

Appendix 1

PRESCRIBING WITHOUT A SIGNATURE

Prescription Using NZePS

Key Requirements

Details of prescription:

- the prescription is a NZePS barcoded prescription
- the prescription is issued from a system authorised by the Manatū Hauora for electronic prescribing
- the barcode on the prescription is used at the point of dispensing at the community pharmacy.

How can I spot a legal Signature Exempt Prescription?

Signature Exempt NZePS Prescriptions will always have an NZePS barcode. Some may have the text “Signature Exempt” on the signature line, and others may not yet have this. But the presence of the NZePS barcode is the definitive sign that a prescription meets the requirements of the legislation once the barcode is used at the time of dispensing, even if it does not have a signature.

The image shows two examples of NZePS prescriptions. Both are for Mr Joe Bloggs, issued on 10 OCT 2019. The left prescription has an NZePS barcode on the top right, and the right one has it on the bottom right. Both have a 'Signature Exempt' label on the signature line. A large 'DRAFT' watermark is visible across the center.

Example 1 (Left): NZePS Reg No. A8284-2 HRI Facility F1V076. Mr Joe Bloggs. 33A Westy Lane, TeAtatu South, Auckland 0610. GMSA4 DOB 10 Oct 1957 NH: LLD159. Item Count: [] Subsidy Card: []. NZePS Barcode: 2AC07117162MHP123. Rx 10 OCT 2019. Dispense stat list medicines once only unless Frequent Dispense specified. Prokinex 10mg Tab. Sig: Take one three times a day. Mite: 270 tabs. (No Brand Substitution). Propranolol Hydrochloride 40mg Tab (section 29) Frequent Dispense. Sig: Take one three times a day. Mite: 270 tabs. Signature Exempt. Dr Sam Entwistle. Page 1 of 1.

Example 2 (Right): NZePS Reg No. A8284-3 HRI Facility F1V076. Mr Joe Bloggs. 33A Westy Lane, TeAtatu South, Auckland 0610. GMSA4 DOB 10 Oct 1957 NH: LLD159. Item Count: [] Subsidy Card: []. NZePS Barcode: 2AC07117162MHP123. Rx 10 OCT 2019. Dispense stat list medicines once only unless Frequent Dispense specified. Prokinex 10mg Tab. Sig: Take one three times a day. Mite: 270 tabs. (No Brand Substitution). Propranolol Hydrochloride 40mg Tab (section 29) Frequent Dispense. Sig: Take one three times a day. Mite: 270 tabs. Signature Exempt. Dr Sam Entwistle. Page 1 of 1.

1	The electronic prescription has an NZePS barcode which is used at the point of dispensing at the Pharmacy. This barcode may be on the top of the prescription or the bottom.
2	On some electronic prescriptions, a label for “Signature Exempt” may appear on the signature line. If this label is not present, the prescription is still legal.

Electronic Prescription Direct to Pharmacy for Non-NZePS systems (until 31 October 2027)

Key Requirements

Details of prescription:

- the prescription must not include Controlled Drugs (Class A, B or C) (with the exception of Class C exempt or partially exempt controlled drugs)
- the prescription contains the prescriber's registration authority number
- the prescription contains contact details of the prescriber
- the prescription must contain the statement **"This Prescription meets the requirement of the Director-General of Health's authorisation of August 2024 for prescriptions not signed personally by a prescriber with their usual signature"**.

How to issue?

- The prescription must be generated by an electronic prescribing system that requires the prescriber to log on with a unique ID and password.
- The prescription must be in a format that cannot be easily altered e.g., PDF, photograph.
- The prescription must be sent directly to the community pharmacy using a secure, electronic system that identifies the prescriber's name and facility e.g., secure email or the prescription must be faxed from a number that is recognised by the pharmacy as a valid prescriber.

NZMC Reg No. A88984-3 HPI Facility F1V076-

Mr Joe Bloggs

33A Westy Lane, TeAtatu South, Auckland 0610

GMS:A4 DOB 10 Oct 1957 NHI: LLX0159



Item Count

Subsidy Card

Rx

10 OCT 2019

Dispense stat list medicines once only unless Frequent Dispense specified

Prokinex 10mg Tab

Sig: Take one three times a day

Mitte: 270 tabs

(No Brand Substitution)

Propranolol Hydrochloride 40mg Tab (section 29) Frequent Dispense.

Sig: Take one three times a day

Mitte: 270 tabs

1

This Prescription meets the requirement of the Director-General of Health's authorisation of August 2024 for prescriptions not signed personally by a prescriber with their usual signature.

Dr Sam Entwistle _____
NZMC Reg No. A12345-3
Contact: sam.entwistle@tewhatuora.govt.nz or call 027123456

Page 1 of 1

2

1	On electronic prescriptions without a barcode, there must be a statement that "This Prescription meets the requirement of the Director-General of Health's authorisation of August 2024 for prescriptions not signed personally by a prescriber with their usual signature "
2	The prescription must also have: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The registration authority number of the Prescriber (e.g., NZMC, NCNZ, PCNZ, HPI).• The contact details of the prescriber.