

Similarly, in 2014 a concessional patient would have paid a maximum over-the-counter price of \$6.00 for each prescribed PBS medicinal product, plus any applicable special patient contribution, brand premium or therapeutic group premium. If the total amount spent by the patient during the year reached the concessional Safety Net threshold of \$360.00, any additional items during the remainder of the year would be supplied free of charge, plus any applicable special patient contribution, brand premium or therapeutic group premium.

Implementation start date: 01/07/2013

Implementation end date: 30/06/2014

Source and reference attributes

Steward: [Department of Health](#)

- Origin:** Department of Health 2015. Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme website. Department of Health, Canberra. Viewed 25 June 2015, <http://www.pbs.gov.au>
- Department of Health 2015. Repatriation Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme website. Department of Health, Canberra. Viewed 30 October 2015, <http://www.pbs.gov.au/browse/rpbs>
- Department of Health 2015. Stoma Assistance Scheme website. Department of Health, Canberra. Viewed 30 October 2015, <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/Stoma+Appliance+Scheme-3>
- Reference documents:** Office of Parliamentary Counsel, ComLaw website 2014. National Health Act 1953 (Cwth). Office of Parliamentary Counsel, Canberra. Viewed 22 September 2015, <https://www.comlaw.gov.au/Details/C2015C00081>
- Office of Parliamentary Counsel, ComLaw website 2014. National Health (Pharmaceutical Benefits) Regulations 1960 (Cwth). Office of Parliamentary Counsel, Canberra. Viewed 22 September 2015, <https://www.comlaw.gov.au/Details/F2015C00314>
- Office of Parliamentary Counsel, ComLaw website 2015. Repatriation Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme, Instrument 2013, No. R43. Office of Parliamentary Counsel, Canberra. Viewed 30 October 2015, <https://www.comlaw.gov.au/Details/F2015C00298>

Relational attributes

Metadata items in this Data Set Specification [Show more detail](#)

Seq No.	Metadata item	Obligation	Max occurs
1	Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) prescription—PBS item prescribed, code NN[NNN]A	Mandatory	1
2	Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) prescription—patient category, entitlement code AA	Mandatory	1
3	Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) prescription—PBS form type, code AA	Mandatory	1
4	Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) prescription—quantity of PBS item supplied, total number N[NNN]	Mandatory	1
5	Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) prescription—PBS benefit amount, total Australian currency N[NNNNN].NN	Mandatory	1
6	Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) prescription—PBS patient contribution, total Australian currency N[NNNNN].NN	Mandatory	1
7	Prescription—repeat prescription indicator, code X	Mandatory	1
8	Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) prescription—Regulation 24 applicable indicator, yes/no code A	Mandatory	1
9	Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) prescription—patient payment category, code X	Mandatory	1
10	Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) prescription—type of drug prescribed, broad category code XX	Mandatory	1
11	Hospital—hospital identifier, identifier N[NNNNNN]A	Mandatory	1
12	Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) prescription—specialty of prescriber, group code NN	Mandatory	1
13	Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) prescription—pharmacy approval type, code X	Mandatory	1

14	Patient—Closing the Gap co-payment eligibility indicator, code AAA[NNA]	Mandatory	1
15	Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) prescription—PBS claim type, code A	Mandatory	1
16	Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) prescription—prescriber type, code A	Mandatory	1
17	Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) prescription—number of times previously supplied, total number N[N]	Mandatory	1
18	Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) prescription—number of authorised prescription repeats, total number N[N]	Mandatory	1
19	Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) prescription—record extract date, DDMMYYYY	Mandatory	1
20	Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) prescription—number of authorised medication supplies, total number N[N]	Mandatory	1
21	Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) prescription—patient entitlement status (derived), Commonwealth government assistance scheme code AX	Mandatory	1
22	Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) prescription—pharmaceutical benefit entitlement source, code A	Mandatory	1
23	Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) prescription—eligibility card type, code AA	Mandatory	1
24	Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) prescription—therapeutic group, code N	Mandatory	1
25	Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) prescription—bioequivalent allowed indicator, code A	Mandatory	1
26	Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) prescription—patient identifier, identifier N(9)	Mandatory	1
27	Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) prescription—prescriber identifier, identifier N[N(19)]	Mandatory	1
28	Pharmacy—pharmacy identifier, identifier XXNNA	Mandatory	1
29	Pharmacy—Australian state/territory identifier, ACT-prioritised code AA[A]	Mandatory	1
30	Person—Australian state/territory identifier, ACT-prioritised code AA[A]	Mandatory	1
31	Prescriber—Australian state/territory identifier, ACT-prioritised code AA[A]	Mandatory	1
32	Pharmacy—geographic remoteness, PBS classification (ASGS-RA) X	Mandatory	1
33	Person—geographic remoteness, PBS classification (ASGS-RA) X	Mandatory	1
34	Prescriber—geographic remoteness, PBS classification (ASGS-RA) X	Mandatory	1
35	Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) prescription—date of supply, DDMMYYYY	Mandatory	1
36	Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) prescription—date of prescribing, DDMMYYYY	Mandatory	1
80	Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) prescription—specialty of prescriber, major specialty code NNNN	Mandatory	1
81	Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) prescription—specialty of prescriber, subspecialty code NNNNNN	Mandatory	1
98	Person—date of birth, DDMMYYYY	Mandatory	1
99	Person—sex, code A	Mandatory	1