**Privacy collection notice**

**(Medicinal Cannabis funding application)**

The Department of Veterans’ Affairs is committed toensuring personal information provided for determining medicinal cannabis funding applications is handled in accordance with the *Privacy Act 1988 (Cth*) (Privacy Act).

**Who is collecting your personal information?**

Your personal information is being collected by the Commonwealth of Australia, represented by the Department of Veterans’ Affairs (ABN 23 964 290 824) (**‘Us’**, **‘We’**, **‘Our’**).

**What personal information is being collected?**

Your personal information that is being collected from your treating doctor as part of your application for funded medicinal cannabis includes:

* Name
* Date of birth
* DVA reference number
* Applicable health conditions
* Information relating to your prescribed medicinal cannabis products.

**Why is your personal information being collected?**

Eligible DVA clients can access subsidised pharmaceutical items through the Repatriation Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (RPBS), administered by the Department of Veterans’ Affairs (DVA). This includes all items available to the general community under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS), items on the separate Repatriation Schedule of Pharmaceutical Benefits which is exclusive to RPBS beneficiaries, as well as some unlisted items (including medicinal cannabis).

A small number of pharmaceuticals (including medicinal cannabis) require prior approval from DVA before an authority prescription script can be provided, due to the nature of the drug or the intended conditions of use.

The administration of the RPBS is authorised through the following legislation:

* [*National Health Act 1953*](https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/C2021C00047) (NHA)
* [*Veterans’ Entitlements Act 1986*](https://www.legislation.gov.au/Series/C2004A03268) (VEA)
* [*Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation (Defence-related Claims) Act 1988*](https://www.legislation.gov.au/Series/C1988A00156) (DRCA)
* [*Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2004*](https://www.legislation.gov.au/Series/C2004A01285) (MRCA)
* [*Australian Participants in British Nuclear Tests (Treatment) Act 2006*](https://www.legislation.gov.au/Series/C2006A00135) (BNT)
* [*Treatment Benefits (Special Access) Act 2019*](https://www.legislation.gov.au/Series/C2019A00041) (SEATO)

The purpose of collecting this information is to enable DVA to make a determination about your application for funded medicinal cannabis through the RPBS.

**Who will we disclose your personal information to?**

We will not disclose your personal information unless it is authorised by law or we otherwise have your consent to disclose it.

**How will we manage your personal information?**

Access to your personal information will be restricted only to those staff who have a need to see it and it will be stored securely and confidentially. Your personal information will be disposed of securely when no longer legally required to be held by us. We will not disclose your personal information overseas.

**What will happen if we don’t collect your personal information?**

By providing your personal information to us, including information about, you consent to our collecting and handling your personal information in accordance with this privacy collection notice. If you do not consent, we will be unable to make a determination about your medicinal cannabis funding application.

**Our Privacy Policy**

You can find out more about accessing and/or correcting your personal information with us, making a complaint and about our approach to managing personal information via our privacy policy which you can find at [www.dva.gov.au/privacy-policy](http://www.dva.gov.au/privacy-policy). For information about our privacy policy, please contact [Information.Law@dva.gov.au](mailto:Information.Law@dva.gov.au)

If you have any questions about the collection of your personal information in accordance with this privacy collection notice, please contact [department.response.managament.team@dva.gov.au](mailto:department.response.managament.team@dva.gov.au)