



NEWSLETTER – May 2025

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Changes to Membership of the TPA

Longstanding Pharmacist Member and former Chair Kimbra Fitzmaurice left the TPA at the end of her appointment in April. In farewelling Kimbra, the Authority acknowledges her leadership and impact on guiding the Authority through a period of significant reformation, in particular the restoration of the TPA's inspection program. We wish Kimbra all the very best.

The TPA welcomes Emily Cooper who has been appointed as the new Pharmacist Member. Emily brings with her a wealth of experience in community and hospital pharmacy, and has a particular interest in change management, governance and risk management via six years of board experience.

Transition of administrative functions to the Department of Health

On Monday, 12 May 2025, the administrative functions of the Tasmanian Pharmacy Authority (TPA) will transition to be supported by the Department of Health (DoH).

Background

The TPA has experienced sustainability challenges for several years related to insufficient fee revenue affecting resourcing of day-to-day administrative and regulatory activities. At the request of the TPA, the Associate Secretary of DoH approved the transition of the TPA's day to day administrative functions to the Pharmaceutical Services Branch of DoH.

What is not changing

The TPA remains an independent statutory authority and retains overall responsibility for the regulation of pharmacy business ownership and the registration of pharmacy business premises consistent with the *Pharmacy Control Act 2001*.

The TPA consists of:

- (a) two registered pharmacists nominated by the Minister representing the professional interests of pharmacists; and
- (b) a non-pharmacist, nominated by the Minister representing the interests of the consumers.

Chairperson: Ms Allyson Warrington, Community Member – BBus (Mktg, Int Bus), FAMI, CPM, FAICD
 Members: Ms Kate Jamrozik, Pharmacist Member – BPharm, MPS CredPharm (MMR)
 Ms Emily Cooper, Pharmacist Member – BPharm, ProfHons (ClinPharm), MCLinPharm FANZCAP (GeriMed), MSHPA

What is changing

The Department of Health's Pharmaceutical Services Branch (PSB) will provide administrative services to the TPA. This includes the role of the Registrar, licensing and inspection of pharmacy business premises. The TPA has appointed Karen Dart as the Registrar.

Important Details

Registrar: Karen Dart

Registrar Phone Number: 03 6166 0400. **Please note this is the same contact number as for PSB.**

Registrar Email: tpa@health.tas.gov.au

Website: www.health.tas.gov.au/professionals/professional-resources-health-topic/tasmanian-pharmacy-authority

Banking: The banking details of the TPA have changed and the updated details will be included on all new invoices. **Please ensure you update your records when you receive a new invoice.**

Automated collection points in pharmacies

The TPA has received a number of requests from owners wishing to install automated collection points in their pharmacy premises for customers to collect scheduled medicines outside of pharmacy opening hours. Owners are advised that such devices are specifically prohibited in Tasmania by *Poisons Act 1971* s80 which states:

80. Selling certain substances by means of automatic machines prohibited

A person shall not –

- (a) whether on or about his premises or elsewhere –
 - (i) install an automatic machine for the sale or supply of a scheduled substance; or
 - (ii) sell or supply such a substance by means of an automatic machine;
- (b) permit or suffer an automatic machine designed for, or capable of being used for, the sale of such a substance to be installed on his premises or on premises under his control;
- (c) place such a substance or permit or suffer such a substance to be placed in any automatic machine on his premises or on premises under his control; or
- (d) permit or suffer a person to buy or be supplied with or otherwise obtain such a substance by means of an automatic machine on the premises of, or under the control of, the first-mentioned person.

Penalty: Fine not exceeding 10 penalty units or imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months, together with a daily fine not exceeding 0.2 penalty unit in the case of a continuing offence.

In order for the installation and use of these units to become allowable legislative amendment would be required.

Pharmacy key registers

To facilitate the requirement for pharmacies to maintain a security access register for all pharmacy keys and alarm codes, the TPA has developed a [register template](#) for owners to use.