

7 August 2006

To all interested parties

Review of subsidised condom range

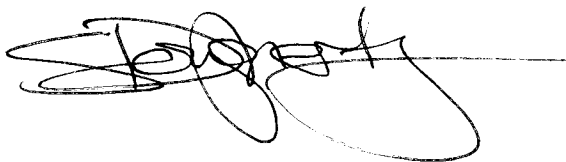
PHARMAC is currently reviewing the range of condoms that are subsidised on the Pharmaceutical Schedule. As a part of this review, we are seeking feedback from interested parties on the suitability of the current list of subsidised products, and on currently unfunded options that may, as a result of this review, become listed on the Pharmaceutical Schedule.

Background

- The following brands are listed in the Pharmaceutical Schedule:
 - Durex Confidence;
 - Gold Knight;
 - Lifestyles Flared;
 - Marquis Supalite;
 - Shield Blue;
 - R3 Superfeucht (partially subsidised); and
 - Marquis Protecta (extra-strength condoms).
- All condoms are subsidised at the rate of \$14.84 per 144 with the exception of extra strength condoms, which are subsidised at the rate of \$16.21 per 144. In the 12 months to 31 March 2006, PHARMAC subsidised 8,100,000 regular condoms and 660,000 extra strength condoms, an increase of 9% on the previous period.
- In the past, PHARMAC has received applications to list a number of additional products in the Pharmaceutical Schedule, such as female condoms, narrow-width condoms, non-latex condoms and latex oral dams. Please note that condoms with spermicide are not listed on the Pharmaceutical Schedule, having been de-listed in November 2003.

In order for all responses to be included in this review, please provide your response in writing to PHARMAC by Friday, 1 September 2006. If you have any particular questions in relation to this review, please contact me on +64 4 916 7534, or by email: sean.dougherty@pharmac.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely,



Sean Dougherty
Therapeutic Group Manager