Fact sheet for Aboriginal Health Services

What is Section 100?

It is part of the National Health Act from which the Commonwealth Government allows Remote Area Aboriginal Communities to have better access to PBS medicines (Pharmaceutical Benefit Scheme medicines are those which are subsidised by the Government). Your clinic can order these PBS medicines from your pharmacy provider, so that these medicines can be issued to your clients at no charge.

Only registered clients in an eligible health service are able to access medicines through Section 100, under the supervision of a doctor, working within your health service.

What is QUM?

QUM is Quality Use of Medicines – This means medicines are used wisely, safely and effectively and includes matters relating to safe storage and appropriate stock control of medicines.

What is the Section 100 Pharmacy Support Program?

This is a Quality Use of Medicines program where a contracted pharmacist provides QUM advice and support to your health service. This means you will receive regular visits and ongoing support by the Pharmacist when required.

What will the pharmacist do when he/she visits?

As part of the s100 Pharmacy Support contractual agreement, the pharmacist will consult with clinic staff to provide assistance in QUM areas, such as:

- Supply of medicines and maintaining adequate stock levels
- Education of health service staff
- Drug information services
- Management of dose administration aids, e.g. Dosette boxes and Webster Paks
- Review of medication charts
- Home Medication Reviews
- Client counselling
- Adverse drug reaction reporting
- Therapeutic drug monitoring, e.g. checking blood levels etc.
- Monitor medicine stock control including drug wastage, expired drugs, etc.
- Assistance with health service accreditation processes
- Other QUM activities which may include:
  - Cold chain maintenance
  - Storage and security
  - Types of medications kept in clinic.

What is your role with the Section 100 Pharmacy Support Program?

- To provide input in commencing, maintaining and improving all QUM activities, including those activities listed above.
- You are encouraged to communicate regularly with pharmacy staff involved in your Section 100 program to help with ongoing support.

What happens after a visit?

The pharmacist will provide feedback and make recommendations where appropriate in consultation with clinic staff.

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1. Pharmacist to establish a 12 month work plan based on clinic QUM requirements in consultation with clinic staff. Final approval by CEO.

2. Pharmacist S100 support visit (to occur regularly throughout the 12 months to ensure requirements of work plan are met and maintained).

3. Feedback to the clinic – follow-up and appropriate recommendations.

4. Clinic staff input into how QUM is being maintained and can be improved.

For detailed information about the S100 Pharmacy Support Program please refer to the information kit available in your AHS.