

FEDERAL

Until products are approved in Australia, there are two pathways patients can have to get access to medical cannabis products from overseas.

Special Access Scheme Cat B

Medical practitioners can apply to prescribe a particular product to an individual patient for a particular medical condition.

They have to give information such as clinical justification for the patient and clinical evidence about the product.

Authorised Prescriber

A medical practitioner can apply for authority to prescribe a specific product to patients with a specific medical condition.

More information on both of these pathways can be found at www.tga.gov.au.

STATES

Medical cannabis products have been classified as a controlled drug by the TGA (Schedule 8), unless it is a cannabidiol (CBD) product with less than 2% other cannabinoids, in which case it is a prescription only medicine (Schedule 4).

Further to obtaining approval from the TGA, medical practitioners may be further constrained by state regulations.

TAS

From 1 September 2017, specialist practitioners in will be able to seek approval to prescribe medical cannabis under the Controlled Access Scheme.

QLD

Medical professionals must obtain approval from QLD Health prior to seeking approval from the TGA. There are two pathways for this:

Patient-class Prescribers

Enables specialists to treat classes of patients. Individual patient approval is not required.

Single-patient Prescriber

Approval to prescribe a particular product to an individual patient.

More information can be found at www.qld.gov.au.

NSW, VIC, WA, SA and ACT

Medical professionals must obtain approval from NSW Health, WA Health, SA Health, ACT Health, or a treatment permit from VIC Health, to prescribe Schedule 8 medical cannabis products, as well as approval from the TGA.

In SA, approval is not required for treatment less than 2 months.

For Schedule 4 (CBD) products, state approval is not required.

More information can be found at:

NSW Health	VIC Health	WA Health
SA Health	ACT Health	

NT

The Northern Territory does not have any requirements in place beyond those of the TGA.