

Psychotropic Drug Advisory Service (PDAS)



What we do?

PDAS is a Victorian statewide specialist service, based at Alfred Health. PDAS provides independent information on psychiatric medicines and other psychoactive substances to a broad customer base, including consultant psychiatrists, general practitioners, allied health professionals, consumers, carers, and other support organisations.

Who provides the service?

Pharmacists experienced in medicines management within the specialty of mental health.

Who can access our service?

We welcome queries from all Victorians (health professionals and the general public).

How to contact us?

Email: PDAS@alfred.org.au

Phone: (03) 9076 8036 | Mobile 0417 536 655

Monday to Friday 9:00am to 5:00pm



After hours and Public Holidays: you are welcome to either, leave a message – please provide your contact details; – or send an email. A team member will respond to your query as soon as possible.

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PDAS provides patient-focused advice to various healthcare providers to optimise the safe and efficacious use of psychotropic medicines, and support clinicians with medication decision-making.

Some sample types of enquiries:

- **Medication identification** e.g. international medications or clinical trial medications.
- **Treatment resistance** e.g. what medicine(s) may be appropriate when my patient has not responded or tolerated a number of previous medications?
- **Physical or medical comorbidities** e.g. are any psychotropic medications contraindicated? Are the psychotropic medications implicated in developing or worsening a particular medical condition?
- **Medication interactions** (including psychotropic medicines, physical health medicines, illicit substances, complementary and herbal medications).
- **Investigation and management of medication-related side effects**
- **Direction to recent guidelines or evidence** to promote best practice.
- **Medication monitoring** (including plasma drug levels, metabolic monitoring and/or pharmacogenomics)

What other services does PDAS provide?

PDAS can also provide **internal or external education and presentations** to healthcare professionals, non-government organisations and other groups or forums.

The information is framed to meet your needs, and can be delivered in a number of different ways.