



Budget 2019-20

This information is accurate as at 2 April 2019.

Improving Access to Medicines — Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme — new and amended listings

This measure enables the implementation of new and amended listings on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS). The changes in this measure are based on recommendations to government from the independent Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC). From 1 February 2019 to 1 May 2019, 55 new and amended items have been, or soon will be, listed on the PBS. Certain PBS listings also had flow on impacts to the Medicare Benefits Scheme (MBS).

Medicines listed on the PBS save and protect lives by improving access to medicines. These medicines provide access to Australian residents and overseas visitors from countries that fall under Reciprocal Health Care Agreements to subsidised medicines making them more affordable. These medicines can be prohibitively expensive if not subsidised on the PBS.

Examples of new and amended listings for 1 February 2019 to 1 May 2019 include:

- Osimertinib (Tagrisso[®]) from 1 February 2019 for the treatment of locally advanced or metastatic non-small cell lung cancer
- Venetoclax (Venclexta[®]) from 1 March 2019 for the treatment of chronic lymphocytic leukaemia
- Nivolumab (Opdivo[®]) with Ipilimumab (Yervoy[®]) from 1 March 2019 for the treatment of advanced renal cell carcinoma
- Brentuximab vedotin (Adectris[®]) from 1 April 2019 for treatment of CD30 positive cutaneous T-cell lymphoma, and
- Inotuzumab ozogamicin (Besponsa[®]) from 1 May 2019 for the treatment of acute lymphoblastic leukaemia.

Who is affected by this measure?

This measure affects Australian residents and overseas visitors from countries under Reciprocal Health Care Agreements.

When will this start and finish?

The new and amended PBS listings are available from the relevant dates as stated above and are ongoing.