Quality Use of Medicines relies on clear medicine labels.
To reduce medication errors, medicine labels need to be more consistent, with important information made more prominent and easier to read.
The TGA has introduced changes to help bring Australian medicine labels up to date and align them with international best practice. The changes will help Australians to make more informed choices about their medicines and to use them more safely.

Active ingredient prominence
• Active ingredients will be more obvious on the front of the medicine pack.
• Active ingredients will be located below or next to the medicine name on front panel.
• Larger minimum text size than old labels.
• Easier comparison between medicines.

Easier pharmacy dispensing
• Prescription medicine cartons must include the medicine name on three non-opposing sides to improve identification of medicines in dispensaries.
• Prescription medicines will require a dedicated space for attaching a dispensing label.

Clearer medicine information
• Colour contrast rules to improve legibility.
• Critical Health Information table in a consistent format on over-the-counter medicines to make important information easier to locate.
• More declarable substances, such as allergens, now required on the label.

Updated ingredient names
• Australian medicine ingredient names are changing to align with names used internationally.
• Most are minor changes. More significant changes will continue to use both the old and new name for a period.