

30 October 2009

Funding of a new brand of grans for oral liquid amoxicillin 125mg per 5 ml

PHARMAC is pleased to announce that the approval of an agreement with Sandoz Pty Limited. This was the subject of a consultation letter dated 31 July 2009. In summary, the effect of the decision is that:

- The Ospamox brand of amoxicillin granules for oral liquid 125 mg per 5 ml would be listed in section B and part II of section H of the of the Pharmaceutical Schedule from 1 December 2009,
- Subsidy and delisting protection for Ospamox granules for oral liquid 125 mg per 5 ml until 1 July 2012.

Details of the proposal

From 1 December 2009 Ospamox will be listed, in the Infections – Agents for Systemic Use therapeutic group, in Section B of the Pharmaceutical Schedule at the following prices and subsidies (ex-manufacturer and exclusive of GST):

Chemical	Presentation	Brand	Pack size	Price and subsidy
Amoxicillin	125 mg per 5 ml granules for oral liquid	Ospamox	100ml	\$1.55

Up to 200 ml will be available on a Practitioner's Supply Order.

Ospamox (125 mg per 5 ml) will have subsidy and delisting protection until 1 July 2012.

Feedback received

We appreciate all of the feedback that we received and acknowledge the time people took to respond. All consultation responses received by 21 August 2009 were considered in their entirety in making a decision on the proposed changes. Most responses were supportive of the proposal, and the following issues were raised in relation to specific aspects of the proposal:

Theme	Comment
The listing of another brand of amoxicillin as it may lead to confusion	This proposal would mean 2 suppliers would be listed for a period of time, but we note that the 250 mg per 5 ml Sandoz amoxicillin has been awarded the sole supply tender.

Theme	Comment
The product must reconstitute well and the seal should be easily removable	The Tender Medical Evaluation Subcommittee of PTAC assessed the Ospamox 250 mg per 5 ml during the tender and concluded there was no reason not to award this product. We also note that Ospamox has previously been the sole supply brand of amoxicillin in New Zealand from 2000 to 2007.

More information

If you have any questions about this decision, you can call our toll free number (9 am to 5 pm, Monday to Friday) on 0800 66 00 50.