



MEDICAL CANNABIS COUNCIL

Patient Access to Medical Cannabis Products

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

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/accessing-unapproved-products

Queensland

Medical practitioners must gain authority to prescribe under one of the following pathways.

Patient-class Prescribers

- Enabling 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.

Northern Territory

Unfortunately it is still not legal to obtain medical cannabis in the Northern Territory.

NSW

NSW refers to the federal schemes, however medical practitioners must obtain approval from NSW Health.

For children, special approvals under the Children and Young Person's Care and Protection Act 1998 may apply, so we recommend discussion with your medical practitioner.

More information can be found at www.medicinalcannabis.nsw.gov.au.

Victoria

The Access to Medical Access Scheme currently only allows for children with severe intractable epilepsy to have access to medical cannabis products.

However, medical practitioners can still seek approval to prescribe following the federal pathways.

More information can be found at www.health.vic.gov.au.

ACT, South Australia, Tasmania and Western Australia

All of these states and territories refer to the federal schemes for patient access, however medical practitioners must obtain approval from their relevant Department of Health.