

PHARMACEUTICAL BENEFITS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PBAC) MEETING OUTCOMES
July 2026 PBAC MEETING – Tranche 2 medicines list for the designated registered nurse (RN) prescribing item

Table 1 - Relevant extract of the July 2026 PBAC meeting outcomes table

AGENDA ITEM, FORM(S), STRENGTH(S), SPONSOR	DRUG TYPE AND USE	PURPOSE OF AGENDA ITEM	PBAC OUTCOME
Designated Registered Nurse (RN) Prescribing (Other matters)	Various Indications	The Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC) is being asked to review and provide advice on the department's recommendations for assessed medicines for designated registered nurse (RN) prescribing.	The PBAC recommended adding designated RN prescribers as authorised PBS prescribers for selected medicines in the ATC B, D and N body systems with some medicines restricted to continuing therapy only. The PBAC considered certain medicines are unsuitable for PBS prescribing by designated RN prescribers at this time but noted its willingness to reconsider this recommendation in twelve months' time following implementation of designated RN prescribing, or when sufficient experience with designated RN prescribing is available.

Table 2 - Designated RN prescriber outcomes and rationale for Tranche 2 medicines grouped by ATC body system

B - BLOOD & BLOOD FORMING ORGANS	
B01AA - Antithrombotic agents - vitamin K antagonists: warfarin tablets	
Outcome: Add designated RN prescribers as eligible prescribers	
B01AB - Antithrombotic agents - heparin group: enoxaparin injections, heparin injections	
Outcome (enoxaparin): Add designated RN prescribers as eligible prescribers	
Outcome (heparin): No access	
Rationale (heparin) (Tier principles): Safety concerns: potential for severe over-coagulation and thrombocytopenia, higher potential for dosing errors than enoxaparin (Tier 1 principle)	
B01AC - Platelet aggregation inhibitors excluding heparin: aspirin tablets, clopidogrel tablets, clopidogrel + aspirin tablets, tirofiban injection, prasugrel tablets, ticagrelor tablets	
Outcome (aspirin, clopidogrel, clopidogrel + aspirin): Add designated RN prescribers as eligible prescribers	
Outcome (tirofiban, prasugrel, ticagrelor): No access	
Rationale (tirofiban, prasugrel) (Tier principle): Treatment complexity: specialist advice typically required (Tier 1 principle)	
Rationale (ticagrelor) (Tier principle): Treatment complexity: typically initiated in hospital by a cardiologist (Tier 1 principle)	
B01AE - Direct thrombin inhibitors: dabigatran capsules	
B01AF - Direct factor Xa inhibitors: apixaban tablets, rivaroxaban tablets, capsules	

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Outcome: Add designated RN prescribers as eligible prescribers
B01AX - Other antithrombotic agents: fondaparinux injections
Outcome: No access Rationale (Tier principle): Treatment complexity: specialist advice typically required when a non-heparin-based anticoagulant is needed (Tier 1 principle)
B02AA - Antifibrinolytics - amino acids: tranexamic acid tablets
Outcome: Add designated RN prescribers as eligible prescribers
B03AA - Iron bioequivalent, oral preparations: ferrous fumarate tablets, ferrous sulfate heptahydrate oral liquid
B03AC - Iron, parenteral preparations: ferric carboxymaltose injections, ferric derisomaltose injections, iron polymaltose injections, iron sucrose injections
B03AD - Iron in combination with folic acid: ferrous fumarate + folic acid tablets
Outcome: Add designated RN prescribers as eligible prescribers
B03BA - Vitamin B12 (cyanocobalamin and analogues): hydroxocobalamin injections,
B03BB - Folic acid and derivatives: folic acid tablets
Outcome: Add designated RN prescribers as eligible prescribers
B05AA - Blood substitutes and plasma protein fractions: hydroxyethyl starch IV infusion
Outcome: No access. Rationale (Tier principle): Treatment complexity: very low use (Tier 1 principle)
D - DERMATOLOGICALS
D01AC – Anti-fungals for topical use - imidazole and triazole derivatives: miconazole topical solution, cream, powder
D01BA – Anti-fungals for systemic use: griseofulvin tablets, terbinafine tablets, cream
Outcome: Add designated RN prescribers as eligible prescribers
D05AX – Anti-psoriatics - other anti-psoriatics for topical use: calcipotriol + betamethasone cream, ointment, foam, gel
Outcome: Add designated RN prescribers as eligible prescribers
D05BB – Retinoids for treatment of psoriasis: acitretin capsules
Outcome: No access. Rationale (Tier principle): Safety concerns: state/territory restrictions on who can prescribe arising from known teratogenic side-effects (Tier 1 principle)
D07AA - Corticosteroids, weak (group I): hydrocortisone cream, ointment

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D07AB - Corticosteroids, moderately potent (group II): triamcinolone cream, ointment
D07AC - Corticosteroids, potent (group III): betamethasone dipropionate cream, ointment, betamethasone valerate cream, methylprednisolone ointment, fatty ointment, lotion, mometasone cream, ointment, lotion
D07AD - Corticosteroids, very potent (group IV): clobetasol cream, ointment, shampoo
Outcome: Add designated RN prescribers as eligible prescribers
D10AD - Retinoids for topical acne use: adapalene + benzoyl peroxide gel
Outcome: Add designated RN prescribers as eligible prescribers
D10BA - Retinoids for treatment of acne: isotretinoin capsules
Outcome: No access. Rationale (Tier principle): Safety concerns: state/territory restrictions on who can prescribe arising from known teratogenic side-effects (Tier 1 principle)
D11AH - Agents for dermatitis, excluding corticosteroids: pimecrolimus cream
Outcome: Add designated RN prescribers as eligible prescribers
D11AX - Other dermatologicals: imiquimod sachets, cream
Outcome: Add designated RN prescribers as eligible prescribers
N - Nervous System
N02AA - Analgesics - opioids - natural opium alkaloids: codeine tablets, hydromorphone injection, tablets, morphine injection, tablets, capsules, oral liquid, oxycodone capsules, tablets, oral liquid, oxycodone + naloxone tablets
N02AB - Analgesics - opioids - phenylpiperidine derivatives: fentanyl sublingual tablets, orally disintegrating tablets, patches, lozenges
N02AC - Analgesics - opioids - diphenylpropylamine derivatives: methadone tablets, injection, oral liquid
N02AE - Analgesics - opioids - oripavine derivatives: buprenorphine patches
N02AX - Analgesics – opioids - other opioids: tapentadol modified release tablets, tramadol tablets, modified release tablets, capsules, ampoules, oral liquid
Outcome: No access. Rationale (Tier principle): Safety concerns: addiction, misuse, dependency, over suppression of central nervous system leading to overdose (Tier 1 principle)
N02BE – Analgesics - other analgesics and antipyretics – anilides: paracetamol tablets, modified release tablets, suppositories, oral liquid, paracetamol + codeine tablets
Outcome (paracetamol): Add designated RN prescribers as eligible prescribers
Outcome (paracetamol + codeine): No access. Rationale (Tier principle): Safety concerns: addiction, misuse, dependency, over suppression of central nervous system leading to overdose (Tier 1 principle)

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N02BF - Other analgesics and antipyretics – gabapentinoids: pregabalin capsules
Outcome: Continue therapy only AND must consult medical practitioner. Rationale (Tier principle): Diagnostic and treatment complexity (Tier 1 principles)
N02CC – Anti-migraine preparations - selective serotonin (5HT1) agonists: eletriptan tablets, naratriptan tablets, rizatriptan orally disintegrating tablets, wafers, sumatriptan tablets, zolmitriptan tablets
N02CX – Other anti-migraine preparations: pizotifen tablets
Outcome: Add designated RN prescribers as eligible prescribers
N03AA – Anti-epileptics - barbiturates and derivatives: phenobarbital injection, tablets, primidone tablets
Outcome: No access. Rationale (Tier principle): Safety concerns: high risk of dependency, toxicity, overdose (Tier 1 principle); no longer first line therapy
N03AB – Anti-epileptics - hydantoin derivatives: phenytoin oral liquid, tablets, capsules
N03AD – Anti-epileptics - succinimide derivatives: ethosuximide capsules, oral liquid
Outcome: No access. Rationale (Tier principle): Safety concerns: narrow therapeutic index; treatment complexity (Tier 1 principles)
N03AE – Anti-epileptics - benzodiazepine derivatives: clonazepam injection, oral liquid, tablets
Outcome (epilepsy indications): Continue therapy only AND must consult medical practitioner. Rationale (Tier principle): Diagnostic and treatment complexity (Tier 1 principles)
Outcome (palliative care listings): Continue therapy only. Rationale (Tier principle): Safety concerns: addiction, misuse, dependency (Tier 1 principle)
N03AF – Anti-epileptics - carboxamide derivatives (orally administered): carbamazepine, oxcarbazepine
N03AG – Anti-epileptics - fatty acid derivatives (orally administered): tiagabine, valproate, vigabatrin
N03AX – Anti-epileptics - other anti-epileptics (orally administered): brivaracetam, gabapentin, lacosamide, lamotrigine, levetiracetam, perampanel, sulthiame, topiramate, zonisamide
Outcome: Continue therapy only AND must consult medical practitioner. Rationale (Tier principle): Diagnostic and treatment complexity (Tier 1 principles)
N04AA - Anti-Parkinson drugs – anti-cholinergic agents - tertiary amines: trihexphenidyl (benzhexol) tablets
N04AC - Anti-Parkinson drugs - ethers of tropine or tropine derivatives: benztropine tablets, injection
Outcome: Continue therapy only AND must consult medical practitioner. Rationale (Tier principle): Diagnostic and treatment complexity (Tier 1 principles)
N04BA - Anti-Parkinson drugs - dopa and dopa derivatives: foslevodopa + foscarbidopa injection listed on the General Schedule for maintenance therapy, levodopa + carbidopa tablets, modified release tablets, dispersible tablets, modified release capsules, intestinal gel, levodopa + benserazide capsules, dispersible tablet, levodopa + carbidopa + entacapone tablets
Outcome: Continue therapy only AND must consult medical practitioner. Rationale (Tier principle): Diagnostic and treatment complexity (Tier 1 principles)

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N04BB - Anti-Parkinson drugs - adamantane derivatives: amantadine capsules N04BC - Anti-Parkinson Drugs - dopamine agonists: apomorphine injection, cabergoline tablets, pramipexole tablets, modified release tablets, rotigotine patches N04BD - Anti-Parkinson Drugs - monoamine oxidase B inhibitors: rasagiline tablets, safinamide tablets, selegiline tablets N04BX - Anti-Parkinson drugs - other dopaminergic agents: entacapone tablets, opicapone capsules
Outcome: Continue therapy only AND must consult medical practitioner. Rationale (Tier principle): Diagnostic and treatment complexity (Tier 1 principles)
N05AA – Anti-psychotics - phenothiazines with aliphatic side-chain: chlorpromazine injection, tablets, oral liquid N05AC – Anti-psychotics - phenothiazines with piperidine structure: periciazine tablets N05AD – Anti-psychotics - butyrophenone derivative: haloperidol injection, tablets oral liquid, haloperidol (as deconoate) injection
Outcome: No access. Rationale (Tier principle): Safety concerns: side-effect profile (Tier 1 principle); declining use.
N05AE – Anti-psychotics - indole derivatives: lurasidone tablets, ziprasidone capsules N05AF – Anti-psychotics - thioxanthene derivatives: flupentixol injection N05AH – Anti-psychotics - diazepines, oxazepines, thiazepines and oxepines: asenapine wafers, olanzapine tablets, orally disintegrating tablets, wafers, modified release injections, quetiapine tablets, modified release tablets N05AL – Anti-psychotics – benzamides: amisulpride tablets, oral liquid N05AX - Other antipsychotics: aripiprazole modified release injections, tablets, brexpiprazole tablets, cariprazine capsules, paliperidone, risperidone modified release injection, modified release tablets, risperidone tablets, oral liquid, modified release injections,
Outcome: No access. Rationale (flupentixol) (Tier principle): Safety concerns: side-effect profile (Tier 1 principle); declining use. Rationale (other than flupentixol) (Tier principle): Safety concerns: inappropriate prescribing (off-label, non-PBS listed use, chemical restraint) in aged care and dementia (Tier 1 principles)
N05BA - Anxiolytics - benzodiazepine derivatives: alprazolam tablets, diazepam tablets, oral liquid, oxazepam tablets
Outcome (alprazolam for panic disorder): No access. Rationale (Tier principle): Diagnostic complexity (Tier 1 principle) Outcome (diazepam, oxazepam unrestricted listings): No access. Rationale (Tier principle): Safety concerns: addiction, misuse, dependency (Tier 1 principle) Outcome (diazepam, oxazepam for anxiety in palliative care): Continue therapy only. Rationale (Tier principle): Safety concerns: addiction, misuse, dependency (Tier 1 principle). Outcome (diazepam liquid for chronic spasticity): Continue therapy only AND must consult medical practitioner. Rationale (Tier principle): Diagnostic complexity. Safety concerns: addiction, misuse, dependency (Tier 1 principles)

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Outcome (oxazepam for anxiety in a long-term nursing care patient): Continue therapy only. Rationale (Tier principle): Safety concerns: addiction, misuse, dependency (Tier 1 principle) Outcome (oxazepam in late-stage malignant neoplasia): Continue therapy only AND must consult medical practitioner. Rationale (Tier principle): Safety concerns: addiction, misuse, dependency (Tier 1 principle)
N05CD - Hypnotics and sedatives - benzodiazepine derivatives: temazepam tablets, midazolam oral liquid, nitrazepam tablets
Outcome (midazolam, nitrazepam in epilepsy): Continue therapy only AND must consult medical practitioner. Rationale (Tier principle): Diagnostic and treatment complexity (Tier 1 principles) Outcome (nitrazepam as an unrestricted listing): No access. Rationale (Tier principle): Safety concerns: addiction, misuse, dependency (Tier 1 principle) Outcome (nitrazepam, temazepam for insomnia in a long-term nursing care patient): Continue therapy only. Rationale (Tier principle): Safety concerns: addiction, misuse, dependency (Tier 1 principle) Outcome (nitrazepam, temazepam for insomnia – Palliative Care listing): Continue therapy only. Rationale (Tier principle): Safety concerns: addiction, misuse, dependency (Tier 1 principle) Outcome (nitrazepam, temazepam in late-stage malignant neoplasia): Continue therapy only AND must consult medical practitioner. Rationale (Tier principle): Safety concerns: addiction, misuse, dependency (Tier 1 principle) Outcome (temazepam for prescribing by certain health practitioners): No access. Rationale (Tier principle): Safety concerns: addiction, misuse, dependency (Tier 1 principle)
N06AA – Anti-depressants - non-selective monoamine reuptake inhibitors: amitriptyline tablets, clomipramine tablets, dosulepin (dothiepin) capsules, tablets, imipramine tablets, nortriptyline tablets, N06AB – Anti-depressants - selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors: citalopram tablets, escitalopram tablets, oral liquid, fluoxetine capsules, tablets, fluvoxamine tablets, paroxetine tablets, sertraline tablets
Outcome: (unrestricted listings, depression, obsessive-compulsive disorder, panic disorder, clomipramine for cataplexy associated with narcolepsy, phobic disorder): Continue therapy only Outcome: (escitalopram listings for moderate to severe generalised anxiety disorder or severe social anxiety disorder where a GP Mental Health Care plan has been prepared, or where the patient has been assessed by a psychiatrist): No access. Rationale (all) (Tier principle): Diagnostic and treatment complexity (Tier 1 principles)
N06AG – Anti-depressants - monoamine oxidase A inhibitors: moclobemide tablets
Outcome: No access. Rationale (Tier principle): Safety concerns: serotonin toxicity; treatment complexity: not first line therapy, leading to declining, low use (Tier 1 principles)
N06AX – Anti-depressants - other antidepressants: desvenlafaxine modified release tablets, duloxetine capsules, mianserin tablets, mirtazapine tablets, orally disintegrating tablets, reboxetine tablets, venlafaxine capsules
Outcome: (mianserin): No access. Rationale (mianserin) (Tier principle): Safety concerns: overdose risk; treatment complexity: not first line therapy, leading to declining, low use (Tier 1 principles) Outcome: (other than mianserin): Continue therapy only AND must consult with medical practitioner Rationale (other than mianserin) (Tier principle): Diagnostic and treatment complexity (Tier 1 principles)
N06AX - Psychoanaleptics - other antidepressants: lithium tablets, modified release tablets

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Outcome: No access Rationale (Tier principle): Safety concerns: narrow therapeutic index, leading to potential toxicity (Tier 1 principle)
N06B - Psychostimulants, agents used for ADHD and nootropics: guanfacine modified release tablets N06BA - Psychostimulants, agents used for ADHD and nootropics – centrally acting sympathomimetics: atomoxetine capsules, dexamfetamine tablets, lisdexamfetamine capsules, methylphenidate tablets, modified release tablets, modified release capsules
Outcome: The PBAC deferred consideration of the medicines treating ADHD noting that a concurrent PBAC review of ADHD treatment is underway and that the national Medicines and Poisons Advisory Group (MPAG) is at the same time reviewing the regulations surrounding ADHD diagnosis and treatment.
N06DA - Anti-dementia drugs – anti-cholinesterases: donepezil tablets, galantamine modified release capsules, rivastigmine patches, capsules N06DX – Anti-dementia drugs – other anti-dementia drugs: memantine tablets
Outcome: Continue therapy only AND must consult medical practitioner Rationale (Tier principle): Treatment complexity (Tier 1 principle)
N07BA - Drugs used in nicotine dependence: bupropion modified release tablets, nicotine patches, varenicline tablets N07BB – Drugs used in alcohol dependence: acamprosate tablets, naltrexone tablets
Outcome: Add designated RN prescribers as eligible prescribers
N07XX - Other nervous system drugs: riluzole tablets, oral liquid, tetrabenazine tablets
Outcome: No access Rationale (riluzole) (Tier principle): Treatment complexity: difficulty in diagnosis – no single confirmatory test; Safety concerns: liver toxicity, neutropenia ((Tier 1 principles) Rationale (tetrabenazine) (Tier principle): Treatment complexity: difficulty in diagnosis – high overlap in symptoms with other movement disorders. Safety concerns: psychiatric and neurological risks (Tier 1 principles)

Tier principles: see [December 2025 PBAC meeting outcome statement – Designated RN prescribing](#) for details