



Medicines Partnership of Australia

MEDIA RELEASE

The Medicines Partnership of Australia PBS Scorecard shows low and sustainable PBS growth.

An analysis of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme undertaken by the Medicines Partnership of Australia shows that by all measures the system is working well and spending is well under control.

The new PBS scorecard report should allay any budgetary concerns the Federal Government may have about the PBS.

The scorecard shows that growth in PBS expenditure and prescription volumes has been trending down since mid-2010.

In the 12 months to 31 March 2011, the overall growth in PBS expenditure and prescription volumes was just 2.8 per cent and close to negative 1 per cent respectively. This is the lowest growth the PBS has seen in recent years.

As a proportion of Australian GDP, government expenditure on the PBS has remained steady over the last 10 years, at between 0.6 per cent and 0.7 per cent of GDP.

The 10-year average growth in PBS spending in the last decade (2000-2010) was comfortably the lowest since the 1970s and is trending downwards.

According to the Government's own estimates, available in the Treasury's forward estimates in last year's Budget papers, the average real growth in PBS expenditure is likely to remain low in the foreseeable future, at 2.1 per cent.

The Medicines Partnership of Australia (MPA) is an alliance of peak industry associations representing key members in the supply chain that delivers medicines and pharmacy expertise to Australian consumers.

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The members of the MPA are Medicines Australia, the Australian Self-Medication Industry, the National Pharmaceutical Services Association, The Pharmacy Guild of Australia, the Pharmaceutical Society Australia and the Generic Medicines Industry Association