



Changes to Poisons Act Schedules

Effective 1st June 2011

TO BE USED AS A GUIDE ONLY

Please refer to the Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Medicines and Poisons (SUSMP) No 1 Amendment 2

SCHEDULE 2 – NEW ENTRY

Mercurochrome – in preparations for external use containing 2 % or less of **mercurochrome**.

Previously there was no specific entry for mercurochrome in Schedule 2 and this substance was covered by the entry for **mercury** at 0.5% or less. Several preparations of 2% **mercurochrome**, which contain greater than 0.5% of **mercury** (0.534%), are listed as Schedule 2 on the ARTG due to rounding down of the percentage of **mercury**. In the absence of rounding down, these preparations would be Schedule 4.

The new entry clarifies **mercurochrome** in S2.

SCHEDULE 4 – NEW ENTRIES

Mercurochrome – except when included in Schedule 2 or 6. Amendment corresponds to the new Schedule 2 entry for mercurochrome.

Ofatumumab – a human monoclonal antibody which appears to inhibit early stage B lymphocyte activation. Under investigation for treatment of lymphocytic leukaemia and several other conditions.

Rilpivirine – a non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor (NNRTI) indicated for the treatment of HIV-1 infection.

Tolvaptan – a selective, competitive arginine vasopressin receptor 2 antagonist used to treat hyponatraemia associated with congestive heart failure, cirrhosis, and the syndrome of inappropriate antidiuretic hormone (SIADH).

Vinflunine – a fluorinated vinca alkaloid having a similar antineoplastic action to vinblastine. Under investigation for the treatment of adult patients with advanced or metastatic carcinoma of the urothelial tract (including bladder cancer).

SCHEDULE 4 – AMENDMENT

Diclofenac – entry amended to include both dermal preparations containing more than 1 percent of diclofenac and dermal preparations when used for treatment of solar keratosis in Schedule 4.

Selected **NEW ENTRIES** and **AMENDMENTS** effective 1 January 2011 and 1 September 2010:

SCHEDULE 8 – NEW ENTRY – 1 JAN 2011

Tapentadol – a centrally acting analgesic that exerts its pharmacological effects primarily by binding to mu-opioid receptors.

SCHEDULE 2 – AMENDMENTS – 1 SEPT 2010

Amorolfine – all preparations of amorolfine for topical use moved to Schedule 2 (from Schedule 3) with preparations for the treatment of tinea pedis remaining exempt from scheduling.

Flurbiprofen – entry for this NSAID broadened to include both divided (e.g. lozenges) and undivided (e.g. mouthwash) preparations of flurbiprofen for topical oral use. Restricted to concentration of 0.25% or less or 10 mg or less per dose/dosage unit.

Iodine – Schedule 2 entry exemption from scheduling for oral preparations of iodine for use in prophylaxis and treatment in the event of radioactive iodine exposure under an emergency plan approved by an appropriate authority. This allows more flexibility for distribution of iodine in the event of a nuclear accident.

Paracetamol when combined with phenylephrine and/or guaiphenesin - exemption from scheduling for certain paracetamol - phenylephrine combination preparations to also include combinations containing guaiphenesin (with or without phenylephrine).

SCHEDULE 3 – NEW ENTRIES – 1 SEPT 2010

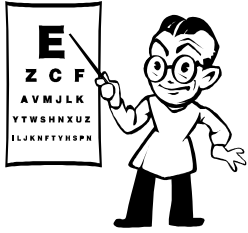
Lansoprazole – in oral preparations containing 15 mg or less per dosage unit of lansoprazole for the relief of heartburn and other symptoms of gastro-oesophageal reflux disease, in packs containing not more than 14 days of supply.

Omeprazole – in oral preparations containing 20 mg or less per dosage unit of omeprazole for the relief of heartburn and other symptoms of gastro-oesophageal reflux disease, in packs containing not more than 14 days of supply.





OPTOMETRIST PRESCRIBING



The Poisons Regulations were amended on 19 November 2010 to allow optometrists, **endorsed by the Optometry Board of Australia for scheduled medicines**, to prescribe scheduled medicines. Endorsement credentials may be found at:

www.ahpra.gov.au/Registration/Registers-of-Practitioners.aspx

There is a limited list of medicines, determined by the Optometry Board of Australia, that optometrists can prescribe. All the medicines are **topical to the eye only**. No other route of administration, including oral, is allowed. The medicine list is available at: www.optometryboard.gov.au/Registration-Standards.aspx. The upper strength of phenylephrine has been limited to 5% in WA (the Board has not placed any limit on the strength for this S4 medicine).

Prescriptions written by endorsed optometrists must include the words "For optometrical treatment only", are valid for 12 months, and repeats are allowed. Optometrists can also give emergency instructions with a written prescription to follow. Optometrists **cannot prescribe S8 medicines**.

ALL S3 SALES OF PSEUDOEPHEDRINE MUST BE RECORDED!

Regulation 35A was amended on 19 November 2010 such that sales of pseudoephedrine must be recorded using a recording system approved by the CEO. Currently the only system which has been approved by the CEO is Project Stop. The effect of this amendment is that **each Schedule 3** sale of pseudoephedrine must be recorded using **Project Stop**.

Although Project Stop will allow entries to be made with the person's Drivers Licence number only, Regulation 35A requires both the **name and address** of the purchaser to also be recorded.

SUSMP replaces SUSDP...

Revised scheduling arrangements were implemented on 1 July 2010. The National Drugs and Poisons Schedule Committee (NDPSC) has been replaced by two new committees which provide advice to the Secretary of the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing (DoHA) - or delegate - as the decision maker for the scheduling of medicines and chemicals. As part of these changes, the *Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Drugs and Poisons (SUSDP)* has been renamed to the *Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Medicines and Poisons (SUSMP)*.

...and the SUSMP is available online...

The SUSMP and its amendments are available online at the ComLaw website. Follow the links available from the Scheduling medicines/poisons section of the TGA website at <http://www.tga.gov.au/industry/scheduling-poisons-standard.htm>

Pharmaceutical Services – www.health.wa.gov.au/pharmacy

