



DOSE ADMINISTRATION AID SERVICE *the right dose*

Helping veterans manage their medicines



At a glance for GPs

The DVA DAA Service provides a Dose Administration Aid (DAA) at no cost to veterans who hold either a Gold, White or Orange Repatriation Card and who reside in the community.

A DAA is a compartmentalised box or blister pack type device used to aid the administration of solid or oral medications in accordance with requirements set out by the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia.

STEP

1

The **Veteran** has a consultation with the **GP** to discuss the need and benefit of the DAA Service.

GP claims MBS consultation item

It is strongly recommended that a Home Medicines Review (MBS 900) be conducted prior to the DAA Service as part of the ongoing care for the **Veteran**.

GP claims MBS 900

STEP

2

The **GP** is required to ring the Veterans' Affairs Pharmaceutical Advisory Centre (VAPAC) 1800 552 580 for two Authority Prescriptions for the six month DAA Service. This is repeated every six months while the **Veteran** remains on the program.

- One Authority Prescription is required for the DAA Service for six months (original with 25 repeats)
- One Authority Prescription is required for the Veterans Six Month Review (VSMR)

Both Authorities can be provided by VAPAC at the beginning of the six month cycle

The **GP** provides the Authority Prescriptions to the **Veteran**.

STEP

3

The **Veteran** receives the DAA weekly from the **Pharmacist** for 26 weeks.

STEP

4

After Week 20, the **Pharmacist** conducts a Veterans Six Month Review (VSMR) using a DVA form.

The assessment which makes a recommendation to the **GP**, is faxed to the referring **GP** and VAPAC (07) 3223 8651.

STEP

5

The **Veteran** returns to the **GP** for a consultation and if the continued use of a DAA is recommended and agreed to by the veteran, the **GP** is able to prescribe, on Authority, the DAA Service for a further six months by returning to Step 2.

GP claims MBS consultation and CP42 \$50 for assessment of the VSMR

Please note:

It is strongly recommended that the veteran receive a Home Medicines Review in conjunction with the DAA Service. However, if the veteran lives in an area where it is not possible to obtain an HMR, it is at the GP's discretion to prescribe the DAA Service.

VAPAC is the Veterans' Affairs Pharmaceutical Advisory Centre. Tel: 1800 552 580 and is responsible for the provision of advice regarding the Repatriation Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (RPBS) providing a prior approvals service for medication needing prior financial approval before being supplied to eligible beneficiaries.

	Contact
VAPAC	Ph: 1800 552 580 Fax: 07 3223 8651
DVA	133 254 or 1800 555 254
DVA DAA email enquiries and website	DAA@dva.gov.au or www.dva.gov.au/health/daa
To re-order DAA Service information booklet	DAA@dva.gov.au

Medicare Benefits (current as at 1 January 2008)

Description	Item No.	LMO Fee (115% MBS)
Home Medicines Review* ¹	MBS 900* ²	157.60
VAPAC authorisation	MBS Consult* ³	
Prescribe six months DAA		
VAPAC authorisation	MBS Consult* ³	
Refers to community pharmacist for VSMR		
Assess and review VSMR	CP42	50.00

*1 Home Medicines Review (also known as a Domiciliary Medication Management Review) can be claimed once in a 12-month period except where there is significant change in the patient's condition—new diagnosis, discharge from hospital.

*2 Only a Community Pharmacy registered with Medicare to provide a Home Medicines Review (HMR) can provide this service.

*3 The relevant consultation item number from the Medicare Benefits Schedule will need to be claimed.

N.B. Only GPs registered as Local Medical Officers with Medicare Australia receive the higher fee (115% MBS).

Veteran's Eligibility Criteria

1. Veterans must hold either a **Gold, White** or **Orange** card.
2. Veterans must live in the community and not in a Residential Care facility (either low level or high level care), hostel or hospital.
3. Veterans must meet the criteria for a Home Medicines Review.
For criteria, see www.medicareaustralia.gov.au/provider/pbs/fourth-agreement/hmr.shtml
4. Veterans must be **likely to benefit** from the DAA Service.

Doctors and pharmacists should consider whether:

- veterans are confused about which medicines to take, when to take them, or what they are for
- veterans have a lot of medications or a complex regime
- veterans have reported non-adherence
- veterans require help with activities of daily living.

Veterans must provide verbal consent to:

- a Home Medicines Review and any later reviews involving the community pharmacy, registered pharmacists, and other health professionals involved in their care
- communication between their health care professionals, especially pharmacists and GPs
- providing their DVA file number to the pharmacist and Medicare Australia for payment purposes
- the community pharmacy providing information to DVA to enable DVA to monitor and assess the veteran's needs and the effectiveness of the intervention.

Veterans are responsible for:

- meeting any additional costs not covered by DVA including additional GP consultations (especially Orange card holders)
- providing all solid oral medicines (including relevant non-prescription medicines) to their community pharmacy for packing and attending the pharmacy to collect the DAA weekly, as agreed with the pharmacist
- informing the pharmacist of any changes to their medicines in a timely manner.