

## How DHBs be involved in Hospital Pharmaceutical Assessment Process (HPAP)?

Participation in the Hospital Pharmaceutical Assessment Process (HPAP) is consistent with the *National Hospital Pharmaceutical Strategy* and is intended to promote the following benefits:

- reduce duplication of work between DHBs;
- increase communication between DHBs;
- share knowledge and increase dialogue among DHBs and PHARMAC on clinical and financial issues relating to new pharmaceuticals;
- facilitate review by a number of experts; and
- improve national consistency of access to new pharmaceuticals.

In order to achieve the aims of the process, DHB involvement is crucial in the following areas:

1. DHB hospitals need to notify PHARMAC of what pharmaceuticals they are assessing in order that PHARMAC can prioritise what pharmaceuticals should be assessed. Under Section 4.2.2 of the Hospital Strategy, DHB hospitals are “expected to bring to PHARMAC’s attention any new pharmaceuticals being considered for introductory routine use in their hospital(s) or specific departments”. DHBs can do this by completing the assessment template, which is available to download from the PHARMAC website.
2. DHB hospitals need to keep PHARMAC up-to-date with the outcomes of their own assessment process, so that PHARMAC can update the HPAD website.
3. DHB hospitals can send PHARMAC their D&T committee submissions or minutes of meetings, to include on the HPAD website. This has the benefit of reduce duplication of work and sharing of knowledge.
4. DHBs are encouraged to review and provide input into PHARMAC assessments in order to obtain consensus on the appropriate use of new hospital pharmaceuticals.

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