

3 October 2005

**To All Interested Parties**

*By facsimile (2 pages)*

**Notification of approval of proposal with GlaxoSmithKline NZ Ltd regarding various pharmaceutical products**

PHARMAC would like to advise that the PHARMAC Board has approved an agreement with GlaxoSmithKline NZ Limited involving salmeterol (Serevent), ropinirole (Requip), amoxicillin (Amoxil) and hydroxocobalamin (Neo-Cytamen). This was the subject of a consultation letter dated 6 September 2005.

With effect from 1 November 2005:

- The price and subsidy of salmeterol 25 µg (Serevent) will be reduced to \$26.46 per 120 dose inhaler.
- Serevent 25 µg aerosol inhaler will not be subject to the Special Authority restriction that currently applies to long-acting beta-adrenoceptor agonists, but will be subject to the following prescribing guideline:

**Prescribing Guideline for Inhaled Long-Acting Beta-Adrenoceptor Agonists**

The addition of inhaled long-acting beta-adrenoceptor agonists (LABAs) to inhaled corticosteroids is recommended:

- For younger children (aged under 12 years) where asthma is poorly controlled despite using inhaled corticosteroids for at least three months at total daily doses of 200 mcg beclomethasone or budesonide (or 100 mcg fluticasone).
- For adults and older children (aged 12 years and over) where asthma is poorly controlled despite using inhaled corticosteroids for at least three months at total daily doses of 400 mcg beclomethasone or budesonide (or 200 mcg fluticasone).

**Note:**

Further information on the place of inhaled corticosteroids and inhaled LABAs in the management of asthma can be found in the New Zealand guidelines for asthma in adults ([www.nzgg.org.nz](http://www.nzgg.org.nz)) and in the New Zealand guidelines for asthma in children aged 1-15 ([www.paediatrics.org.nz](http://www.paediatrics.org.nz)).

- Serevent Accuhaler 50 µg will be listed in Section H from 1 November 2005 at a price of \$35.80 per 60 dose inhaler.

- Ropinirole (Requip) will be listed in Section B of the Pharmaceutical Schedule with a “Retail pharmacy – Specialist” restriction, and in Part II of Section F (certified exemptions and access exemptions to monthly dispensing), at the following prices and subsidies:

<b>Brand</b>	<b>Strength</b>	<b>Presentation</b>	<b>Pack size</b>	<b>Price / subsidy</b>
Requip	0.25 mg	Tablet	210	\$31.50
Requip	1 mg	Tablet	84	\$67.20
Requip	2 mg	Tablet	84	\$101.21
Requip	5 mg	Tablet	84	\$150.00

- Ropinirole will also be listed in Section H of the Pharmaceutical Schedule at the above prices.
- The subsidy for hydroxocobalamin injection 1 mg per ml, 1 ml (Neo-Cytamen) will be increased from \$2.80 to \$10.84 per 3 injections, with the effect of fully funding this product.
- Hydroxocobalamin injection 1 mg per ml, 1 ml will be listed in Part II of Section H at a price of \$10.84 per 3 injections.

If you have any enquiries about this change, please call PHARMAC on 0800 66 00 50.

Yours sincerely



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