

21 December 2009

Approval of a proposal in relation to tiotropium bromide (Spiriva)

PHARMAC is pleased to announce the approval of an agreement with Boehringer Ingelheim relating to tiotropium bromide (Spiriva). This was the subject of a consultation letter dated 22 October 2009. The effect of the decision is that:

- Subsidy and delisting protection for Spiriva will be extended to 1 July 2013.
- The effective price of Spiriva will be reduced by way of a rebate.

Feedback received

We appreciate all of the feedback that we received and acknowledge the time people took to respond. All consultation responses received by 12 November 2009 were considered in their entirety in making a decision on the proposed changes. Most responses were supportive of the proposal.

Some respondents questioned whether we would consider widening access to tiotropium. We note that the access criteria are consistent with the clinical advice that we have received from PTAC, and that we have not received a funding application to widen access beyond the current criteria.

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.