

F A C S I M I L E

To **All New Zealand Pharmacies, IPA Pharmacy Facilitators and Wholesalers**

Fax **Autodial**

From **Kaye Wilson, Schedule Analyst**

Subject **Listing of alternate brand of diclofenac sodium tab EC 25 mg and 50 mg, and addition of Close Control monthly for timolol maleate 0.5% eye drops**

Date **05 May 2010** Pages 5

Dear Pharmacist and Wholesaler

Diclofenac sodium tab EC 25 mg and 50 mg

We have been advised by Sandoz that they are changing their brand name of diclofenac sodium EC 25 mg and 50 mg tablets from Diclohexal to Diclofenac Sandoz, effective immediately. Consequently, PHARMAC will be subsidising the new brand of diclofenac sodium EC 25 mg and 50 mg tablets from 05 May 2010 as follows:

Chemical and presentation	Brand	Pack Size	Pharmacode	Price and subsidy
Diclofenac sodium tab EC 25 mg	Diclofenac Sandoz	50	2355981	\$1.63
Diclofenac sodium tab EC 50 mg	Diclofenac Sandoz	50	2356007	\$2.13

Note prices shown are ex-manufacturer, excl GST

Please note:

- The above brand, strengths and pack sizes will be listed in Section B of the Pharmaceutical Schedule from Wednesday 05 May 2010 and will be fully subsidised from that date.
- Sole Supply Status on the Diclohexal brand of diclofenac sodium tab EC 25 mg and 50 mg has been transferred to Diclofenac Sandoz from 05 May 2010.
- The Diclohexal tab EC 25 mg and 50 mg will be delisted from the Pharmaceutical Schedule from 1 November 2010.
- Instructions on how to amend pharmacy software systems have been provided.

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Please note that Ministry of Health Sector Services will be unable to process claims for May dispensings of Diclofenac Sandoz until the first claim submitted in June. Please hold claims for these dispensings and submit these with the first claim batch for June.

LOTS Users

To Add New Diclofenac Stockcards

The two new products Diclofenac 25 mg EC Sandoz tablets and Diclofenac 50 mg EC Sandoz tablets will be added automatically into your LOTS system by the **June** Monthly Update.

If you're likely to use these two stockcards earlier please **download** the new drug file. From the LOTS Start Menu, go to Tools, LOTS Update, Download Monthly Update.

If you don't have broadband then you can manually add in the drug cards as below:

1. Go to Stockcards
2. Select 'New Card'
3. Select 'Yes' to the question "Will this stock item be dispensed as a drug?"
4. Enter the following details

Product Name	PLU	Quantity	List Cost	Subsidy Cost (Normal & High)
Diclofenac 25mg EC Sandoz T	2355981	Outer is 1 of 50	\$1.79	\$1.63
Diclofenac 50mg EC Sandoz T	2356007	Outer is 1 of 50	\$2.34	\$2.13

5. Select 'Drug Information' Tab
6. Change the Indication Name to 'Own'
7. Enter the subsidy Normal and High as above
8. Select 'Search' and then 'Yes' to save the changes
9. Repeat steps 2 to 7 for each drug
10. Exit and Select 'Yes' to save the changes.

Note:

- Ministry of Health Sector Services is unable to process these PDE's until the first claim in June. Either let it claim as usual so that it appears on the errors report as a reminder to reclaim in June or tick 'Don't claim' on these scripts and take note of the script number and claim later in June.
- After running the June update, use the LOTS 'General' card for dispensing from June onwards.

TONIQ Users

DICLOFENAC SANDOZ is NOT currently on the Toniq medicine file at all and must be added.

Toniq users with broadband internet available to their Toniq program should download a new medicine file, and then make it effective immediately:

- 1) Download the new file:
Go to 7. Administration, 4. Download/check medicine files, press **F4 Check/Net**, Select Medicine Update May 10 (in blue with an effective date of May 10), press **F7 Dn/Ld**
When the file has downloaded, **F12 Accept Details**.

2) Make it effective

Immediately after the download, 7. Administration, 3. Update Medicines.
When the update finishes, the medicines will have been automatically added.
No further action is required.

Toniq users without Broadband Internet. Manually add these medicines as follows:

From the Toniq Dispensary program, Main Menu

1. Prescriptions

- **F7 Med**

	F3 Add	F3 Add
Brand	DICLOFENAC SANDOZ	DICLOFENAC SANDOZ
Gen. name	Diclofenac sodium	Diclofenac sodium
Strength	25mg EC	50mg EC
Units	<i>(leave blank)</i>	<i>(leave blank)</i>
Form	Tablets	Tablets
Pack size	50	50
Manuf.	SDOZ	SDOZ

Enter correct Pharmacode:	2355981 <	Overwrite system generated Id	>2356007
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Standard pricing.		
Std W/S Price:	1.79	2.33
PS Price:	1.79	2.33
Product prem.	0.00	0.00
	F11 Page 2	F11 Page 2
	F11 Page 3	F11 Page 3
Stat Start date	01/05/10	01/05/10
	F12 Accept	F12 Accept

Toniq Std W/S (wholesale price) is the manufacturers price plus 10% ex GST.

Toniq PS Price is the Pharmac subsidy + 10% ex GST.

Timolol maleate 0.5% eye drops

Due to a short supply of timolol maleate (Apo-Timop) 0.5% eye drops, PHARMAC's Chief Executive has approved the following temporary provision for stat prescriptions.

Timolol maleate (Apo-Timop) 0.5% eye drops

- From 5 May 2010 until further notice, a prescription for timolol maleate (Apo-Timop) 0.5% eye drops will not require annotation by the prescriber to be dispensed Close Control monthly.
- From 5 May 2010 until further notice, Pharmacists will be reimbursed all dispensing fees for prescriptions for timolol maleate (Apo-Timop) 0.5% eye drops that are dispensed Close Control monthly.

- Upon notice of the ending of the Close Control period, the remainder of repeats for a prescription for timolol maleate (Apo-Timop) 0.5% eye drops first dispensed Close Control monthly can either be (at the discretion of the pharmacist and stock availability)
 - completed Close Control monthly, or
 - dispensed stat where appropriate.
- Pharmacists will need to annotate any prescriptions dispensed Close Control for audit purposes.
- PHARMAC is investigating the possibility of listing an alternate brand(s) of timolol maleate (Apo-Timop) 0.5% eye drops but will advise any decision separately.
- Instructions on how to amend pharmacy software systems have been provided.

LOTS Users

Close control dispensing of “stat” medicine due to short supply

During this short supply period, if you are dispensing Apo Timop 0.5% as repeats, follow the prompt. i.e. say “Yes” to mark as close control. Make sure you also manually annotate the prescription.

If you would like to add a Dispensary Message to remind staff that this is now Close Control, go to the ‘Apo Timop 0.5%’ Stockcard, then to the Drug Information tab and click in the ‘User Dispensary Message’ field. You will need to remove the message when it comes off close control.

TONIQ Users

Setting ‘short supply’ close control monthly rule in Toniq (Wed 05th May 2010)

NB: Short supply close control monthly prompts must be setup (and lifted) manually in response to Pharmac notification.

From the Dispensary program’s main menu.

1. Prescriptions

- F7 Med

Select pcode	452955 <Enter> APO-TIMOP 5ml 0.5% Eye drops								
F11 Page 2									
F11 Page 3									
Set limited stock close control – parameters.									
Set START Date : 05/05/10 Set Rule to monthly. <i>Pharmac’s will notify by fax when stock is no longer short.</i> <i>WHEN this happens set the end date I to reflect the end of pharmacist endorsed close control on these meds in Toniq. .</i>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td colspan="2">Limited stock close control</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Start date</td> <td>05/05/10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>End date</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rule</td> <td>monthly</td> </tr> </table>	Limited stock close control		Start date	05/05/10	End date		Rule	monthly
Limited stock close control									
Start date	05/05/10								
End date									
Rule	monthly								

Thank you for your co-operation. We appreciate this is a disruption but thank you for your assistance. If you have any questions regarding the above, please contact PHARMAC on 0800 66 00 50 (9am-5pm Monday to Friday).

Yours sincerely



Kaye Wilson
Schedule Analyst