



Australian
BORDER FORCE

Australian Customs Notice No. 2021/37

New Restrictions for the Import and Export of Nicotine Vaping Products

From 1 October 2021, all nicotine for human use, including vaping products, such as nicotine e-cigarettes, nicotine pods and liquid nicotine, will be contained within Schedule 4 (prescription only medicines) of [The Poisons Standard](#) and will be regulated at the border by the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA). These changes mean that any import of nicotine vaping products must comply with the [Therapeutic Goods Act 1989](#). The TGA has also introduced the [TGO 110 Standard for Nicotine Vaping Products](#) supplied domestically within Australia to align with this regulatory change.

Personal use importations

Australian patients can access nicotine vaping products from overseas so long as they comply with the conditions of the [personal importation scheme](#). Under the scheme, patients can order a maximum of three months' supply at one time and a maximum of 15 months' supply in a 12-month period. All importations must be supported by a valid prescription from an Australian medical practitioner at the time of import.

Any imports which are not supported by a valid prescription or are in excess of the prescribed amount may be assessed by the TGA to be unlawful under the *Therapeutic Goods Act 1989* and may be seized as prohibited imports under the [Customs Act 1901](#).

Australian medical practitioners whose patients require more than a 3-month supply can apply to the TGA for approval to import under the [Special Access Scheme](#) or the [Authorised Prescriber Scheme](#).

Passenger exemption

Passengers who arrive in Australia with nicotine vaping products in their accompanied baggage will be able to retain their products so long as they have a valid prescription and no more than a three month supply at the maximum recommended dosage.

Import and export for commercial supply

Prescription medicines, such as nicotine vaping products, must be approved by the TGA and registered in the [Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods \(ARTG\)](#) before they can be lawfully imported into, or supplied in, Australia for commercial purposes.

As there are currently no TGA approved nicotine vaping products included in the ARTG, any imports of nicotine vaping products will be 'unapproved' medicines. The TGA website contains information about importing unapproved nicotine vaping products for commercial supply.

Prescription medicines that are intended for commercial export only must generally be listed in the ARTG prior to export. These are known as 'export only' products. Export only nicotine vaping products are not subject to TGA assessment prior to listing in the ARTG.

Further information

Further information about the import and supply requirements for nicotine vaping products can be found at [Nicotine vaping products | Therapeutic Goods Administration \(TGA\)](#).



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