

18 January 2010

February 2010 Pharmaceutical Schedule Dispatch

This document is provided to pharmacists as an early notification of the changes to be announced in the **February 2010** Update to the Pharmaceutical Schedule. Please notify PHARMAC (0800 66 00 50) to change or remove your contact details.

New listings

- Blood glucose diagnostic test meter (On Call Advanced) meter – subsidy by endorsement (p'code 2338378)
- Blood glucose diagnostic test strip (On Call Advanced) blood glucose test strips x 50 and lancets x 5, 1 OP – subsidy by endorsement (p'code 2338386)
- Sumatriptan (Arrow-Sumatriptan) tab 50 mg (p'code 2347008) and 100 mg (p'code 2347016), 100 tab packs
- Risperidone (Apo-Risperidone) tab 0.5 mg (p'code 2329581), 1 mg (p'code 2329603), 2 mg (p'code 2329611), 3 mg (p'code 2329638) and 4 mg (p'code 2329646), and oral liq 1 mg per ml (p'code 2331047)
- Risperidone (Dr Reddy's Risperidone) tab 1 mg (p'code 2343088), 2 mg (p'code 2343096), 3 mg (p'code 2343118) and 4 mg (p'code 2343126)
- Methylphenidate hydrochloride extended-release (Ritalin LA) cap modified-release 10 mg – Special Authority – Retail pharmacy – only on a controlled drug form (p'code 2346370)
- Dasatinib (Sprycel) tab 100 mg – Special Authority (p'code 2347261)
- Letrozole (Letara) tab 2.5 mg (p'code 2340402)
- Promethazine hydrochloride (Promethazine Winthrop Elixir) oral liq 5 mg per 5 ml (p'code 2347407)
- Fluticasone propionate (Flixonase Hayfever & Allergy) metered aqueous nasal spray, 50 µg per dose, 120 dose OP (p'code 409448)

Changes to restrictions

- Pregnancy tests – HCG urine (MDS Quick Card) cassette – Only on a PSO, up to 200 test available on a PSO – addition of OP
- Influenza vaccine (Fluvax, Fluarix, Vaxigrip) inj – amended access criteria
- Exemestane (Aromasin) tab 25 mg – additional subsidy by Special Authority – Retail pharmacy – repeat dispensings for Aromasin tab 25 mg will be fully subsidised where the initial dispensing was before 1 February 2010

Increased subsidy

Chemical	Presentation	Fully subsidised brands
Flecainide acetate	Tab 50 mg and 100 mg	Tambocor
	Cap long-acting 100 mg and 200 mg	Tambocor CR
	Inj 10 mg per ml, 15 ml	Tambocor
Sildenafil	Tab 25 mg and 100 mg	Viagra

Decreased subsidy

Chemical	Presentation	Fully subsidised brands	Partially subsidised brands
Anastrozole	Tab 1 mg	Arimidex DP-Anastrozole*	
Calcipotriol	Crm 50 µg per g, 30 g OP and 100 g OP Oint 50 µg per g, 30 g OP and 100 g OP Soln 50 µg per ml, 30 ml OP and 60 ml OP	Daivonex	
Calcitriol	Cap 0.25 µg and 0.5 µg	Calcitriol-AFT Airflow*	
Docetaxel	Inj 1 mg for ECP	Baxter	
Exemestane	Tab 25 mg		Aromasin**
Goserelin acetate	Inj 3.6 mg and 10.8 mg	Zoladex	
Hydroxocobalamin	Inj 1 mg per ml, 1 ml	ABM Hydroxocobalamin Neo-B12*	
Metoprolol succinate	Tab long-acting 23.75 mg, 47.5 mg, 95 mg, and 190 mg	Betaloc-CR Metoprolol – AFT CR*	
Permethrin	Crm 5 %		Lyderm
Pizotifen	Tab 500 µg	Sandomigran***	
Sumatriptan	Tab 50 mg and 100 mg	Arrow-Sumatriptan	Sumagran Imigran

*Indicates no change in price or subsidy is occurring to that brand from 1 February 2010

** Fully subsidised with Special Authority

*** Decreased price to match subsidy

NB. For the magnitude of the above price changes, please consult the online version of the Update to the Pharmaceutical Schedule at: www.pharmac.govt.nz/healthpros/Schedule

Consultation on 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. Pharmacists would no longer be required to annotate the paper copy of the prescriptions with the cost, brand and source of supply of the medicine, but instead attach a copy of the purchase invoice to the prescription. The electronic claiming process would remain unchanged.

PHARMAC welcomes feedback on this proposal. To provide feedback, please submit it in writing by 5 pm on Friday 22 January 2010. Full details of this consultation can be found on the PHARMAC website at <http://www.pharmac.govt.nz/consultation> and copies were provided to pharmacy organisations early last week for their comment on behalf of their members. We also welcome feedback from individual pharmacies.

Testosterone undecanoate capsules - delayed

Due to unforeseen air freight delays, the Arrow Pharmaceuticals brand of testosterone undecanoate cap 40 mg (Arrow-Testosterone) listing has been delayed from 1 February to 1 March 2010. Subsequent reference pricing and delisting of currently listed brands has also been delayed.