

Special Access Scheme (SAS): Supply of Therapeutic Vapes

- The data we receive relating to the number of therapeutic vapes supplied in Australia is limited to submissions from health professionals involved in the supply of therapeutic vapes.
- We do not hold prescription or dispensing data for vapes sold in Australian pharmacies.
- There are two lawful pathways for accessing therapeutic vapes:
 1. Pharmacist Model (SAS Category C Schedule 3): Patients aged 18 and over may access therapeutic vapes directly from a pharmacy without a prescription, provided the nicotine concentration does not exceed 20 mg/mL.
 2. Prescription Model (Schedule 4): Patients require a prescription from a medical or nurse practitioner before a participating pharmacy will dispense a therapeutic vape. This includes access via SAS Category B, SAS Category C, and the Authorised Prescriber (AP) pathway.
- Under the prescription model, we do not receive notifications for each dispensed vape.
- Therefore, the notifications we receive do not represent the total volume of therapeutic vapes being supplied through pharmacies, as they do not include the number of products supplied to patients under a prescription from a health practitioner, including via the AP pathway.
- Please note that historical data may differ to previous reports as notifications relating to supply made in earlier months are reviewed and updated to ensure accuracy.

Table 1 - SAS C S3 Pharmacist Notifications of Supply and Unique Consulting Locations*

By Month	Count of SAS C S3 Notifications	Count of Unique Consulting Locations [†]
2024	14755	1026
Oct	4431	618
Nov	4877	647
Dec	5447	687
2025	49324	1445
Jan	6382	678
Feb	6348	677
Mar	6897	727
Apr	7143	696
May	7952	735
Jun	7252	703
Jul	7350	724
Grand Total	64079	1722

*Information about the pharmacies where S3 vaping goods are supplied are recorded as the consulting location, provided to the TGA as a free text field on each SAS submission. Counts of unique consulting locations are obtained by removing duplicates of identical entries. This data is not validated and as such may contain duplicates of single consulting locations where there are variations in the text entered on different SAS submissions.

†As there are duplicates in consulting locations over separate months, unique consulting locations are calculated for the period indicated in each row. The grand total covers the entire requested period (1 October 2024 to 31 July 2025) and is not a sum of the numbers in the column.