

11 January 2010

Proposal to amend claiming for Cost Brand Source prescriptions

PHARMAC is seeking feedback on a proposal to amend the way Cost Brand Source (CBS) prescriptions are annotated when claimed.

PHARMAC proposes to amend the way pharmacists annotate prescriptions for CBS subsidised medicines. Pharmacists would no longer be required to annotate prescriptions with the cost, brand and source of supply of the medicine, but instead attach a copy of the purchase invoice.

Feedback sought

PHARMAC welcomes feedback on this proposal. To provide feedback, please submit it in writing by 5 pm on **Friday, 22 January 2010** to:

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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

Where Cost Brand Source (CBS) is indicated against a medicine in the Pharmaceutical Schedule, or if the item is an Exceptional Circumstances medicine not listed in the Pharmaceutical Schedule (as described in the Pharmacy Agreement), the medicine is eligible for subsidy on the basis of the pharmacist's annotation of purchase price, brand and source of supply. The amount claimed should match the invoice price (exclusive of GST).

PHARMAC is seeking feedback on a proposal where prescriptions would no longer need to be annotated with the cost, brand and source of supply of the (CBS) pharmaceutical dispensed, but would only need to have a copy of the invoice attached for the purchase of the product.

It is current practice that these invoices for purchase may be asked for on audit.