

28 June 2010

Triclosan 1% solution funding approved

PHARMAC is pleased to announce the approval of an agreement with Jaychem Industries Limited. This agreement will result in the funding of triclosan 1% solution, with effect from 1 August 2010, for patients identified with Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) prior to elective surgery in hospital, and for patients with recurrent *Staphylococcus aureus* infection. This was the subject of a consultation letter dated 25 May 2010.

Details of the proposal

From 1 August 2010 triclosan 1% solution (healthE) will be listed in Section B of the Pharmaceutical Schedule as follows:

Chemical	Form and Strength	Brand	Pack size	New Subsidy and Price (ex-manufacturer, ex-GST)
Triclosan	Soln 1%	healthE	500 ml	\$5.90

The funding of triclosan 1% solution will be subject to the following subsidy by endorsement restrictions:

- a) No more than 500 ml per prescription; and
- b) Only if prescribed for a patient identified with Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) prior to elective surgery in hospital and the prescription is endorsed accordingly; or
- c) Only if prescribed for a patient with recurrent *Staphylococcus aureus* infection and the prescription is endorsed accordingly.

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

Feedback received

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

Some responders considered that chlorhexidine 4% solution should also be funded for the indications above. We remain open to considering funding chlorhexidine 4% solution for these indications should an acceptable agreement be reached with the current supplier (or an alternative supplier in the future).