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## Pharmaceutical Database as open data

The Pharmaceutical Database service is a service maintained by the Social Insurance Institution of Finland (hereinafter “Kela”) and is part of the Kanta Services. The Pharmaceutical Database service includes maintenance of the Pharmaceutical Database referred to in the The Electronic Prescriptions Act (61/2007, as amended) and the production and distribution of new versions thereof.

This service description applies to the distribution of the Pharmaceutical Database as open data.

### Definitions

**Pharmaceutical Database service** means the national information system service arranged by Kela under the provisions of the Act on the Electronic Processing of Client Data in Healthcare and Social Welfare (703/2023).

**The Pharmaceutical Database** is a database within the meaning of the Electronic Prescriptions Act that includes information necessary for the prescribing and dispensing of a medicine, its price and reimbursement status, interchangeable medicinal products, compensable emollient creams and clinical nutritional products, and other product groups defined by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health Decree. More detailed descriptions of the Pharmaceutical Database data content can be found on kanta.fi.

**Pharmaceutical Database intermediary** means an organisation that provides the Pharmaceutical Database to social and health care providers, prescribers or pharmacies.

### Pharmaceutical Database data access

The Pharmaceutical Database is distributed as open data on kanta.fi. The open data in the Pharmaceutical Database is licensed under the CC BY 4.0 license<sup>1</sup>. Kela must be mentioned as the source and it must be indicated if changes are made to the data content.

A customer using the Prescription service can obtain the Pharmaceutical Database information through a Pharmaceutical Database intermediary of their choice or directly from

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<sup>1</sup> <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/deed.fi>

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Kela. When using Pharmaceutical Database information for prescribing or dispensing a medicine, the following duties must be observed:

- According to the Electronic Prescriptions Act, an electronic prescription must contain information on a drug or medicinal product in accordance with the Pharmaceutical Database. Information systems and supporting software used in the preparation and filling of an electronic prescription must be implemented so that information concerning the medicines is based on the Pharmaceutical Database.
- According to the Electronic Prescriptions Decree (485/2008, as amended), information in accordance with the Pharmaceutical Database on medicines, reimbursable emollient creams and clinical nutritional products must be updated in the prescribing and dispensing software on the 1st and 15th day of each month.
- Any fixes in the Pharmaceutical Database should also be updated in the prescribing and dispensing software.
- Errors, deviations and incidents related to the content of the Pharmaceutical Database and the operation of the Pharmaceutical Database are must be reported promptly to the Kanta Support services during production, contact information below.

## Pharmaceutical Database Distribution Schedule

Kela will produce a new version of the Pharmaceutical Database for retrieval on kanta.fi by 2:00 p.m. on the third working day of Kela before the 1st and 15th day of each month. According to the collective agreement, Kela does not work on church holidays, Saturdays, Sundays, May Day, Midsummer Eve, Independence Day or Christmas Eve. If the Pharmaceutical Database version cannot be published on kanta.fi, as a backup, Kela can send the Pharmaceutical Database by email to those who have registered in the Pharmaceutical Database e-mail distribution list.

## Kela's responsibilities as the organiser of the Pharmaceutical Database service

Kela produces the Pharmaceutical Database in accordance with the Electronic Prescriptions Act and the decree and regulations issued thereunder. Kela uses decision-making authority on Pharmaceutical Database details and maintains the Pharmaceutical Database

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configuration. Kela can update the service description if, for example, legislation or the operating environment changes.

Kela maintains the Pharmaceutical Database and produces a new version of the Pharmaceutical Database for retrieval on kanta.fi according to the schedule described above. In the Pharmaceutical Database, Kela will forward the information reported by Fimea, the Pharmaceutical Pricing Board, marketing authorisation holders, manufacturers, importers and other data providers for the Pharmaceutical Database as provided to Kela. However, Kela may correct any inaccurate or otherwise found to be abnormal. If necessary, Kela can produce a corrected version of the Pharmaceutical Database.

Kela will inform about matters related to the production and development of the Pharmaceutical Database service, as well as possible errors, corrections and incidents, on the Kanta Services website at [www.kanta.fi](http://www.kanta.fi) and/or by email to those registered in the Pharmaceutical Database e-mail distribution list.

## Liability for Damages

Compensation for any damages is governed by the Tort Liability Act. Kela's liability is limited to damages caused by the inaccuracy of information independently developed or modified by Kela.

Kela is not liable for consequential damages.

Kela is not responsible for the supplementation, deletion, alteration or development of the data in the Pharmaceutical Database by Pharmaceutical Database intermediaries or exploitants.

Force majeure

- A reason for exemption (force majeure) is an unusual and relevant event that prevents the fulfilment of the obligations related to the provision of the medical database service, which Kela had no reason to take into account, which is independent of Kela and the consequences of which cannot be prevented without unreasonable additional costs or unreasonable loss of time. Such an event may be war, insurrection, requisition or seizure for a public purpose, import or export ban, natural disaster, interruption of public transport or energy supply, lockout, fire or any

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other cause having an equally important and unusual effect and independent of Kela.

- If the delay in fulfilling the obligation to provide the Pharmaceutical Database Service is due to such force majeure, the time for fulfilling the obligation shall be extended by such amount as is reasonable under all the circumstances of the case.
- Kela will immediately notify you of a force majeure and of its end on kanta.fi.
- Force majeure exempts Kela from the obligation to provide evidence and from liability for errors and damages.

## Contact information

Support service during production: tekninentuki@kanta.fi, tel. +358 20 63 47787

Customer and general information on Kanta services: kanta@kanta.fi