

Medication Pricing

Most medicinal cannabis medicines are not approved by the TGA and are not on the PBS. The cost is dependent on the active components (CBD or THC), the dose you are prescribed, the form of your medication and the volume dispensed at any one time.



Joan – CBD Full Spectrum 100mg/day

Joan is 67 years old and had a back injury several years ago. In 2006, she had a L4-L5 discectomy and fusion. She rated her daily pain at 8-10, felt a bit depressed and had difficulty sleeping. She was taking Targin 10/5 twice a day and Mirtazepine 30 mg for sleep. She also has gastritis and takes Nexium 20 mg daily.

She commenced medicinal cannabis treatment 6 months ago, and her symptoms stabilised at a dose of 100 mg/day of full spectrum CBD.

Her first prescription was for CBD full spectrum (35 ml bottle of 50 mg/ml), at a starting dose of 0.15 mls twice daily, increasing the dose every 3 days as directed, up to 1.0 ml twice daily.

Joan's first bottle lasted 26 days and cost \$265, which equated to **\$10.19/day**.

Joan's second bottle of CBD full spectrum 50 mg/ml was 60 ml and lasted 30 days at a cost of \$345, which equated to **\$11.50/day**.

Joan found the medicine helpful but wanted to reduce costs as much as possible. The pharmacist suggested the next bottle be dispensed in a 100 ml bottle. The 100ml bottle cost \$445 and lasted for 50 days, equal to **\$8.90/day**.

Barry – CBD:THC 25mg lozenge

Barry is 52 years old, with an extensive medical history following a car accident in 2009, and bowel cancer in 2012 treated with surgery and chemotherapy. He also has hypertension and feels a bit down due to difficulty sleeping. He has chronic pain in his neck and back, and his right foot has secondary pain and peripheral neuropathy after his chemotherapy treatment. His medications include Tapentadol SR 50 mg twice a day, Gabapentin 600 mg twice a day, Lyrica 150 mg three times a day, Endone 5 mg up to 4 times a day when needed, Escitalopram 10 mg, Amlodipine 10 mg, Pantoprazole 40 mg daily, and Simvastatin 20 mg.



Barry started his treatment 4 months ago on a balanced CBD:THC lozenge twice a day starting with 1/8 lozenge at night for the first week, and slowly increasing the dose weekly as directed.

Barry's first prescription was for CBD:THC 1:1 12.5mg lozenge (30) costing \$325 and lasting 28 days, averaging to **\$11.60/day**.

On Barry's second prescription his dose was increased to a 25 mg lozenge, costing \$495 for 60 lozenges lasting 60 days, working out at **\$8.25/day**.

If you have any questions regarding pricing, call your pharmacy on 1300 119 577.