

What is a Home Medicines Review (HMR)?

The HMR program aims to increase quality use of medicines and reduce adverse medicine events by conducting a comprehensive review of a patient's medicine in the patient's home.

The objective of a HMR is to:

- achieve safe, effective and appropriate use of medicines by detecting and addressing medicine related problems that interfere with desired patient outcomes
- improve the patient's quality of life and health outcomes using a best practice approach, that involves cooperation between the GP, accredited pharmacist, other relevant health professionals
- improve the patient's knowledge and understanding of medicine
- facilitate cooperative working relationships between a patient's health professionals to improve their health and wellbeing
- provide medicine information to the patient and other health professionals involved in the patient's care.

If a HMR cannot be conducted in the home the accredited pharmacist must get prior approval from the 6CPA before the review takes place.

The Direct referral pathway allows the GP to refer to the patient's preferred community pharmacy or an accredited pharmacist.

Patient eligibility

A GP determines if a patient is eligible for a HMR. Eligibility includes:

- takes more than 12 doses of medicine per day
- have difficulty managing their own meds because of illiteracy or language barriers or impaired sight
- attend a number of different doctors, both GPs and specialists
- have been discharged from hospital in the previous four weeks
- have had a significant change to their medication regimen in the past three months
- have experienced a change in their medical condition or abilities – e.g. falls, cognition, physical function
- use prescription medicine with a narrow therapeutic index or medicine that needs therapeutic monitoring
- have symptoms of an adverse drug reaction
- have a sub-therapeutic response to therapy
- have problems managing medication devices, e.g. does administration aids, or
- are at risk or can't manage their own medicine due to changes in dexterity, confusion or impaired vision.

Confidentiality

All information relating to a HMR is confidential. Information from the patient's record can only be given to the accredited pharmacist conducting the review, with the patient's consent. Input from each person involved in the review process is documented in the review report, as well as the recommendations and management plan.

Cost of HMRs

There is **no cost** to the patient.

Accredited pharmacists are reimbursed by Medicare.

GPs are able to claim for a fully completed MBS Item 900. As an example of revenue growth over a 12 month period, just five HMR referrals per week will generate around **\$40,000 in additional income for the referring GP.**

Want to know more?

I would be delighted to make a mutually convenient time to discuss how we can work together to improve your patients' medication regimen and compliance. I can provide details of time frames, and examples of all the forms required for both referral and MBS claims.

Contact me for further information:

[Name]

Phone:

Mobile:

Email:

Availability: [e.g. Monday to Friday, locations, etc)

A Home Medicines Review can:

- reduce the risk of polypharmacy
- improve patient awareness of their medicines
- provide a better understanding of patient medication and lifestyle issues
- assist to determine if a patient is seeing other health care professionals and acquiring medicine for other sources
- ensure patient continuity of care
- fulfills medico legal requirements (WorkCover)

Home Medicines Review (HMR)

A program funded by the Australian Government Department of Health & Ageing under the 5th Community Pharmacy Agreement



A HMR involves the patient, their general practitioner, an accredited pharmacist and regular community pharmacy. In some cases other relevant members of the healthcare team, such as nurses in community practice or carers, are included.

Accredited by the Australian Association of Consultant Pharmacy to undertake medication management reviews, I am qualified to visit patients at their homes, review their medicine routines and provide their GP with a detailed report.

This brochure provides details of what a HMR entails, and who is eligible to be part of this important health program.