

Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) – esomeprazole 40 mg for complex gastro-oesophageal reflux disease (GORD)

Did you know?

Esomeprazole 40 mg enteric tablets and capsules for the treatment of complex gastro-oesophageal reflux disease (GORD) can only be prescribed as a PBS-subsided authority medicine by the listed specialists, either a:







- gastroenterologist; or
- surgeon with expertise in the upper gastrointestinal tract.



General Practitioners (GPs) and other prescribers cannot write PBS-subsided prescriptions for esomeprazole 40 mg tablets/capsules for complex GORD. Do not refer patients to another prescriber to request these prescriptions as the authority request will be rejected.

There are other proton pump inhibitors used to treat complex GORD that can be prescribed by the patient's GP in consultation with one of the above mentioned specialists.

To obtain authority approval to prescribe PBS-subsided esomeprazole 40 mg, requests can be made in 'real time' using the Online PBS Authorities (OPA) system (the system). The system makes it easier for you to request an authority approval from Services Australia by providing an immediate processing response.

From 1 September 2024, where the patient's condition is stable and the nominated specialist considers a 60-day prescription is suitable for the patient, that specialist can apply for authority prescription approval for a quantity of 60 days' supply with 5 repeats, providing 12 months' supply on one prescription. To assist with the process, it is important to familiarise yourself with the relevant PBS restriction available on pbs.gov.au.

Medicine	Authority Channel	Details
Esomeprazole 40 mg	Online / Telephone: Treatment phase 1: Establishment of symptom control  	All authority applications can be made in real-time using the Online PBS Authorities system or by telephone.
	Online / Telephone: Treatment phase 2: Maintenance treatment  	
	Online / Telephone: Treatment phase 3: Re-establishment of symptom control  	

 Request authority online – Immediate Assessment	 Request authority by telephone
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Further information

For more information about the **Online PBS Authorities system** visit www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/hppbsauthorities

Services Australia has a broad range of educational resources on the **Health Professional Education Resources** website. This includes simulations, podcast and an infographic on the Online PBS Authorities system. Visit <https://hpe.servicesaustralia.gov.au/pharmaceutical-benefits-scheme.html>

If you require additional assistance or have any queries, please email authority.comms.change@servicesaustralia.gov.au.