



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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# **eRx now even easier with real time PBS Online claiming**

ePrescribing achieves a major milestone on 1 April with the launch of real time claiming through PBS Online, making it even easier for pharmacy to use eRx eScripts in improving patient care and safety and dispensing efficiency.

According to Jason Bratuskins, Pharmacist and Product Manager of eRx Script Exchange, “We congratulate Medicare on this significant step. ePrescribing is vital in supporting the work of pharmacy and health professionals, and in keeping pharmacy part of the connected health team of the future.”

“With the launch of automatic online claiming through PBS Online, eScripts will become even easier for pharmacy, and this can only mean that more of the benefits of greater patient care and safety and dispensing efficiency will be passed on to patients and professionals.”

eScripts are available at no net cost for pharmacy under the Electronic Prescriptions Payments in the Fifth Community Pharmacy Agreement. However, until now, these payments have had to be claimed manually. As of 1 April, the 15 cent Electronic Prescription Fee will be assessed and paid in real time through Online Claiming for PBS (PBS Online), which means that pharmacists will no longer need to print, sign and submit paper claim forms in order to receive payment.

Please call 1300 700 921 if you would like any further information.

In the three years since eRx's launch, more than 3,200 pharmacies and 13,000 doctors have utilised exchange, with a record of 750,000 prescriptions dispensed in the one day, and 4.2 million prescriptions for the week in the pre-Christmas week 2011. The success of eRx has contributed to keeping pharmacy and general practice at the forefront of ongoing developments in eHealth, including leading the MedView project, a trial site in the Commonwealth Government's eHealth program that will enable health professionals to view a patient's medication history across community, hospital and aged care settings. For further information see [www.ernx.com.au](http://www.ernx.com.au) and [www.medview.com.au](http://www.medview.com.au).

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### **About eRx Script Exchange**

*eRx Script Exchange is Australia's first national electronic prescriptions exchange designed to improve health outcomes through a safer, more efficient dispensing process. eRx is led by the Fred IT Group in collaboration with over 20 of Australia's leading GP and pharmacy software vendors. The GP clinical vendors include Medical Director, Best Practice, Zedmed, StatHealth and MedTech32, and dispensing software vendors include Aquarius, Fred Dispense, minfos, LOTS, Amfac, PharmacyPro, DispenseIT, Mountaintop Dispense and ScriptPro. More than 13,000 doctors and 3,200 pharmacies around Australia have already used eRx.*