

Dear Quitcard Provider

The New Quitcard – important information!

I hope you are well and looking forward to Spring! Spring is all about change – and so is this bulletin...which is my way of trying to make sure you read this as it contains some important information!

As you are probably aware, from September 1st it will be possible for people to obtain NRT via prescription. To tie in with this, the Quitcard has been re-designed to more closely resemble a prescription form. It is basically the same but with a few small but important changes – please note these carefully so we can avoid any confusion.

Simple guide to the new Quitcard

1. From September 1st, please only give out the NEW Quitcard. Any old cards can be recycled. Your new Quitcards will be delivered in plenty of time for that start date.
2. Old Quitcards? Any client who has already received an old-style Quitcard will have three months to use them. They will be invalid from December 1st.
3. When your new Quitcards arrive, they will be accompanied with an updated Guide to NRT Assessment and Quitcards form (the green form with the flowchart). This will include instructions on how to use the new Quitcard. To get you ready, here are the main changes:
 - The cost of NRT has changed, to match the cost of a regular prescription. Clients will now be charged \$3 per **type** of NRT (not per amount of NRT, or per card).
 - Thus 8 weeks of high dose patches can be written as one item, and will be charged \$3; 4 weeks of high dose patches plus 4 weeks of medium dose patches will cost \$6.
4. A full programme of eight weeks NRT (including co-therapy, eg 8 weeks of high dose patches, plus 4 weeks of gum or lozenges to be taken as a top up) can be put onto one Quitcard. The pharmacist will still dispense each NRT type for four weeks' supply at a time, but a further Quitcard won't be necessary.
5. The new Quitcard has space for an identifier/registration number. Please always use MC88888.
6. Issue date - Quit Cards will be valid for 90 days from the issuing date to the date presented to pharmacy.

These are the main changes that you will notice, and hopefully it will all make sense when you start using them! As mentioned above, the green guide that help you assess NRT usage has been updated with the new Quitcard and instructions, so should make everything crystal clear. That will arrive with your new Quitcards.

If you have any questions, please contact me on 04 460 9880 from Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 5.00pm, or email me at tracey.pirihi@quit.org.nz.

Kind regards

Tracey Pirihi
Quitcards Co-ordinator