

ADHD medication prescribing for kids in Western Australia

WA's shared care model means your child doesn't need to see their specialist for every prescription. Here's how it all works.

What is shared care?

“Shared care” means your child’s ADHD specialist starts and oversees treatment, while your regular GP or nurse practitioner helps manage ongoing prescriptions and follow-up care.

This can make it easier for families to access repeat prescriptions closer to home without needing to see the specialist for every script.

How does it work?

After a specialist has started treatment, GPs and Nurse Practitioners can continue prescribing stimulant medication provided it is at the same dose and formulation.

Children under 18 years must see their specialist for review at least every 12 months until they are 18 years, then this increases to every 3 years.

Does my specialist need to appoint a co-prescriber?

Requirements for specialists to appoint the patient’s GP as a ‘co-prescriber’ are no longer in place.

For most patients this will mean their GP or nurse practitioner can continue stimulant treatment commenced by a specialist.

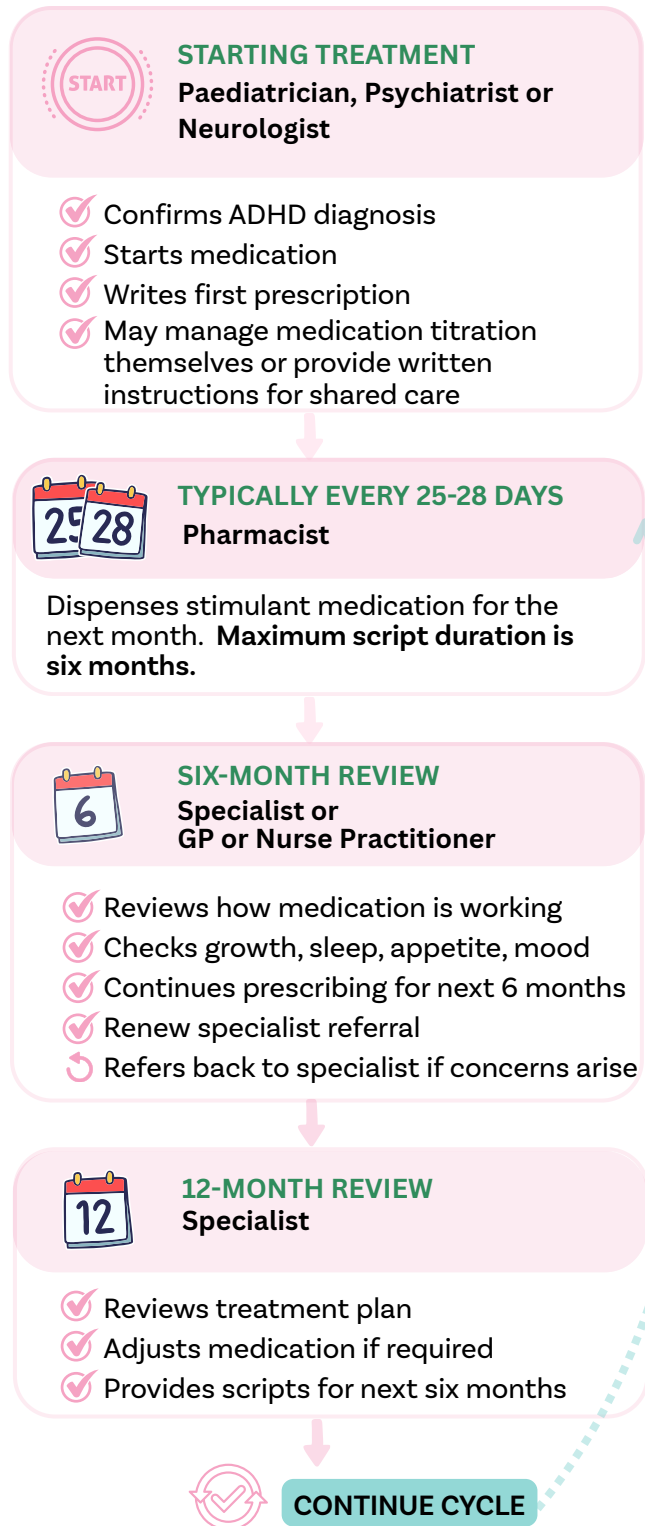
Who do I see about changing my child’s medication type or dose?

Your specialist remains the lead clinician overseeing treatment and is responsible for making changes to stimulant types and dosage.

GPs and Nurse Practitioners can only do this if they are provided clear written instructions by the specialist.

⚠ GP Training Program: A number of GPs are currently completing training to diagnose and initiate treatment for ADHD in children 10 years and over. Expect more info towards the end of 2026 when the first cohort graduates.

Example timeline: ADHD medication first prescription to annual review (under 18 years of age - Western Australia)



Important disclaimer

This information is general educational information only and is based on current Western Australian prescribing arrangements at the time of publication. Prescribing laws, Department of Health requirements, and individual clinic policies may change over time. Perth Kids Hub is not a medical provider and cannot provide medical advice. Families should confirm the latest requirements with their treating specialist, GP, nurse practitioner, or the WA Department of Health.