

THE LENGTH OF YOUR PRESCRIPTION COULD BE CHANGING

The New Zealand Government is extending the maximum prescription length from 3 months to 12 months.

When: The changes will come into effect from early 2026.

Who: This change **may** apply to people who are well controlled on long-term medicines.

The change will **not** affect how controlled drugs are prescribed and dispensed.

How: **Your prescriber** will decide if it's appropriate and safe for your medicines to be prescribed for up to a 12 month period. Talk to your GP about what is right for you.

Your pharmacist will be required, by law, to only dispense up to 3 months' supply of your medicines at any one time, even if your prescription covers a longer period.

As a patient, you will need to collect any additional repeat supplies of your medicines from the same pharmacy.

The Government will still require people who pay a medicine co-payment (e.g. \$5) to continue paying this fee every 3 months when they collect repeat supplies on a longer prescription.

Find out more about the changes here:



The Royal New Zealand
College of General Practitioners
Te Whare Tohu Rata o Aotearoa