

Medication management reviews (MMRs) involve a patient interview, clinical assessment, and written report to the medical practitioner.

A Home Medicines Review (HMR) for an individual living in the community is done by an accredited pharmacist, directly or through the patient's preferred community pharmacy, in collaboration with the medical practitioner.

A Residential Medication Management Review (RMMR) for a permanent resident of a residential aged care facility is done in the facility by an accredited pharmacist in collaboration with the resident's medical practitioner.

Step 1: Identify if the individual would benefit from an MMR

- ▶ Assess the individual's eligibility by referring to the Medicare Benefits Schedule ([MBS eligibility criteria](#)).
- ▶ Explain the purpose and benefits to the individual (their carer, family and/or substitute decision-maker) and obtain their consent.¹ (See NPS MedicineWise resources for consumers overleaf).

What are the potential benefits for the individual receiving care?

Health outcomes ^{2,3}	Individual benefits ⁴
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Improved medication management ▶ Identification of medicine-related problems ▶ Improved adherence ▶ Reduced hospitalisations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Increased knowledge ▶ Improved health literacy ▶ Emotional reassurance ▶ Improved confidence to self-manage

Step 2: Send the referral

- ▶ Refer to your clinical software or download the [sample referral form](#).
- ▶ Work with the accredited pharmacist to help them understand what you require from the report so they can tailor it to meet the needs and expectations of both you and the individual.⁵
- ▶ An initial discussion with the accredited pharmacist about the goals of the MMR may be useful.⁵

What information should I include in a referral to enable an informative MMR?

- ▶ A detailed referral allows for tailored recommendations and may help facilitate the development of a medication management plan.⁶
- ▶ Include relevant information in the referral:⁷
 - ✓ Specify the reason for the referral (such as 'optimising diabetic medicines')^{1,8} to help the pharmacist provide clinically relevant recommendations in line with the individual's goals and preferences⁵
 - ✓ Up-to-date list of current medicines
 - ✓ Past and current medical history
 - ✓ Recent laboratory results, which may include kidney and liver function, full blood count, cholesterol and HbA_{1c}
 - ✓ Relevant examination findings, such as blood pressure, body mass index and relevant imaging
 - ✓ Issues that may influence medicine use, such as cognitive impairment and issues with dexterity
 - ✓ Previous medication management plans, health assessments, care plans and case conference summaries
 - ✓ The individual's personal goals and preferences⁹

Step 3: Receive and discuss the report

- ▶ Discuss suggested medication management strategies.¹⁰
- ▶ Multidisciplinary case conferences ([MBS Items 735 to 758](#)) may provide an opportunity to discuss medication management.
- ▶ Follow-up discussions with the pharmacist may help clarify recommendations for resolution of medicine-related problems.¹¹

Step 4: Develop and share a written medication management plan following discussion with the individual as per MBS requirements

- ▶ Share the medication management plan with the individual, their preferred pharmacy and the accredited pharmacist.¹ Refer to your clinical software or download the [Medication Management Plan template](#).
- ▶ When appropriate, one or two follow-up consultations, conducted by an accredited pharmacist at least one month apart and within 9 months, may be used to support the individual's ongoing medication management.^{12,13} The pharmacist will indicate on the report if, in their opinion, a follow-up consultation is required. A separate referral to conduct the follow-up is not required.^{14,15}

Step 5: Claim MBS item*

- ▶ HMR: [MBS Item 900](#)
- ▶ RMMR: [MBS Item 903](#)

* Medical specialists can refer for an HMR/RMMR but cannot claim for it.^{12,13}

Finding an accredited pharmacist

MMRs are most effective when combined with interprofessional collaboration and communication.¹⁶ If an accredited pharmacist is not available at the individual's preferred pharmacy, you can seek recommendations from colleagues or find one below:

- ▶ [Australian Association of Consultant Pharmacy \(AACP\)](#)
- ▶ [Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia \(SHPA\)](#)
- ▶ [Local HealthPathways](#)

Additional NPS MedicineWise resources

For consumers:

- ▶ [How a medicines review can help you get the most from your medicines](#) (available in English and 12 community languages)

For accredited pharmacists:

- ▶ [Medication Management Review Reports: Best practice recommendations](#)
- ▶ [Medication Management Review Reports: Checklist](#)



References available online at: nps.org.au/ac-burden-mmr-ref