

BASICS FACTSHEET

OVERVIEW

Staged Supply services offered through community pharmacies refer to the supply of PBS medicines in quantities less than the prescribed amount, at agreed intervals (daily or weekly, or as otherwise agreed), with the balance of quantity being held by the pharmacy. Staged Supply arrangements under the 6CPA Staged Supply Program are requested by the prescriber and they **exclude** the section 100 opioid dependency treatment program. Staged Supply aims to improve medication adherence and to reduce risks of self-harm or harm to others through accidental or intentional misuse, abuse or diversion of prescribed medicines.

From 1 July 2017, the Australian Government, through the 6th Community Pharmacy Agreement will provide funding to community pharmacies to provide Staged Supply services for to up to four (4) patients who meet the eligibility criteria, as set out in the Staged Supply Program Rules. This fact sheet contains information on the eligibility requirements, funding arrangements and claiming.

STAGED SUPPLY SERVICE FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS

Total funding of \$19 million is available in the 2017/18 financial year to allow for the provision of Staged Supply services to patients living in the community (see Patient Eligibility Criteria). To ensure that the funding remains within the allocated budget, the service will be capped to four (4) patients per community pharmacy.

The following fees will be payable to pharmacies for the provision of an eligible Staged Supply service:

- \$7.90 for the Provision of the first Staged Supply service undertaken each week (this will be the first time the patient picks up their medicine each week)
- \$4.00 for each additional time the patient receives a Staged Supply Service during the week

Below are examples of potential staged supply scenarios:

Example A – patient receives their medicines on a daily pick up schedule, under the Staged Supply arrangements. The pharmacy will receive a total payment of \$31.90 (no GST) per week. This is comprised of \$7.90 for the first day of the week and an additional \$24.00 for the remaining 6 days of service (\$4.00 times 6 days).

Example B – patient receives their medicines from the pharmacy three days of the week, under the Staged Supply arrangements. The pharmacy will receive a total payment of \$15.90 (no GST). This is comprised of \$7.90 for the first day of the week and an additional \$8.00 for the remaining 2 days of service (\$4.00 times 2 days).

DATA COLLECTION FOR STAGED SUPPLY PROGRAM

The 6CPA Staged Supply program has been redesigned to support the collection of information to assist with assessment of the effectiveness of the program through an evaluation process. This will require information to be collected for all funded patients. The intention for the data collection for the Staged Supply program was that pharmacies provide this information for patients that would be receiving the service ongoing, and that data collection would be followed up at the 6 month point. Given there is a fixed funding amount allocated to the Staged Supply Program, the Data collection fee will only be paid for **four (4)** eligible patients at patient registration and follow up.

Initial Patient registration

Pharmacies will be required to collect and provide data to the 6CPA administrator (through the 6CPA Registration and Claiming Portal) at the point where the patient is registered to participate in the 6CPA Staged Supply Program. Pharmacies will be eligible for an initial fee of \$31.90 (ex GST) for the collection and provision of this data.

Six month follow up

Pharmacies will be required to collect and provide data to the 6CPA administrator (through the 6CPA Registration and Claiming Portal) on each of the patients for which the Initial Patient Registration data was collected at six monthly intervals. Pharmacies will be eligible for the second data collection fee of \$31.90 (ex GST). Please note that follow-up data collection payments can only be made for patients who have been on the Staged Supply Service for a continuous 4 month period.

Please refer to the Staged Supply Program Rules for details on the data that will need to be collected. Program rules are available at <http://6cpa.com.au/medication-adherence-programs/staged-supply/>

Community pharmacies participating in the Staged Supply Program are required to keep records on the service for seven (7) years to support their claim for payment (demonstrating patient eligibility and the supply of the service). Please refer to the Staged Supply Program Rules for more details.

CLAIMING FOR THE STAGED SUPPLY PROGRAM

Claims for the provision of services under the 6CPA Staged Supply Program must be submitted via the 6CPA Registration and Claiming Portal available at www.6cpa.com.au. The claims must be submitted monthly and lodged via the portal by the end of the following calendar month (i.e. July Staged Supply service provision will need to be lodged by the end of August).

Community pharmacies **cannot** claim any more than their allocated cap. Where a patient does not meet the eligibility criteria, or where the cap has been reached, the pharmacy may offer the service at the patient's own cost.

Please see the "How to Claim for Staged Supply" guide on the Guides and Factsheets page of the 6CPA website which can be found at <http://6cpa.com.au/resources/user-guides/> for further information.

ELIGIBILITY

Pharmacy Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible to participate and receive payments under the Staged Supply program, community pharmacies must:

- Be an approved Section 90 pharmacy
- Be accredited by an approved Pharmacy Accreditation Program or be in the process of attaining Accreditation within 6 months of lodging an application to register for the program.
- Agree to publically display and comply with the Community Pharmacy Service Charter and Customer Service Statement
- Meet the Staged Supply program requirements as detailed in the Staged Supply Program Rules which can be found at <http://6cpa.com.au/medication-adherence-programs/staged-supply/>
- Register for program participation via the 6CPA Registration and Claiming Portal at www.6cpa.com.au
- Submit a valid monthly claim for payment under the Staged Supply program via the 6CPA Registration and Claiming Portal for Staged Supply service provision no later than the end of the following calendar month (for example, July services will need to be claimed by the end of August)

It is important that an Eligible Community Pharmacy maintains their registration and updates their details as required (e.g. PBS approval number changes) as this may affect your eligibility and payments. Contact the 6CPA Support Team to update your pharmacy registration details.

Patient Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for a funded Staged Supply service under the 6CPA Staged Supply Program, patients must satisfy the following criteria:

- Be a Medicare and/or DVA cardholder or a person who is eligible for a Medicare card;
- Be living at home in a community setting - this service is not available to in-patients of public or private hospitals, day hospital facilities, transitional care facilities, residents of an government funded aged care facility or patients in a correctional facility;
- Hold a current government issued concession card;
- Been referred for a Staged Supply service by their prescriber; and
- Is prescribed a one or more of the following types of medications as a **pharmaceutical benefit**:
 - N02A – Opioid analgesics
 - N05A – Antipsychotics
 - N05B – Anxiolytics
 - N05C- Hypnotics and sedatives
 - N06A – Antidepressants
 - N06B – Psycho-stimulants

Please see the Staged Supply Program Rules for all information surrounding the participation in the Staged Supply Program which can be found at the link below.

OTHER INFORMATION

For further information on the 6CPA Staged Supply Program please see the following documents:

- 6CPA General Terms and Conditions
- Staged Supply Program Rules
- Staged Supply "How to Claim" Guide
- 6CPA Program Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

CONTACT

6CPA Support Team

Phone: 1300 555 262

Email: support@6cpa.com.au