

Hospital Pharmaceutical Assessment Process (HPAP)

In October 2002, the PHARMAC Board approved the hospital pharmaceutical assessment process as follows:

- (1) PHARMAC will conduct economic analyses on registered pharmaceuticals that are being or have been assessed by a number of DHB hospitals and registered high-cost pharmaceuticals that are likely to be used mainly in larger hospitals. Applications received from a DHB hospital or a supplier will be sent to PTAC prior to analysis if the evidence requires prior critical appraisal.
- (2) In addition, PHARMAC will conduct economic analysis on non-registered pharmaceuticals (or pharmaceuticals for non-registered indications) to the extent possible and reasonable.
- (3) PHARMAC will notify the relevant supplier of the fact that PHARMAC is about to undertake an analysis and request a submission when PHARMAC is beginning the analysis.
- (4) PHARMAC will obtain clinical review of the analyses from relevant specialists, including (without limitation) at least one or two member(s) of a relevant PTAC sub-committee once the economic modelling has been reviewed by PHARMAC staff and before sending to DHB hospitals and/or suppliers in draft form.
- (5) Clinical review of the analyses by an entire PTAC sub-committee will only be required in the case of pharmaceuticals that have high use in the community, where there is controversy regarding the efficacy, safety and/or costs of the drug, and for non-registered pharmaceuticals (or non-registered indications for pharmaceuticals).
- (6) PHARMAC will consult with suppliers on the draft analysis at the same time as consultation with DHB hospitals.
- (7) Analysis and review processes will be fast-tracked in urgent cases where DHB hospitals require a prompt response. This would involve performing the analysis to a reasonable standard but reporting less detail of the pharmacoeconomic and clinical content.
- (8) A summary of each analysis will be sent to DHBs. These will be called 'Hospital Pharmaceutical Assessment Discussion Documents'. The full analysis will be made available to DHB and suppliers who require further information on the modelling.
- (9) PHARMAC will publish draft opinion on the Hospital Pharmaceutical Assessment Database (HPAD) website and Part III of Section H, which will be updated following consultation on the draft and dissemination of the final discussion document.
- (10) PHARMAC will survey DHB hospitals from time to time to determine to what, if any, extent the results of the analysis have been adopted and the overall value of the process.

Flowchart of the Hospital Pharmaceutical Assessment Process

