

2 September 2009

Proposal to fund hydrocortisone 1% (Pharmacy Health) 100 g

PHARMAC is seeking feedback on a proposal to fund a new brand of hydrocortisone 1% cream (Pharmacy Health) in a pack size of 100 g on the Pharmaceutical Schedule.

This proposal would result in Pharmacy Health being listed in Section B and Section H of the Pharmaceutical from 1 January 2010 at the following price and subsidy (ex-manufacturer and ex-GST):

Chemical	Presentation	Brand	Pack size	Price and subsidy
Hydrocortisone	Cream 1%	Pharmacy Health	100 g	\$3.75

Feedback sought

PHARMAC welcomes feedback on this proposal. To provide feedback, please submit it in writing by **5 pm Thursday 17 September 2009** to:

Mike Bignall
Therapeutic Group Manager
PHARMAC

Email: mike.bignall@pharmac.govt.nz
Fax: 04 460 4995
Post: PO Box 10 254, Wellington 6143

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.

Background

PHARMAC and API Consumer Brands have entered into a provisional agreement relating to the supply of hydrocortisone 1% cream (Pharmacy Health) in a pack size of 100 g. API Consumer Brands already supplies a 500 g pot of hydrocortisone cream and is currently undertaking registration of this pack size with Medsafe.

Stocks of Lemnis Fatty Cream HC, as supplied by CSL Biotherapies, will be depleted early next year and the supplier has notified that this brand will be discontinued at that time. As a result Lemnis Fatty Cream HC will be delisted from the Pharmaceutical Schedule in 2010.

This proposal would ensure that a suitable alternative brand was funded to ensure continuity of supply.