

Dear Sir/Madam,

I would support the change for all continuation biologic medicine scripts in inflammatory arthritis (RA, PsA and AS) to be changed from the current system of paper application (sent to Hobart with a minimum 2-3 week turnaround time) to a streamlined authority item process. Similarly, all continuation scripts of Myfortic in patients with lupus nephritis could be changed to a streamlined authority system. The alternative system for PBS approval could be a secure online portal. In my opinion, it would be OK to maintain the current system for new patient applications or when there is a change in treatment (for non-response or safety reasons) or if you wish to register a response before treatment interruption (eg pregnancy).

The proposed change to a streamlined authority system for maintenance prescriptions would improve consumer access to timely continuation of their medicine, which is a regular problem with how the current system is operating. It would also reduce the admin load for prescribers as a secondary benefit.

Kind Regards, Paul Kubler  
(Director of Rheumatology & Clinical Pharmacology, RBWH)