

3 July 2008

Proposal to list an additional brand of clopidogrel in the Pharmaceutical Schedule and apply reference pricing

PHARMAC is seeking public feedback on a proposal to list Apotex's brand of clopidogrel and reference price the other brands of clopidogrel.

Proposal summary

We have entered into a provisional agreement with Apotex NZ Limited to subsidise its brand of clopidogrel 75 mg tablets (Apo-Clopidogrel) under the current clopidogrel Special Authority criteria in Section B of the Pharmaceutical Schedule.

We are also proposing to apply reference pricing to the following brands of clopidogrel 75 mg tablets:

- Plavix (from 1 September 2008).
- Arrow-Clopidogrel (from 1 September 2009). Arrow-Clopidogrel is not currently listed but there is an agreement in place for its listing.

Feedback sought

We welcome your feedback on this proposal. To provide feedback please submit an email, fax or letter by **5 pm, Friday 18 July 2008** to:

Stephen Woodruffe
Therapeutic Group Manager
PHARMAC
PO Box 10-254
Wellington 6143

Email: stephen.woodruffe@pharmac.govt.nz

Fax: (04) 460 4995

If you require further information about this proposal please contact Stephen Woodruffe as above, or on 04 916 7555.

All feedback received before the closing date will be considered by PHARMAC's Board (or Chief Executive acting under delegated authority) prior to making a decision on this proposal.

Details of the proposal

Clopidogrel 75 mg tablets (Apo-Clopidogrel)

Apo-Clopidogrel 75 mg tablets would be listed in Section B and in Part II of Section H of the Pharmaceutical Schedule from 1 September 2008 at the following price and subsidy (ex-manufacturer, excluding GST):

Chemical	Brand	Strength	Pack size	Price and subsidy
Clopidogrel	Apo-Clopidogrel	75 mg	28 tab	\$35.00

The price and subsidy (ex-manufacturer, excluding GST) of Apo-Clopidogrel would decrease from 1 September 2009 as follows:

Chemical	Brand	Strength	Pack size	Price and subsidy
Clopidogrel	Apo-Clopidogrel	75 mg	28 tab	\$25.00

Apo-Clopidogrel would be listed under the current clopidogrel Special Authority criteria in Section B of the Pharmaceutical Schedule, and would have subsidy protection in Section B of the Pharmaceutical Schedule until 1 September 2010.

Reference pricing

The subsidy for the Plavix brand of clopidogrel in Section B of the Pharmaceutical Schedule would be reduced by reference pricing it to the Apo-Clopidogrel brand from 1 September 2008, and again from 1 September 2009, as follows:

Chemical	Brand	Strength	Pack size	Current price and subsidy	Proposed subsidy from 1 September 2008	Proposed subsidy from 1 September 2009
Clopidogrel	Plavix	75 mg	28 tab	\$73.38	\$35.00	\$25.00

The subsidy for the Arrow-Clopidogrel brand of clopidogrel in Section B of the Pharmaceutical Schedule would be reduced by reference pricing it to the Apo-Clopidogrel brand from 1 September 2009, as follows:

Chemical	Brand	Strength	Pack size	Current price and subsidy	Price and subsidy from 1 March 2009	Proposed subsidy from 1 September 2009
Clopidogrel	Arrow-Clopidogrel	75 mg	28 tab	\$45.00	\$35.00	\$25.00

We note that Arrow-Clopidogrel is not currently listed in the Pharmaceutical Schedule, but that the agreed prices for this brand are \$45.00 from the date of listing, and \$35.00 from 1 March 2009, with subsidy protection until 1 March 2009 and delisting protection until 1 March 2010.