The Home Medicines Review Program is funded by the Australian Government Department of Health as part of the Fifth Community Pharmacy Agreement.

September 2013

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT
HOME MEDICINES REVIEW

ASK YOUR GP, PHARMACIST OR CALL
THE PHARMACEUTICAL BENEFITS SCHEME (PBS)
INFORMATION LINE ON FREECALL
1800 020 613

If a Home Medicines Review is not suitable for you, other in-pharmacy services are available that may help you manage your medicines.

Ask your pharmacist

a way to help you manage your medicines at home
WHAT ARE HOME MEDICINES REVIEWS?

A Home Medicines Review is a way for your pharmacist and GP to help you manage your medicines at home. In particular, anyone taking a number of medications or with several health conditions should discuss a Home Medicines Review with your GP.

Your GP gives you a referral to the community pharmacy or accredited pharmacist of your choice. The pharmacist has specialist training to conduct HMRs.

The pharmacist then talks with you in your home and provides a HMR Report back to the GP and can provide it to your community pharmacy.

IS THERE A COST FOR A HOME MEDICINES REVIEW?

Your GP may bulk bill or charge you for the GP consultations.

The pharmacist’s visit to your home and the report is paid for by the Australian Government so it will not cost you anything.

A Home Medicines Review will help you to use your medicines effectively and avoid any unwanted effects you may have, meaning that you get the most out of your medicines.

A Home Medicines Review may be of benefit if you:

- Take medicines that need close monitoring of their effects on your body
- Take medicines that can have serious interactions with other medicines
- Feel unwell when you take your medicines
- Don’t experience the positive effect from your medicines that your GP expected
- Have recently been discharged from hospital and had changes to your medicines.

HOW DO I ARRANGE A HOME MEDICINES REVIEW (HMR) AND WHAT WILL HAPPEN?

By coming to your home your pharmacist can advise you and show you the best way to store your medicines safely so they work properly when taken. They can help you remove expired medicines or those you no longer use, and make sure that your prescription and non-prescription medicines, including complementary medicines (such as vitamins and herbal products) are appropriate to take together.

Your pharmacist can help you to use and maintain your medical devices, such as inhalers, blood pressure monitors and blood glucose monitors, correctly as well.

YOU

The pharmacist receives the HMR referral and arranges a time to visit you in your home

The pharmacist interviews you at home and writes a HMR Report containing their recommendations

Your ‘Medication Management Plan’ can be provided to your pharmacy to assist you and your GP with your ongoing care

Your GP discusses the HMR Report with you and provides you with a ‘Medication Management Plan’ to help you better manage your medicines at home

If you are happy for the HMR to be conducted in your home, you can then choose which pharmacy or accredited pharmacist conducts the HMR

If your condition or medicines change significantly you may benefit from another HMR

Your GP determines if a HMR is appropriate for you

Your GP and your pharmacist discuss the report and develop a ‘medication management plan’ that you can share with all your health care providers to assist with your ongoing care.