

30 July 2010

Notification of tender decisions for ondansetron and decision to widen funded access to ondansetron

PHARMAC is pleased to announce that funded access to ondansetron will be widened from 1 May 2011, following the listing of a new brand of ondansetron tablets and orodispersible tablets as a result of awarding the Invitation to Tender dated 4 December 2009 to Dr Reddy's Pharmaceuticals. These decisions are summarised below and on the following page.

Subsidy and brand changes for ondansetron 4 mg and 8 mg tablets:

- In Section B of the Pharmaceutical Schedule: Dr Reddy's ondansetron will be listed from 1 December 2010, the subsidy for GSK's brand (Zofran) will be reduced to the level of Dr Reddy's ondansetron from 1 February 2011, Zofran will be delisted from 1 May 2011 and Dr Reddy's ondansetron will have Sole Subsidised Supply status from 1 May 2011 to July 2013.
- In Part II of Section H of the Pharmaceutical Schedule: Dr Reddy's ondansetron will be listed from 1 December 2010, Zofran will be delisted from 1 February 2011 and Dr Reddy's ondansetron will have Hospital Supply Status from 1 February 2011 to July 2013.
- The price and subsidy for Dr Reddy's ondansetron 4 mg tablet will be \$5.10 for a pack of 30 and the 8 mg tablet will be \$1.70 for a pack of 10 (ex-manufacturer, excl. GST).

Price and brand changes ondansetron 4 mg and 8 mg orodispersible tablets:

- In Section B: Dr Reddy's ondansetron will be listed from 1 March 2011, the subsidy for GSK's brand (Zofran Zydis) will be reduced to the level of Dr Reddy's ondansetron from 1 May 2011, Zofran Zydis will be delisted from 1 August 2011 and Dr Reddy's ondansetron will have Sole Subsidised Supply status from 1 August 2011 to July 2013.
- In Part II of Section H: Dr Reddy's ondansetron will be listed from 1 March 2011, Zofran Zydis will be delisted from 1 May 2011 and Dr Reddy's ondansetron will have Hospital Supply Status from 1 May 2011 to July 2013.
- The price and subsidy for Dr Reddy's ondansetron 4 mg orodispersible tablet will be \$1.70 for a pack of 10 and the 8 mg orodispersible tablet will be \$2.00 for a pack of 10 (ex-manufacturer, excl. GST).

Access changes for ondansetron 4 mg and 8 mg tablets and orodispersible tablets:

- From 1 May 2011 all the current prescribing and dispensing restrictions that apply to ondansetron will be removed. The Special Authority to waive these restrictions will also be removed as it would no longer be relevant.

- This will mean that from 1 May 2011 there will be no limit on the number of ondansetron tablets or orodispersible tablets that will be funded (on prescription) for any patient; however, monthly dispensing would apply.

A summary of the tender decisions will also be included in the October 2010 and January 2011 Tender Notifications, in line with the usual tender notification timelines.

More information

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