

## FACSIMILE

To **All New Zealand Pharmacies, IPA Pharmacy Facilitators and Wholesalers**  
Fax **Autodial**  
From **Kaye Wilson, Schedule Analyst**  
Subject **Listing of alternate brands of diclofenac sodium tablets**  
Date **30 September 2009** **Pages 4**

Dear Pharmacist and Wholesaler

As you are aware, Apotex is currently unable to meet demand for stocks of diclofenac sodium tablets. Consequently, PHARMAC will be subsidising alternative brands of diclofenac sodium tablets EC 25 mg and 50 mg, and tablets long-acting 75 mg from 1 October 2009 as follows:

Chemical and presentation	Brand	Pack Size	Price and subsidy
Diclofenac sodium tab EC 25 mg	Diclohexal	50	\$1.63
Diclofenac sodium tab EC 50 mg	Diclohexal	50	\$2.13
Diclofenac sodium tab long-acting 75 mg	Diclax SR	30	\$3.10
Diclofenac sodium tab long-acting 75 mg	Voltaren SR	100	\$19.60

*Note prices shown are ex-manufacturer, excl GST*

Please note:

- The above brands, strengths and pack sizes will be listed in Section B of the Pharmaceutical Schedule from Thursday 1 October 2009 and will be fully subsidised from that date.
- Further brands and/or pack sizes of the above brands may be listed at a future date.
- Instructions on how to amend pharmacy software systems have been provided.

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## Close Control

- Pharmacists' authorisation to endorse prescriptions **Close Control for diclofenac sodium tab EC 25 mg and 50 mg will be revoked from 1 October 2009**. Prescriptions will only be able to be initiated Close Control before this date.
- From 1 October 2009 prescriptions with repeats for diclofenac sodium tab EC 25 mg and 50 mg first dispensed Close Control monthly can either be (at the discretion of the pharmacist and stock availability)
  - completed Close Control monthly, or
  - dispensed stat where appropriate.
- **Close Control pharmacist authorisation for diclofenac sodium tab long-acting 75 mg and 100 mg has NOT been revoked** and remains in place until further notice.
- Pharmacists will need to annotate any prescriptions dispensed Close Control for audit purposes.

## LOTS Users

### LOTS Internet Update Sites

The new listings of **Diclohexal EC 25mg and 50mg** have been included in the LOTS Internet update. The signoff for **Voltaren and Diclax 75mg** came through too late for inclusion in the update so please add as per the instructions below.

### LOTS CD Update Sites

The listing notifications came too late for the October CD Update. If you normally run the update from the CD and you want to dispense any of the newly listed diclofenac tablets in October you should follow the instructions to manually amend the stockcards. (*This change will be on the November CD Update*).

### To manually amend the stockcards

1. Go into LOTS Stockcards
2. Search for the PDE#
3. Change the List Cost if necessary
4. Select the 'Drug Information' tab
5. Change the Indication name from "De-listed"(or "NSS") to "General" (*Click once on "De-Listed"/"NSS" to highlight the box in yellow, then type in the word General*).
6. Delete the existing Dispensary Message and type message in table below
7. Enter both the Normal and High subsidies.
8. Premium should be \$0.00
9. Select 'Search' to go to the next stockcard
10. Select 'YES' to save the changes made to this stock item.
11. Repeat #2 to #10
12. When you have finished amending all the stockcards select 'Exit'
13. Select 'Yes' to save the changes.

Product	PDE#	List Cost	Subsidy (Normal)	Subsidy (High)	Dispensary Message
Voltaren SR 75mg T 100's	2140276	21.56	19.60	19.60	Pharmacist can endorse Close control
Diclax SR 75mg T 30's	768278	3.41	3.10	3.10	Pharmacist can endorse Close control
Diclohexal EC 25mg T 50's	2340585	1.79	1.63	1.63	Stat Drug rule applies!
Diclohexal EC 50mg T 50's	2340593	2.34	2.13	2.13	Stat Drug rule applies!

## TONIQ Users

Implementation of PHARMAC decisions re- short supply of diclofenac sodium.

Late Listing decisions:

- 1) Late listing of **DICLOHEXAL EC 25mg** (2340585) and **EC 50 mg** (2340593) from 1 October – this will be reflected in your October medicine update. These new listings are stat medicines and there is plenty of stock, so limited stock close control does not apply. **No action is required to implement these decisions in Tonic.**
- 2) Very late listing of **DICLAX SR** and **VOLTAREN SR NOT included** in the medicine update on CD nor on the downloadable medicine update – to date. The downloadable file will have these listings added by midday 30<sup>th</sup> September, *so a re-download after that time* will result in them being added to your system (when you do the update on the 1<sup>st</sup>). Pharmacies with CD updates can manually adjust their system *after the 1<sup>st</sup>* following instructions on the next page.

Limited Stock Close Control decisions.

Pharmacies can optionally be reflect these by setting/unsetting a special close control prompt on the 3<sup>rd</sup> page of the medicine edit screen. This is a manual setting and is *not* set by the medicine update.

- 3) **APO-DICLO EC 25mg** (793116) and **APO-DICLO EC 50mg** (768278)– Ending of limited stock close control (start notified by PHARMAC fax in September). To implement this in Tonic, **set the Limited stock close control END date.**

### 1. Prescriptions

- **F7 Med**

		Repeat for:
Select pcode	<b>793116</b> <Enter> APO-DICLO 25mg SR	<b>768278</b> <Enter> APO-DICLO 50mg SR
<b>F11 Page 2</b>		
<b>F11 Page 3</b>		
<b>Limited stock close control – lifted.</b>		
<p><i>When PHARMAC notified start of close control you may have set the start date to 11/09/09 – to cause the Tonic program to prompt close control.</i></p> <p><b>NOW Set END Date : 30/09/09</b></p> <p>to stop close control prompt on this medicine.</p>		<div style="border: 1px solid gray; padding: 5px;"> <p><b>Limited stock close control</b></p> <p>Start date <input type="text" value="11/09/09"/></p> <p>End date <input style="background-color: yellow;" type="text" value="30/09/09"/></p> <p>Rule <input type="text" value="monthly"/></p> </div>
<b>F11 Page1</b>		
<b>F12 Accept Details</b>		

- 1) Limited stock **close control** (as notified by PHARMAC fax in September) **continues** on both **APO-DICLO 75mg long acting tablets 2025752** and **100 mg long acting tablets 2025760-**. Optionally set or check the start date for the Limited stock close control on these medicines to be prompted close control. Set the end date to 31/10/09 until further notified by Pharmac.

- 2) Re-listing of **VOLTAREN 75mg SR** 100pack and **DICLAX 75mg SR** 30pack – and limited supply close control notification.

From the Toniq Dispensary program, Main Menu

**1. Prescriptions**

- **F7 Med**

	VOLTAREN 75mg SR (100pack)	Diclax SR 75mg (30's)
Select pharmacode	<b>2140276</b> <Enter>	<b>768278</b> <Enter>
<b>F8 Go to Price</b>		
Std W/S Price :	21.56 No change	3.41 No change
<b>EDIT PS Price:</b>	<b>21.56</b> from 0.00	<b>3.41</b> from 0.00
Product Prem.	0.00 No change	0.00 No change
<b>F11 Page 2</b>		
<b>F11 Page 3</b>		
<b>Limited stock close control details:</b>		
Optionally set the start date for the Limited stock close control on these medicines to be prompted close control. Set the end date to 31/10/09 until further notified by Pharmac		
<b>Check STAT END Date is blank – delete if not.</b>	Press <DELETE> key	Press <DELETE> key
<b>F11 Page1</b>		
<b>F12 Accept Details</b>		

NB: Prices in the Toniq system represent the PHARMAC Schedule price + 10%

We do not have an expected date when Apo-Diclo and Apo-Diclo SR will be back in the market. We will continue to keep you informed.

Thank you for your co-operation. We appreciate this is a disruption but thank you for your assistance. If you have any questions regarding the above, please contact PHARMAC on 0800 66 00 50 (9am-5pm Monday to Friday).

Yours sincerely



Kaye Wilson  
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