








# PBS Authorities – Changes to hidradenitis suppurativa program

We understand having access to PBS-subsidised medicines can be critical to patient care. That's why Services Australia and the Department of Health and Aged Care are continuing to work together to increase the number of PBS medicines that can be requested and approved using the Online PBS Authorities system (the system). This will include adalimumab and secukinumab for the treatment of hidradenitis suppurativa from 1 March 2025.

These changes will make it easier for you to request authority approval for these medicines from Services Australia. You will no longer need to submit written authority applications, details of the proposed prescriptions and test results for certain medicines and treatment phases. Instead, you will be able to use the system to apply for authority approval and provide evidence digitally.

## Summary of changes from 1 March 2025

Medicine	Authority Level	Details of Changes		
adalimumab secukinumab	<b>Online / Written:</b> <i>Initial, grandfather, commencement &amp; change treatments</i> 	Authority applications can be made using the Online PBS Authorities system or in writing.  When submitted online, the application may still require assessment by a Services Australia operator (process known as a Full (Delayed) Assessment).  When assessed you will receive an outcome notification directly to your Health Professional Online Service (HPOS) mailbox.		
	<b>Online / Written:</b> <i>Continuing treatment</i> 			
	<b>Online / Telephone:</b> <i>balance of supply treatment</i> 	No change to balance of supply treatment.  Authority applications can be made in real-time using the Online PBS Authorities system or by telephone.		
 Request authority online – Immediate Assessment		 Request authority online – Full (Delayed) Assessment	 Request authority by telephone	 Upload form via HPOS or post

If you're submitting the authority application form via post or Health Professional Online Service (HPOS) form upload facility, you'll still need to submit the authority application form and details of the proposed prescriptions.

For more information about the **Online PBS Authorities system** visit [www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/hppbsauthorities](http://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](mailto:authority.comms.change@servicesaustralia.gov.au).