

# Highly Specialised Drugs

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# Highly Specialised Drugs

## Identifying and definitional attributes

<b>Metadata item type:</b>	Glossary Item
<b>Synonymous names:</b>	HSDs
<b>METEOR identifier:</b>	623382
<b>Registration status:</b>	<a href="#">Commonwealth Department of Health</a> , Retired 19/10/2023
<b>Definition:</b>	<p>Highly Specialised Drugs (HSDs) are medicines for the treatment of chronic conditions which, prior to 1 July 2015, were restricted to supply through public and private hospitals having access to appropriate specialist facilities because of their clinical use or other special features.</p> <p>To prescribe these drugs as pharmaceutical benefit items, medical practitioners were required to be affiliated with these specialist hospital units. A general practitioner or non-specialist hospital doctor could only prescribe Highly Specialised Drugs to provide maintenance therapy under the guidance of the treating specialist.</p> <p>A small number of drugs included in the HSD program became available via community pharmacies from 1 July 2015.</p> <p>HSDs are subsidised through the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) and administered under Section 100 of the <i>National Health Act 1953</i> (Cwth).</p>
<b>Context:</b>	Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS).

## Collection and usage attributes

<b>Guide for use:</b>	From 1 July 2015, a limited number of Highly Specialised Drugs, e.g. clozapine for the treatment of schizophrenia (maintenance therapy only), HIV antiretroviral medicines and hepatitis B medicines, became available via community pharmacies, thereby removing the requirement for some patients and prescribers to be affiliated with a hospital setting.
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## Source and reference attributes

<b>Steward:</b>	<a href="#">Department of Health and Aged Care</a>
<b>Reference documents:</b>	<p>Office of Parliamentary Counsel, ComLaw website 2014. National Health Act 1953 (Cwth). Office of Parliamentary Counsel, Canberra. Viewed 22 September 2015, <a href="https://www.comlaw.gov.au/Details/C2015C00081">https://www.comlaw.gov.au/Details/C2015C00081</a></p> <p>Department of Health 2015. Section 100 – Highly Specialised Drugs Program web page. Department of Health, Canberra. Viewed 12 November 2015, <a href="http://www.pbs.gov.au/info/browse/section-100/s100-highly-specialised-drugs">http://www.pbs.gov.au/info/browse/section-100/s100-highly-specialised-drugs</a></p> <p>Department of Health 2015. Highly Specialised Drugs web page. Department of Human Services, Canberra. Viewed 12 November 2015, <a href="http://www.humanservices.gov.au/health-professionals/services/highly-specialised-drugs/">http://www.humanservices.gov.au/health-professionals/services/highly-specialised-drugs/</a></p>

## Relational attributes

<b>Metadata items which use this glossary item:</b>	<a href="#">Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) prescription drug broad category code XX</a> <a href="#">Commonwealth Department of Health</a> , Retired 19/10/2023 <a href="#">Pharmacy approval type code X</a> <a href="#">Commonwealth Department of Health</a> , Retired 19/10/2023
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