

28 May 2008

Notification of Pharmaceutical Schedule Changes

Omeprazole sole supply start date delay

Further to our notification dated 7 April 2008 regarding the changes to the reimbursement of the heartburn and gastric ulcer treatment omeprazole, we wish to advise you of some new dates for these changes.

We had previously advised that Sole Subsidised Supply and Hospital Supply Status will commence from 1 January 2009. This will now be delayed until 1 May 2009. A summary of the new timeline is as follows:

Capsules

1 July 2008

- Dr Reddy's Omeprazole 10 mg, 20 mg, and 40 mg capsule 30-pack bottles will be available and listed on the Pharmaceutical Schedule at the already notified and sole supply prices.
- Omezol 10 mg, 20 mg, and 40 mg capsules will be reference priced (current subsidies reduced to Dr Reddy's Omeprazole subsidies) in Section B of the Pharmaceutical Schedule. A patient surcharge may apply.

1 January 2009

- Omezol 10 mg, 20 mg, and 40 mg capsules will be delisted from the Pharmaceutical Schedule. We understand that Omezol stock is being run out and that stock is expected to be depleted by August/September.
- Losec 10 mg, 20 mg, and 40 mg capsules will be reference priced (current subsidies reduced to Dr Reddy's Omeprazole subsidies) in Section B of the Pharmaceutical Schedule. A patient surcharge may apply.

1 May 2009

- Losec 10 mg, 20 mg, and 40 mg capsules will be delisted from the Pharmaceutical Schedule.
- Dr Reddy's Omeprazole capsules will be the Sole Subsidised Supply brand in the community and have Hospital Supply Status in DHB hospitals.

Injection & Infusion

Listing of Dr Reddy's Omeprazole injection and infusion will occur as soon as possible following necessary regulatory approvals being obtained. Once registered there will be a transition period during which existing brands of injection and infusion remain available, followed by delisting of all brands other than Dr Reddy's Omeprazole. It is anticipated that sole supply will commence from 1 May 2009.

More information

If you have any further questions about these changes, you can call our toll-free number on 0800 66 00 50 (9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday). Resources for patients

about the changes will be sent to prescribers and pharmacists closer to the time of implementation.