

30 November 2007

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To all Pharmaceutical Suppliers, Hospital Pharmacists, Medical  
Groups and Interested Parties

**Consultation on a provisional agreement with Pfizer New Zealand Limited regarding  
the listing of varenicline for smoking cessation and various other pharmaceuticals on  
the Pharmaceutical Schedule**

***The funding proposal***

PHARMAC and Pfizer New Zealand Limited have entered into a provisional agreement to:

- list varenicline tablets (Champix) from 1 June 2008;
- amend the listing of quinapril (Accupril) from 1 June 2008;
- amend the terms of listing/list quinapril with hydrochlorothiazide (Accuretic) from 1 June 2008; and
- amend the terms of listing/list medroxyprogesterone acetate (Depo-Provera) from 1 March 2008.

PHARMAC is now seeking feedback on this proposal.

***How do I make a submission?***

We are inviting feedback from anyone interested in this proposal. You can make submissions in writing to the addresses that follow. We welcome feedback by email, fax or post. The deadline for submissions is **5pm, Monday, 14 January 2007**.

By email: send to [stephen.woodruffe@pharmac.govt.nz](mailto:stephen.woodruffe@pharmac.govt.nz)

By fax: send to +64 (0) 4 460 4995

By mail: send to Stephen Woodruffe, PHARMAC, PO Box 10-254, Wellington.

***What will happen then?***

All of the submissions we receive before the deadline will be taken into consideration by PHARMAC's Board, or Acting Chief Executive under delegated authority, regarding the proposal. The PHARMAC Board, or Acting Chief Executive under delegated authority, will then make a decision on this proposal.

***What are the details of the proposal?***

Key aspects of the proposal are as follows:

***Varenicline (Champix)***

Varenicline would be listed in Sections B and H Pharmaceutical Schedule from 1 June 2008 at the following prices/subsidies.

Pharmaceutical Name (Brand)	Strength and Form	Pack Size	Price and Subsidy
Varenicline (Champix)	0.5 mg and 1 mg tablets	11 x 0.5 mg 14 x 1 mg	\$60.48
	1 mg tablet	28	\$67.74
	1 mg tablet	56	\$135.48

- Varenicline would be subsidised for patients that meet the following Special Authority criteria:

Initial application from any relevant practitioner. Approvals valid for 6 months for applications meeting the following criteria:

All of the following:

- 1 To be used as an aid in smoking cessation; and

Applicant to state which of the following the patient had previously used as an aid to smoking cessation (For data collection only)

- 2 Any of the following:
  - 2.1 1 course of NRT Therapy; or
  - 2.2 2 courses of NRT Therapy; or
  - 2.3 3 courses of NRT Therapy; or
  - 2.4 4+ courses of NRT Therapy; or
  - 2.5 Nortriptyline; or
  - 2.6 None of the above.

Note:

No further applications accepted within 2 years

Prescribing guideline - Treatment with varenicline should be given in association with advice and cessation support and/or the referral to smoking cessation services or the Quitline (toll free 0800 778 778 or [www.quit.org.nz](http://www.quit.org.nz))

- Confidential rebates would apply to PHARMAC's expenditure on varenicline.

#### *Quinapril (Accupril) and quinapril with hydrochlorothiazide (Accuretic)*

Quinapril and quinapril with hydrochlorothiazide would remain listed in Section B, and be listed in Section H of the Pharmaceutical Schedule at the following prices/subsidies.

Pharmaceutical Name (Brand)	Strength and Form	Pack Size	Current price and Subsidy	Proposed price and subsidy
Quinapril (Accupril)	5 mg tablet	30	\$2.36	\$2.36
	10 mg tablet	30	\$3.26	\$3.26
	20 mg tablet	30	\$4.30	\$4.30

Pharmaceutical Name (Brand)	Strength and Form	Pack Size	Current price and Subsidy	Proposed price and subsidy
Quinapril with hydrochlorothiazide (Accuretic)	10 mg with 12.5 mg tablet	30	\$3.37	\$3.37
	20 mg with 12.5 mg tablet	30	\$4.57	\$4.57

- Both products are currently subject to sole subsidised supply following awarding of a tender. This status ends, and alternative brands of these products would be able to be listed in the Pharmaceutical Schedule from 1 July 2008.

- Quinapril (Accupril) and quinapril with hydrochlorothiazide (Accupril) would have subsidy and delisting protection until 30 June 2010.
- A confidential rebate would apply to quinapril (Accupril) and quinapril with hydrochlorothiazide (Accupril).

*Medroxyprogesterone acetate injection (Depo-Provera)*

Medroxyprogesterone acetate injection would remain listed in Section B, and be listed in Section H of the Pharmaceutical Schedule at the following prices/subsidies from 1 March 2008.

Pharmaceutical Name (Brand)	Strength and Form	Pack Size	Current price and Subsidy	Proposed price and subsidy
Depo-Provera	150 mg per ml, 1 ml injection	1	\$8.05	\$7.24

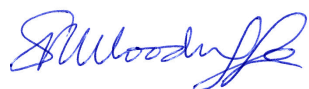
- Medroxyprogesterone acetate injection (Depo-Provera) would have subsidy and delisting protection until 30 June 2011.
- A confidential rebate would apply to medroxyprogesterone acetate injection (Depo-Provera).

***Where can I find more information?***

You can seek further information by calling Stephen Woodruffe on (04) 916 7555 or by e-mail [stephen.woodruffe@pharmac.govt.nz](mailto:stephen.woodruffe@pharmac.govt.nz).

We look forward to receiving your feedback on this proposal.

Yours sincerely



Stephen Woodruffe  
Therapeutic Group Manager