



VETERINARY SURGEONS BOARD OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Plans for Electronic Prescribing in South Australia – Information for Veterinary Surgeons

On 22 March 2020 the Australian Government announced that it will fast track the implementation of electronic prescribing systems to help protect people most at-risk in the community from exposure to COVID-19.

Currently under the *Controlled Substances Act 1984* (SA), a paper prescription signed by a prescriber is the *only* legal form by which medicines can be prescribed in South Australia.

Amendments to the Poisons Regulations are required to enable an electronic prescription in an approved electronic form to be used as an alternative to a written prescription in South Australia.

SA Health supports the adoption of electronic prescribing in South Australia to promote a nationally consistent electronic prescribing framework and to provide prescribers and their clients/patients the option of an electronic prescription.

A factsheet about the electronic prescribing is available [here](#).

SA Health is currently considering feedback about the planned proposal to recognise electronic prescription in South Australia consistent with the Commonwealth framework and the National Digital Health Strategy.

For information about the proposed regulatory changes in South Australia to facilitate electronic prescribing, please contact Medicines and Technology Programs, SA Health at Health.MTPP@sa.gov.au