National Health (Cabrini Private Hospitals Paperless Prescribing, Dispensing and Claiming Trial) Special Arrangement 2026

I, Kate Deere, as delegate for the Minister for Health, Disability and Ageing, make the following special arrangement.

Dated 24 September 2026

Kate Deere
Acting Assistant Secretary
Digital Health Branch
Medicare Benefits and Digital Health Division
Department of Health, Disability and Ageing

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Part 1 – Preliminary

1 Name

(1) This instrument is the *National Health (Cabrini Private Hospitals Paperless Prescribing, Dispensing and Claiming Trial) Special Arrangement 2026.*

(2) This instrument may also be cited as PB 123 of 2026.

2 Commencement

(1) Each provision of this instrument specified in column 1 of the table commences, or is taken to have commenced, in accordance with column 2 of the table. Any other statement in column 2 has effect according to its terms.

Commencement information		
Column 1	**Column 2**	**Column 3**
Provisions	**Commencement**	**Date/Details**
1. The whole of this instrument	30 September 2026.	30 September 2026

Note: This table relates only to the provisions of this instrument as originally made. It will not be amended to deal with any later amendments of this instrument.

(2) Any information in column 3 of the table is not part of this Act. Information may be inserted in this column, or information in it may be edited, in any published version of this Act.

3 Authority

This instrument is made under subsections 100(1) and 100(2) of the *National Health Act 1953*.

4 Schedule 2

Each instrument that is specified in Schedule 2 to this instrument is amended or repealed as set out in the applicable items in the Schedule, and any other item in that Schedule has effect according to its terms.

5 Definitions

Note: A number of expressions used in this instrument are defined in the Act, including the following:

(a) Chief Executive Medicare;

(b) hospital treatment;

(c) Secretary.

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In this instrument:

Act means the *National Health Act 1953*.

authority approval number has the same meaning as in the Regulations.

authority prescription has the same meaning as in the Regulations.

authority required procedures has the same meaning as in the Regulations.

CTS claim has the same meaning as in Part VII of the Act.

eligible approved supplier means an approved supplier mentioned in column 3 of an item in the table in Schedule 1.

eligible hospital means a hospital mentioned in column 2 of an item in the table in Schedule 1.

patient of an eligible hospital means an in-patient who occupies a bed in an eligible hospital for the purpose of receiving hospital treatment.

PBS prescriber has the same meaning as in Part VII of the Act.

pharmaceutical benefit has the same meaning as in Part VII of the Act.

electronic medication charting system means a system which facilitates the electronic management of medications and associated electronic medication chart orders for patients of an eligible hospital.

electronic medication chart order means an order for the supply of a pharmaceutical benefit, prepared and approved electronically and which forms part of the eligible hospital's electronic medication charting system for the purpose of treating a patient of the hospital.

paper-based medication chart order means a paper-based order for the supply of a pharmaceutical benefit for the purpose of treating a patient of an eligible hospital.

Regulations means the *National Health (Pharmaceutical Benefits) Regulations 2017*.

relevant streamlined authority code has the meaning given by the Regulations.

Rules means the *National Health (Supply of Pharmaceutical Benefits—Under Co-payment Data and Claims for Payment) Rules 2022*.

Schedule 1 means Schedule 1 to this instrument.

special arrangement supply: see section 6.

streamlined authority prescription means an authority prescription where authority required procedures are met by inclusion of the relevant streamlined authority code in the prescription.

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Part 2 – Special arrangements for prescribing, supply and claiming of pharmaceutical benefits

6 Meaning of *special arrangement supply*

(1) A supply of a pharmaceutical benefit to a person is a ***special arrangement supply*** of the benefit if:

(a) the person is a patient of an eligible hospital;

(b) the benefit is supplied by the eligible approved supplier mentioned in column 3 of the table in Schedule 1 for that eligible hospital;

(c) the benefit is supplied on the basis of a prescription written by a PBS prescriber:

(i) by creating an electronic medication chart order within an electronic medication charting system; or

(ii) using a paper-based medication chart order.

7 Pharmaceutical benefits covered by this instrument

(1) This instrument applies to each pharmaceutical benefit that is generally available for supply under Part VII of the Act.

(2) A pharmaceutical benefit is ***generally available for supply under Part VII of the Act*** if:

(a) it does not contain a drug that is subject to a declaration under subsection 85(2A) of the Act; and

(b) it is not subject to a determination under paragraph 85(8)(a) of the Act; and

(c) for a pharmaceutical benefit in relation to which a determination under paragraph 85(8)(b) has been made about the circumstances in which the benefit can only be supplied under a special arrangement under section 100 - the supply is not in those circumstances.

8 Prescribing a special arrangement supply of a pharmaceutical benefit - general

(1) A PBS prescriber may only write a prescription for a special arrangement supply for the purpose of treating a patient of an eligible hospital.

(2) A PBS prescriber may only write an authority prescription for a special arrangement supply where the prescription is a streamlined authority prescription.

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Note: Other kinds of authority prescriptions require an authority approval number to be allotted to the prescription by the Chief Executive Medicare or the Minister.

9 Prescribing a special arrangement supply of a pharmaceutical benefit – modification of section 41

(1) Section 41 of the Regulations applies to a prescription for a special arrangement supply with the modifications set out in this section.

(2) A reference to a medication chart is taken to include a reference to an electronic medication chart order or a paper-based medication chart order.

(3) The following provisions do not apply:

(a) paragraphs 41(2)(c), 41(2)(f) and 41(2)(h);

(b) subparagraph 41(1)(b)(ii);

(c) subsection 41(3).

(4) For the purposes of subparagraph 41(2)(a)(i) of the Regulations, in identifying the pharmaceutical benefit the PBS prescriber is not required to comply with subsection 41(2A).

(5) A PBS prescriber must:

(a) for an electronic medication chart order - electronically authorise the order in the electronic medication charting system;

(b) for a paper-based medication chart order – sign the order.

Completing electronic and paper-based medication chart orders - authority prescriptions

(6) If the prescription is a streamlined authority prescription, the electronic medication chart order or paper-based medication chart order must contain the relevant streamlined authority code (if any) for the pharmaceutical benefit.

10 Supplies by eligible approved suppliers

(1) Sections 45, 47 and 51 of the Regulations apply to the special arrangement supply of a pharmaceutical benefit, with the modifications set out in this section.

(2) A reference in sections 45, 47 and 51 of the Regulation to a medication chart prescription is taken to include a reference to a prescription written using an electronic medication chart order or a paper-based medication chart order in accordance with section 41 of the Regulations, as modified by this Special Arrangement.

(3) A reference in section 45 of the Regulations to an electronic medication chart is taken to be a reference to an electronic medication chart order.

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(4) The following provisions of the Regulations do not apply:

(a) subparagraph 45(2)(b)(i);

(b) paragraph 45(2)(c);

(c) paragraph 45(2)(d);

(d) subsection 45(2B);

(e) subsection 45(7).

(5) Section 45 of the Regulation applies as if it also requires an eligible approved supplier, or a person authorised by the eligible approved supplier, to verify in the electronic medication chart order or write in the paper-based medication chart order:

(a) that the pharmaceutical benefit has been supplied; and

(b) the date on which the pharmaceutical benefit was supplied.

(6) A reference in section 51 of the Regulations to writing the words "immediate supply necessary" on a prescription is taken to include a reference to including those words:

(a) in the electronic medication charting system, or the part of the copy of the electronic medication chart order within the system, that contains the completed section by which the prescription was written; or

(b) in a paper-based medication chart order, or the part of the copy of that chart, that contains the completed section by which the prescription was written.

11 Claims for payment

(1) The Rules apply to a claim for payment for a special arrangement supply with the following modifications:

(2) A reference in the Rules to a medication chart prescription is taken to include a reference to a prescription written using an electronic medication chart order or a paper-based medication chart order in accordance with section 41 of the Regulations, as modified by this Special Arrangement.

(3) Items 20 and 21 of the table to Schedule 1 of the Rules do not apply.

12 Pharmacy records

(1) If the Chief Executive Medicare notifies an eligible hospital in writing that a copy of an electronic medication chart order or a paper-based medication chart order written for a special arrangement supply is required to be submitted, the eligible hospital must submit a copy of the electronic medication chart order or paper-based medication chart order to Services Australia.

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Electronic pharmacy records

(2) For each special arrangement supply of a pharmaceutical benefit in respect of which a claim is made under section 99AAA of the Act by an eligible approved supplier, the approved supplier must:

(a) prepare an electronic pharmacy record; and

(b) retain the electronic pharmacy record for at least 2 years from the date the pharmaceutical benefit was supplied.

Note: This subsection establishes record keeping requirements that correspond to the requirements contained in section 61 of the Regulations.

(3) The electronic pharmacy record must contain all information required by the Rules (other than information mentioned in items 20 and 21 in the table in Schedule 1 of the Rules) to be given to the Secretary by an approved supplier for a CTS claim in relation to the supply of a pharmaceutical benefit for the purpose of treating a patient of the eligible hospital.

(4) If the Chief Executive Medicare notifies an eligible approved pharmacy in writing that a copy of an electronic pharmacy record is required to be submitted, the approved pharmacy must submit a copy of the record to Services Australia.

(5) A notification given under subsection (1) or (4) may apply to one or more electronic medication chart orders, paper-based medication chart orders or electronic pharmacy records, as appropriate.

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Part 3 - Application and transitional arrangements

13 Definitions

In this Part:

(a) ***former Special Arrangement*** means the *National Health (Epworth and Cabrini Private Hospitals Paperless Prescribing and Claiming Trial) Special Arrangement 2016* (PB 28 of 2016), as in force immediately before the transition time;

(b) ***transition time*** means 30 September 2026;

(c) ***transitional prescription*** means a prescription for the supply of a pharmaceutical benefit under the former Special Arrangement that was made:

(i) before the transition time; and

(ii) in accordance with the former Special Arrangement.

14 Supplies made on transitional prescriptions

Despite the repeal of the former Special Arrangement, section 8 of the former Special Arrangement continues to apply to the supply of a pharmaceutical benefit based on a transitional prescription, as if the repeal had not happened, whether the supply was made before, on or after the transition time.

15 Claims for supplies made on transitional prescriptions

(1) This section applies where a claim for payment is made after the transition time for the supply of a pharmaceutical benefit made on the basis of a transitional prescription, whether the supply was made before, on or after the transition time.

(2) Despite the repeal of the former Special Arrangement, section 8 of the former Special Arrangement continues to apply to the claim, as if the repeal had not happened.

16 Retention of records and provision of documents

(1) If an eligible approved supplier was required to prepare an electronic pharmacy record under subsection 8(3) of the former Special Arrangement in relation to the supply of a pharmaceutical benefit and retain a copy of that record for 2 years from the date the pharmaceutical benefit was supplied, and that 2 year period has not yet passed:

(a) that requirement continues to apply despite the repeal of the former Special Arrangement; and

(b) subsection 12(4) of this Special Arrangement applies to a notification for a copy of that pharmacy record made after the transition time.

(2) Subsection 12(1) of this Special Arrangement applies to a request for a copy of a medication chart (as defined in the previous Special Arrangement) made after the

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transition time as if that medication chart were an electronic medication chart order or paper-based medication chart order, as appropriate.

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Schedule 1—Eligible hospitals and eligible approved suppliers

Item	Column 2 – name and address of hospital	Column 3 – name, address and approval number of the approved supplier
1	**Cabrini Brighton** 243 New Street Brighton, Victoria 3186	Cabrini Brighton 243 New Street Brighton, Victoria 3186 Approval Number: HV266K
2	**Cabrini Malvern** 183 Wattletree Road Malvern, Victoria 3144	Cabrini Malvern 183 Wattletree Road Malvern, Victoria 3144 Approval Number: HV214Q

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Schedule 2—Repeals

National Health (Epworth and Cabrini Private Hospitals Paperless Prescribing and Claiming Trial) Special Arrangement 2016

1 The whole of the instrument

Repeal the instrument.

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