

16 December 2011

January 2012 Pharmaceutical Schedule Dispatch

This document is provided to pharmacists as an early notification of the changes to be announced in the **January 2012** Update to the Pharmaceutical Schedule. Please notify PHARMAC (0800 66 00 50) to change or remove your contact details.

New listings

- Atorvastatin (Dr Reddy's Atorvastatin) tab 10 mg (p'code 2389541), 20 mg (p'code 2389568), 40 mg (p'code 2389576) and 80 mg (p'code 2389584)
- Cefazolin sodium (AFT) inj 500 mg (p'code 2391325) and inj 1 g (p'code 2391317) – subsidy by endorsement for dialysis or cystic fibrosis patients
- Cefuroxime sodium (m-Cefuroxime) inj 750 mg (p'code 2378140) – maximum of 1 inj per prescription; can be waived by endorsement
- Glyceryl trinitrate (Glytrin) aerosol spray 400 µg per dose, 250 dose OP (p'code 2389975) – up to 250 dose available on a PSO
- Sulindac (Aclin) tab 100 mg (p'code 2384221) and tab 200 mg (p'code 2384248) – additional subsidy by Special Authority
- Temozolomide (Temaccord) cap 5 mg (p'code 2388278), 20 mg (p'code 2388251), 100 mg (p'code 2388243) and 250 mg (p'code 2388235) – Special Authority – Retail pharmacy

Changes to restrictions

- Standard Supplements powder and liquid – amended Special Authority criteria – removal of reference to manual applications
- Extensively hydrolysed formula (Pepti Junior Gold) powder – amended Special Authority criteria

Decreased subsidy

Chemical	Presentation	Fully subsidised brands	Partially subsidised brands
Bimatoprost	Eye drops 0.03%, 3 ml OP	Lumigan	
Clarithromycin	Tab 250 mg	Apo-Clarithromycin	Klacid Klamycin
Fluconazole	Cap 50 mg Cap 150 mg Cap 200 mg	Ozole Ozole Ozole	Pacific Pacific Pacific
Paracetamol	Tab 500 mg	Parafast* Pharmacare	
Timolol maleate	Eye drops 0.25 %, 5 ml OP Eye drops 0.5 %, 5 ml OP	Arrow-Timolol Arrow-Timolol	Apo-Timop Apo-Timop

* Note, there is no subsidy change for this brand.

Increased subsidy

Chemical	Presentation	Fully subsidised brands
Amiloride	Oral liq 1 mg per ml, 25 ml OP	Biomed
Betahistine dihydrochloride	Tab 16 mg	Vergo 16
Chlorothiazide	Oral liq 50 mg per ml, 25 ml OP	Biomed
Clonazepam	Tab 500 µg Tab 2 mg	Paxam Paxam
Dexamethasone	Oral liq 1 mg per ml, 25 ml OP	Biomed
Doxepin hydrochloride	Tab 10 mg Tab 25 mg Tab 50 mg	Anten Anten Anten
Folic acid	Oral liq 50 µg per ml, 25 ml OP	Biomed
Methyldopa	Tab 125 mg Tab 250 mg Tab 500 mg	Prodopa Prodopa Prodopa
Metronidazole	Tab 200 mg Tab 400 mg	Trichozole Trichozole
Nortriptyline hydrochloride	Tab 10 mg Tab 25 mg	Norpress Norpress
Spirolactone	Oral liq 5 mg per ml, 25 ml OP	Biomed
Triamcinolone acetonide	Inj 10 mg per ml, 1 ml Inj 40 mg per ml, 1 ml	Kenacort-A Kenacort-A40
Trimethoprim	Tab 300 mg	TMP

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

Upcoming Brand Switch Fee payments

Brandswitch payments are designed to recognise the additional counselling required for switching patients between certain brands of medicines.

What medicines are eligible for brandswitch payments?

Medicines used generally for chronic conditions, subject to Sole Supply change and not available over-the-counter. Additional criteria such as patient numbers are also considered. Medicines that have been subject to a brand switch in the last 5 years, or are a generic to generic switch, are not eligible. The criteria were agreed by the Pharmacy Services Advisory Group.

Possible upcoming Brandswitch payments (yet to be approved)

- Losartan with or without hydrochlorothiazide tablets from 1 March 2012 – 31 May 2012
- Ethinylloestradiol and levonorgestrel tablets from 1 April 2012 – 30 June 2012

Please note the brand changes for paracetamol 500 mg tablets and omeprazole capsules do not meet the Brandswitch criteria.