

16 December 2010

January 2011 Pharmaceutical Schedule Dispatch

This document is provided to pharmacists as an early notification of the changes to be announced in the **January 2011** Update to the Pharmaceutical Schedule. Please notify PHARMAC (0800 66 00 50) to change or remove your contact details.

New listings

- Lactulose (Laevolac) oral liq 10 g per 15 ml, 1,000 ml – Only on a prescription (p'code 2149672)
- Sodium chloride (Multichem) inj 0.9%, 5 ml (p'code 2320541) and 10 ml (p'code 2320568) – Up to 5 inj available on a PSO
- Influenza vaccine inj, 10 inj pack (Fluvax p'code 2353113 and Fluarix p'code 2087731) – Hospital pharmacy [Xpharm]
- Nicotine (Habitrol) gum (classic) 2 mg, 96 pack (p'code 2336014) and 4 mg, 96 pack (p'code 2336022) – Nicotine will not be funded Close Control in amounts less than 4 weeks of treatment

New Brand Switch Payments

- Pharmacy Services (BSF Imuprine) brand switch fee (p'code 2377829) – no patient co-payment payable
- Pharmacy Services (BSF Dapa-Tabs) brand switch fee (p'code 2377827) – no patient co-payment payable
- Pharmacy Services (BSF Univent) brand switch fee (p'code 2377845) – no patient co-payment payable
- Pharmacy Services (BSF Arrow Terazosin) brand switch fee (p'code 2377853) – no patient co-payment payable

The above Pharmacodes correspond with the Brand Switch payments listed as part of the 2010 Pharmacy Services Contract. Full details on dispensing Brand Switch payments, along with resources to aid pharmacists in explaining brand switches were sent to pharmacies in late October 2010. For further resources please order from www.pharmaonline.co.nz. For more information in the meantime, visit: <http://www.pharmac.govt.nz/2010/10/17>

Changes to restrictions

- Moxifloxacin (Avelox) tab 400 mg – No patient co-payment payable
- Dapsone (Dapsone) tab 25 mg and 100 mg – removal of Section 29
- Bromocriptine mesylate (Apo-Bromocriptine) cap 5 mg – removal of Section 29
- Gabapentin (Nupentin) cap 100 mg, 300 mg and 400 mg – amended Special Authority criteria
- Vigabatrin (Sabril) tab 500 mg – amended Special Authority criteria
- Dexamphetamine sulphate (PSM) tab 5 mg – amended Special Authority criteria
- Methylphenidate hydrochloride tab immediate-release 5 mg (Rubifen), tab immediate-release 10 mg (Ritalin, Rubifen), tab immediate-release 20 mg (Rubifen), and tab sustained-release 20 mg (Rubifen SR, Ritalin SR) – amended Special Authority criteria
- Nicotine (Habitrol) gum (classic, fruit, mint) 2 mg and 4 mg, lozenge 1 mg and 2 mg, and patch 7 mg, 14 mg and 21 mg – removal of Original Pack (OP) – removal of all dispensing rules that currently apply (with the exception of the rule that Nicotine will not be funded Close Control in amounts less than 4 weeks, which will be retained)
- Mitomycin C (Arrow) inj 5 mg – removal of Section 29
- Tretinoin (Vesanoid) cap 10 mg – addition of PCT – Retail Pharmacy–Specialist
- Dermatological bases – removal from subsidised list of glycerol with paraffin and cetyl alcohol lotion, oily cream, and zinc cream BP

Decreased subsidy

Chemical	Presentation	Fully subsidised brands	Partially subsidised brands
Captopril	Tab 12.5 mg, 25 mg and 50 mg	m-Captopril	Apo-Captopril
Raltegravir potassium	Tab 400 mg	Isentress	
Vitamins	Tab (BPC cap strength)	MultiADE	Healtheries Multi-vitamin tablets

Increased Subsidy

Chemical	Presentation	Fully subsidised brands
Methotrexate	Inj 1 mg for ECP	Baxter

NB. For further details and magnitude of the above subsidy changes, please consult the online version of the Update to the Pharmaceutical Schedule at: www.pharmac.govt.nz/healthpros/Schedule.

2010 Annual Review

PHARMAC has published its 2010 Annual Review, our regular publication highlighting trends and issues in pharmaceutical use in New Zealand and internationally. This year's Annual Review features articles by external authors highlighting issues of Māori health, the role of community pharmacists, and drug development internationally.

The Review outlines how medicines have been used in New Zealand and illustrates long-term trends. In a feature article we also discuss our expanded role in managing hospital medicines.

Major points highlighted in the Annual Review include:

- The largest number of major investments in medicines since 1999 (45 in total);
- New investment decisions including medicines for arthritis and auto-immune conditions, pulmonary arterial hypertension, HIV/AIDS, smoking cessation, chronic myeloid leukaemia and various types of cancer;
- Managing community pharmaceutical spending on target: \$693.8 million against a budget of \$694 million;
- Completion of the Space to Breathe – He Tapu te Ha pilot project in Taranaki;
- Continued growth & promotion of the One Heart Many Lives cardiovascular campaign nationally;
- Review and update of the Consumer Advisory Committee's Terms of Reference; and
- Completing a project examining the optimal way for consumers to participate in PHARMAC's activities.

You can download the PHARMAC 2010 Annual Review online at <http://www.pharmac.govt.nz/patients/AccountabilityDocuments/AnnualReview>