



Australian Government  
Department of Health

# FACT SHEET NATIONAL HEALTH PLAN

## A GUIDE FOR PRESCRIBERS

### Interim arrangements for prescriptions for supply of medicines: Supporting telehealth patients and healthcare professionals

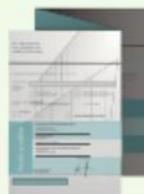
As part of the National Health Plan, Electronic Prescribing is being fast tracked. Work to upgrade healthcare providers' clinical software is well underway, and is expected to be ready by May 2020 (refer to the fact sheet [here](#)). In addition, there are immediate options available for patients to receive medicines via telehealth services.

#### Medical services for patients confined to their homes



Doctors, nurses and mental health professionals are able to deliver bulk-billed services via telehealth until 30 September 2020 via phone or video conferencing. More information on telehealth can be found [here](#).

#### Interim arrangements for prescriptions process to support telehealth services



##### Step 1

As a prescriber, you will still create a paper prescription, during a telehealth consultation. This prescription will need to be signed as normal or using a valid digital signature.



##### Step 2

You can then create a clear copy of the entire prescription (a digital image such as a photo or pdf including the barcode where applicable) to send on to the patient's pharmacy of choice via email, text message or fax. If your patient prefers to receive the legal paper prescription you will need to mail it to them.



##### Step 3

This can be sent via e-mail, fax or text directly to the patient's pharmacy of choice.