



# Closing the Gap – Pharmacies and Dispensing Rural Practices

## Processing annotated prescriptions

Prescribers who issue handwritten prescriptions to their patients are required to annotate the prescription with the letters 'CTG', their initials and signature.

When you receive a manually annotated prescription and are processing that prescription through your dispensing software you must ensure that the CTG code is entered correctly into your processing software (either manually or automatically). The correct code to use will depend on your dispensing software.

For example, using a correct CTG code of H, 00B or CTG00B will ensure the manual annotation is valid. Using an invalid code will result in an incorrect calculation of the payment due from the patient for their prescription.

## Will this change the way I claim?

Yes, you must include the CTG annotation on the prescription in the Pharmacy Dispensing System (PDS) prescription record sent to Medicare Australia.

You will be reimbursed the cost of the medicine supplied, inclusive of the co-payment relief amount applicable, if the annotation is valid. If the prescription is a CTG under co-payment prescription, you will be reimbursed the price of the PBS item minus the applicable patient co-payment.

## Helping you reconcile CTG prescriptions

Medicare Australia will provide additional information in your PBS reconciliation statement.

CTG prescriptions will be clearly identified by the CTG annotation which will be included in the reconciliation statement information.

CTG prescriptions should be included in your claim as per current requirements.

CTG under co-payment prescriptions (those prescriptions where a PBS subsidy is not applicable) are not required to be sent to Medicare Australia.

## For more information

- **CTG PBS Co-payment Measure**  
Email: [PBS-Indigenous@health.gov.au](mailto:PBS-Indigenous@health.gov.au)  
Telephone: 02 6289 2409  
Telephone: 132 290 (Claiming information)
- **Medicare Australia**  
Practice Incentives Program  
Indigenous Health Incentive  
[www.medicareaustralia.gov.au](http://www.medicareaustralia.gov.au)
- **Practice Assist**  
Fact Sheet – Practice Incentives Program

Whilst all care has been taken in preparing this document, this information is a guide only and subject to change without notice.

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