



COUNCIL FOR MEDICAL SCHEMES



Council uses RSS feeds

To: Medical scheme members, employees of medical schemes, Boards of Trustees, managed care organisations, administrators and healthcare brokers

The Council for Medical Schemes (CMS) has implemented RSS feeds as a method of “pushing” sharing important announcements, Circulars and Press Releases with its stakeholders. This Circular provides more information on RSS feeds, links to our RSS feeds, and instructions on how to subscribe to our feeds.

What is an RSS feed?

Content publishers (such as the CMS) use Really Simple Syndication (RSS) to disseminate news, blogs and other content to their website subscribers. You can view RSS content with an RSS reader such as the one built into the latest version of Microsoft Office Outlook (2007), Internet Explorer 7 web browser, or the latest versions of the Safari or Firefox web browsers.

Using RSS, publishers make content and updates available for download by subscribers automatically. Not all content on websites is available as an RSS feed, but the list is growing daily. The website of the CMS is RSS-enabled.

How does RSS work?

RSS readers allow you to subscribe to RSS feeds and then to read content or follow links for additional information. Whenever you see a link to a feed or an RSS icon such as the one at the top of this page, just click on it. You should then be directed to an area where you can automatically subscribe to that RSS feed. Some readers can be set to synchronise with our RSS feeds according to a schedule that suits your needs.

Subscribing to an RSS feed is quick and easy, and does not involve a registration process or fee. Once you have subscribed to an RSS feed, headlines will appear in your RSS folders in your reader. RSS items look a lot like e-mail messages. When you see a headline that interests you, just click on the item to access it.

How do I subscribe to RSS feeds?

You need an RSS reader on your computer.

We recommend you use the reader that is already built into the latest version of Microsoft Office Outlook (2007). If you are using Outlook 2007, simply click on the following link; it will automatically install the RSS feed of the CMS in Outlook:

outlookfeed://www.medicalscchemes.com/rss.xml

If you prefer to use your web browser to read our RSS feeds, we suggest the following:

If you are using Mozilla Firefox:

Make sure you have the latest version of Firefox installed:

<http://www.mozilla.com/products/download.html?product=firefox-3.0&os=win&lang=en-GB>

Go to <http://www.medicalscchemes.com/rss.xml> and click on the **Subscribe to this feed using Live Bookmarks** option, as shown below:



Plug-ins are small programs that work within your browser. There are several plug-ins available which enhance the browser's ability to read RSS feeds. You can also install the following plug-ins for Firefox:

Sage, available at: <https://addons.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/downloads/file/31866/sage-1.4.2-fx.xpi> or

Tiny Tiny RSS Notifier, available at: https://addons.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/downloads/file/31733/tiny_tiny_rss_notifier-2.0.3-fx.xpi


Enter the address to our RSS feeds (<http://www.medicalschemes.com/rss.xml>) when prompted or under the Options Section of either application.

If you are using Internet Explorer:

Make sure you have the latest version of Windows Explorer installed:

<http://www.microsoft.com/windows/products/winfamily/ie/default.msp>

Go to <http://www.medicalschemes.com>

1. When you visit our homepage, the **Feeds** button  will change colour, letting you know that feeds are available. Click on the **Feeds** button. It will take you to our feeds page. To receive content automatically, subscribe to our feed. Click on the **Subscribe to this Feed** button and then on **Subscribe to this Feed**.
2. Type in a name for the feed and select the folder for it.
3. Click on **Subscribe**.
4. To view your subscribed feeds, click on the **Favorites Center** button, then on **Feeds**.

Third-party RSS readers

There are a number of good third-party RSS readers available on the market and some of them are available for free. Third-party readers are normally installed as stand-alone applications and have rich features such as a notification chime and windows which pop up as a new feed is being received.

A very nice reader available for download without charge is SharpReader.

You need the .Net framework on your Windows machine first before installing SharpReader.

To download and install the .Net framework, click on this link:

<http://msdn.microsoft.com/netframework/downloads/howtoget.aspx>

To download and install SharpReader, click on this link:

http://www.sharpreader.net/SharpReader0970_Setup.exe

Once SharpReader is installed, it will open its own browser page with some pre-installed feeds displayed in the right panel. Delete these feeds if you do not wish to subscribe to them. Add the following address to the Address bar of the browser: <http://www.medicalschemes.com/rss.xml>, then press **Enter**. This will open the CMS feeds. Now click on the **Subscribe** button next to the Address bar.

COUNCIL FOR MEDICAL SCHEMES - SharpReader


File Tools Help

Refresh Subscribe Address: <http://www.medicalschemes.com/rss.xml> Search

Subscribed Feeds (21/22)

COUNCIL FOR MEDICAL SCHEMES

Title	Date	Author	Subject
2009 Contribution and Benefit Changes: Medical Schemes Act 131 of 1998	07/15/08 01:37 PM		
Attention, Renaissance members	07/03/08 12:02 PM		
Medshield to terminate Medshield contract with Old Mutual Healthcare	07/01/08 16:18 AM		
CMS News published	07/01/08 09:52 AM		
CMS Script Newsletter for June 2008 Published	06/30/08 10:34 AM		
Council Removes Medshield Trustees	06/27/08 01:40 PM		
2008 Quarter 1 online statutory return program available on our website	06/18/08 03:07 PM		
CMS publishes Research Brief 2 of 2008	06/18/08 16:32 AM		
Report from Renaissance Curator	06/18/08 16:26 AM		
Johannesburg High Court places Renaissance Medical Scheme under curatorship	05/29/08 03:43 PM		
CMS applies to court to place Renaissance Medical Scheme under curatorship	05/13/08 04:57 PM		
PRESS RELEASE 4 of 2008: GUARDRISK: COUNCIL FOR MEDICAL SCHEMES FILES APPLICATION FOR LEAVE TO APPEAL TO CONSTITUTIONAL COURT	04/22/08 11:15 AM		
PRESS RELEASE 3 of 2008: REPORT ON MEDICAL SCHEMES COST INCREASES	04/03/08 01:07 PM		
2008 REVIEW OF PRESCRIBED MINIMUM BENEFITS	03/07/08 09:11 AM		
QUARTERLY RETURNS REPORT (QUARTER 3 - 2007) PUBLISHED	02/26/08 00:53 AM		
PLAINTED MEDICOVER AGM UNLAWFUL	02/26/08 00:50 AM		
CMS NEWSFLASH: DEFAMATION	01/24/08 12:44 PM		
REGISTRAR OF MEDICAL SCHEMES WARNS HOSPITAL GROUPS OF INTENDED COURT ACTION	12/28/07 12:58 PM		
REGISTRAR OF MEDICAL SCHEMES PUBLISHES DECISIONS ON APPROVAL OF MEDICAL SCHEMES BENEFITS OPTIONS FOR 2008	12/05/07 09:55 AM		



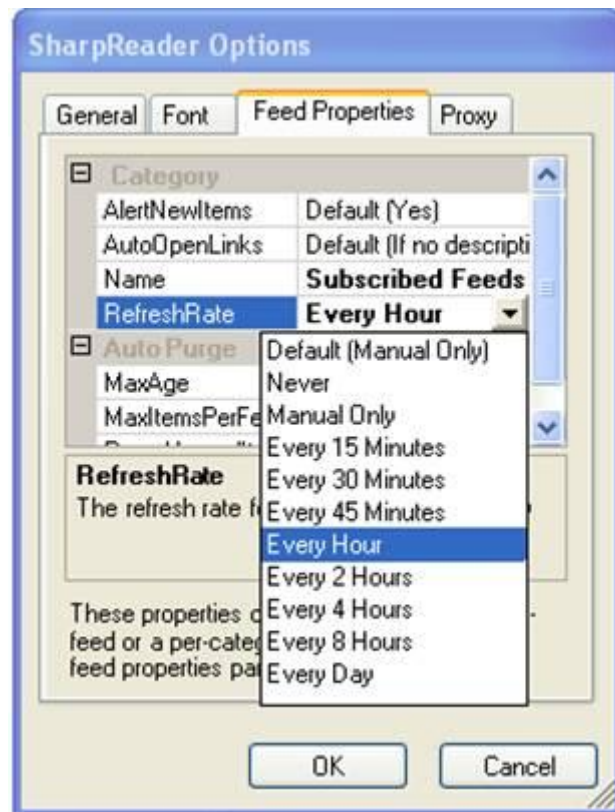
**Council
For Medical Schemes**

Feed: COUNCIL FOR MEDICAL SCHEMES
Title: 2009 Contribution and Benefit Changes: Medical Schemes Act 131 of 1998

The Council for Medical schemes is still in the process of finalizing the development of a contributions and benefits template as indicated in circular 33 of 2007. Due to unforeseen circumstances, the process has been delayed and will be communicated to the stakeholders in due course. However scheme are encouraged to follow the submission process as outlined in attached Circular. Please click on the link to download and read more.

<http://www.medicalschemes.com/publications/ZipPublications/Circulars/Circular%2019%20of%202008.pdf>

You are now subscribed to our feed. To set the frequency with which SharpReader must check for new updates, click on **Tools**, then **Feed Properties** and then the **RefreshRate** setting, and set it according to your preference.



We trust that you find this facility useful.

Should you experience any difficulty with this facility, submit an enquiry to it@medicalschemes.com.

Kind regards

Jaap Kügel

Senior IT Manager

Council for Medical Schemes