

F A C S I M I L E

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

From **PHARMAC**

Subject **Removal of pharmacist annotated Close Control monthly – timolol maleate (Apo-Timop) eye drops 0.5%**

Date **29 September 2010**

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Dear Pharmacist / Wholesaler

Due to a short supply, from 5 May 2010 timolol maleate (Apo-Timop) eye drops 0.5% were able to be dispensed Close Control monthly with pharmacist annotation. This supply situation has been resolved and PHARMAC is now providing notice that from **Wednesday 29 September 2010**, all new prescriptions for timolol maleate (Apo-Timop) eye drops 0.5% are to be dispensed stat (3 monthly) unless endorsed by a doctor that dispensing should be more frequent via the Close Control rule.

Please note that the remainder of repeats for a prescription of timolol maleate (Apo-Timop) eye drops 0.5% first dispensed Close Control monthly between **5 May 2010** and **28 September 2010** 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 that continue to be dispensed Close Control for audit purposes.

Instructions on removal of Close Control from your dispensing software for timolol maleate (Apo-Timop) eye drops 0.5% are included below.

If you have any questions regarding the above, please contact PHARMAC on 0800 66 00 50 (9:00am - 5:00pm, Monday to Friday).

Yours sincerely



Scott Brydon
Schedule Analyst

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Toniq Users:

Lifting of Limited Stock Close Control prompt on Apo-Timop 0.5% eye drops.

This MUST be done manually. To remove the prompt for short supply pharmacist endorsement of Close Control go to:

1. Prescriptions

- F7 Med

	0.5 % Eye Drops
Select the pcode and edit.	452955 APO-TIMOP
F11 Page 3	
Set END Date : 28/09/10 (be careful NOT to set the STAT end date <i>by mistake!</i>)	
F11 Page 1	
F12 Accept Details	

Lots Users:

For most of you, there will be nothing to do other than be aware that Apo-Timop 0.5% must be dispensed 'Stat' from 29 September 2010.

However, if you have a 'User Dispensary Message' on the Apo-Timpo 0.5% stockcard that refers to Close Control then please remove it by going into the stockcard , then to the Drug Information tab. Click in the User Disp Msg and delete using the backspace key.

The stockcard affected is:
Apo-Timop 0.5% (PLU **452955**)