



National Residential Medication Chart

The National Residential Medication Chart (NRMC) is a standardised, national medication chart that has been specifically developed and quality tested for use in residential aged care services.

Using the NRMC in your aged care service can help improve medication safety for your residents, free up more time for clinical care, and streamline medication ordering and supply.

For visiting doctors, the NRMC allows most medicines to be prescribed and supplied without the need for a separate prescription. This means staff will spend much less time chasing prescriptions, and your pharmacist will benefit from easier PBS claiming.

The chart pages have been designed in consultation with aged care service providers, nurses, medical practitioners, pharmacists and industry representatives. Residents' details are visible from each page of the chart, ensuring important information, such as allergies and swallowing difficulties, appear when medicines are being prescribed and supplied.

Version control has been improved, meaning fewer changes in residents' dose administration aid packaging. Special types of medicines, including warfarin and insulin, have their own sections, with easy to understand graphic elements for pathology results, blood glucose readings, weight and nutritional supplements.

The chart has been designed to be simple to follow, while including important information about your residents' medicines to help minimise errors. Using the new chart can help your service meet medication management quality standards.

Free user-tested guides for nurses, pharmacists, and prescribers are available to help you introduce the NRMC in your service.

Commercial medication chart products that comply with the NRMC requirements are also now available. Talk to your medication chart supplier or pharmacist about how you can improve medication management in your aged care service by using a chart that complies with the NRMC requirements.

Further information on how the NRMC was developed, and the benefits the NRMC can bring to your service, is available from the website of the Australian Commission for Safety and Quality in Health Care:

<http://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/our-work/medication-safety/medication-chart/nrmc/>
and by contacting the Department of Health at PBSNRMC@health.gov.au.