

**For more information on PBS
and the Safety Net, please
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- Northeast Health Wangaratta incorporating:
- Wangaratta District Base Hospital
 - WJ Smith Linen Service
 - Wangaratta & District Nursing Home
 - Psychiatric Services - Kerferd Inpatient Unit
 - Radiology



Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme

(PBS)

What you need to know
when coming to hospital



Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme - What you need to know when coming to hospital

The Old System

Previously, patients discharged from this hospital were given five days of medication. They then had to visit their local doctor to obtain a PBS prescription for further medications.

The New System

Under the new system, you will receive up to a months supply of medication when you are discharged and when you attend this hospital as an outpatient. You are also required to pay the co-payment set by the Commonwealth Government, the same as you would at your local pharmacy. The Safety Net scheme also applies when you receive medication from this hospital.

Improving Your Care

As part of the new system:

- ❖ You will leave hospital with a better understanding of the medicines you are taking.
- ❖ A list of your medications will also be sent to your usual doctor before your next visit.

This means your doctor will have up-to-date information about your hospital treatment and medications, improving your overall care.



Three things you need to know about this new system

- ❖ Remember to bring your Medicare Card, Pensioner Concession Card, Health Care Card, Safety Net Card and your DVA Gold, White and Orange Card if you have one.
- ❖ You will now get up to a months supply of medication on discharge from hospital or when you attend as an outpatient.
- ❖ The medicine you receive will cost about the same as it would at your local chemist.

This new system will improve your level of care as you move from the hospital, back into the community. Getting the medicine you need, will now be safer, easier and more convenient.