

Revised PBS restrictions for fluticasone propionate 50 micrograms per dose inhalers

April 2023

What's changed?

On 1 April 2023, changes have been made to the General Schedule (Section 85) listing, population criteria and treatment criteria for **fluticasone propionate 50 micrograms/actuation inhalation, 120 actuations (Axotide Junior[®], Flixotide Junior[®])** indicated for the prophylactic management of asthma.

From 1 April 2023, fluticasone propionate 50 micrograms per dose, 120 actuations (Axotide Junior[®], Flixotide Junior[®]) listing

- is restricted to patients aged under six years
- is amended to an Authority Required (telephone or electronic)
- requires initiation by a respiratory physician or a paediatrician.

The [PBS listing for this medicine](#) has been amended on 1 April 2023 to reflect these changes.

What does this change mean for patients aged under 6 years?

From 1 April 2023,

- Patients aged under 6 years, who are starting treatment for fluticasone propionate 50 micrograms per actuation inhalation (Axotide Junior[®], Flixotide Junior[®]), will need to be initiated by a respiratory physician or a paediatrician.
- Health practitioners, including general practitioners (GPs) and nurse practitioners, will be able to prescribe continuing treatment that was initiated by a respiratory physician or a paediatrician in patients aged under 6 years.
- Prior approval (telephone or electronic) will be required to prescribe fluticasone propionate 50 micrograms per dose (Axotide Junior[®], Flixotide Junior[®]) for individuals under 6 years as a PBS item, including requests for increased quantities and/or repeats.
- Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made using the Online PBS Authorities system (see [HPOS - Services Australia](#)) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 888 333.

What does this change mean for patients aged 6 years and above?

From 1 April 2023,

- Patients aged 6 years and above that currently use fluticasone propionate 50 micrograms per dose (Axotide Junior®, Flixotide Junior®) will no longer be eligible for PBS subsidy. They will be required to see their GP or primary prescriber, as they will have to switch to an alternative PBS reimbursed medicine or consider use of private prescriptions.
- Health practitioners can switch fluticasone propionate 50 micrograms per dose to an alternative PBS reimbursed medicine in patients aged 6 years and above.

Alternative PBS reimbursed medicines with equivalent dosing to fluticasone propionate 50 micrograms twice daily for patients aged 6 years and above have been provided in the Table below.

Table: Equivalent dosing to fluticasone propionate 50 micrograms twice daily

	Children 6 – 11 years	Children 12 years and above
Budesonide 100 micrograms per actuation powder for inhalation, 200 actuations	100 micrograms twice a day	100 micrograms twice a day
Beclometasone dipropionate 50 micrograms per actuation breath activated inhalation, 200 actuations	50 micrograms twice a day	50 micrograms twice a day
Beclometasone dipropionate 50 micrograms per actuation inhalation, 200 actuations	50 micrograms twice a day	50 micrograms twice a day
Ciclesonide 80 micrograms per actuation inhalation, 120 actuations	80 micrograms once daily	80 micrograms once daily

For any enquiries, please contact PBS@health.gov.au.