



Are you prescribed Methadone (liquid), Buprenorphine (Suboxone® / Subutex®) or paying for a monthly/weekly Buvidal® or Sublocade® injection at this Chemist?



CHANGE IS COMING JULY 01 2023

HOW MUCH DO I PAY NOW?



The daily (or weekly/monthly) dose fees will **STOP** and will change to one PBS co-payment of \$7.30 per 28 day script (with a healthcare card) or \$30 per 28 day script (without a healthcare card).

There will be **NO official extra charges.** (e.g. for bottles, arriving early/late, getting take aways etc).

All pharmacotherapy scripts will count toward your PBS safety net. From 1 January 2023, the PBS Safety Net thresholds are \$262.80 for concession card holders and \$1,563.50 for general patients.

Scripts will be for 28 days (with a possibility of up to 2 repeats) (i.e., if you are on a 3-month supply)

WHAT IF I TAKE 2mg AND 8mg OF BUPE?

If you are taking 2 different strengths of Suboxone® or Subutex® ie. your doctor prescribes you **both** 2mg and 8mg strips/tablets to make up your dose amount, **you will pay one co-payment for each.**

However, each prescription will count towards your PBS Safety Net record and you will reach the limit sooner.

This payment rule is the same for any other PBS medication.

PBS SUBSIDY ELIGIBILITY:

To receive these changes, you will need to have:

- a) A valid Medicare card
- b) A valid pharmacotherapy prescription
- c) A valid Health Care Card (if applicable)
- d) Sign a privacy statement



CAN I STILL DOSE ON JULY 1?

Yes.

For most people this will not change. **The priority is to make sure you can continue to get your treatment** and access PBS co-payment and Safety-Net support to **remove daily dosing costs.**

If your (paper or e-script) **expires AFTER Saturday 1st of July 2023,** (e.g., a script which expires mid-late July 2023), **it will be transferred** to the new PBS system by your pharmacist.

***ASK your pharmacist when your pharmacotherapy script. is due to expire.**

Remember to book appointments well in advance.



WHAT IF I OWE MY CHEMIST MONEY?

You are still eligible for the new, lower, PBS co-payment amount starting on the 1st of July 2023.

IMPORTANT: If you think you might owe your chemist money for doses up until the end of June 2023, then you should talk to your pharmacist **NOW** to sort out how to pay.

PRIVACY STATEMENTS:

Please Note: Your pharmacist will ask you to sign a privacy statement. This allows the pharmacy to enter your details into the system and be reimbursed (ie. get paid) by the Government.

Unfortunately, if you refuse to sign the privacy statement, you will not be eligible for the subsidy.



SUPPORTING EACHOTHER THROUGH CHANGE



This is a **BIG change:** treatment is now more affordable and equitable with other medicines.

Your pharmacist and prescriber are now doing the same work using a different system.

Your support, patience and understanding is appreciated.



For further information visit www.hrvic.org.au or if you are having trouble call HRVic's PAMS free phone service on 1800 443 844 (Monday-Friday 10:30AM-5PM) or go to: