

23 November 2004

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To All Pharmaceutical Suppliers, Medical Groups and Interested Parties*By facsimile (1 page)***CONSULTATION ON AMENDED TERMS OF LISTING FOR SINEMET ON THE PHARMACEUTICAL SCHEDULE**

PHARMAC has reached provisional agreement with Merck Sharp & Dohme for amended terms of listing for levodopa with carbidopa (Sinemet) in Section B of the Pharmaceutical Schedule from 1 April 2005. Acceptance of this agreement is subject to consultation and approval by the PHARMAC Board or Chief Executive under delegated authority.

If the provisional agreement is accepted Sinemet would:

- be subject to new confidential rebate provisions;
- have subsidy protection until 30 June 2008; and
- remain at the same price and subsidy as currently listed in the Pharmaceutical Schedule:

Chemical – brand	Presentation	Units per pack	Price and subsidy
Levodopa and carbidopa - Sinemet	100 mg with 25 mg tablet	100	\$20.00
Levodopa and carbidopa – Sinemet	250 mg with 25 mg tablet	100	\$57.50
Levodopa and carbidopa – Sinemet CR	200 mg with 25 mg long-acting tablet	100	\$70.00

Prices and subsidies are ex manufacturer, ex GST.

If you wish to make comments for the PHARMAC Board or Chief Executive to consider when making its decision on whether to accept the provisional agreement, please forward them to Hew Norris at PHARMAC by **4:00pm on Tuesday, 7 December 2004**.

Yours sincerely



Hew Norris
Therapeutic Group Manager