

Specialist Advisory Committees

Objective advice to Pharmac

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Rheumatology Advisory Committee Provisional recommendations 12 June 2026

Pharmac is piloting a new approach which will allow people to understand the advice we get, within 30 business days of advisory committee meetings.

[More information about provisional recommendations is on Pharmac's website](#)

We are releasing provisional recommendations only at this time, which share the high-level outcome of the advice recommendation. Further information, which will explain the recommendation, will be shared when the full meeting record is completed. Applicants / suppliers are given the opportunity to withhold the provisional recommendation until more information is available.

The Rheumatology Advisory Committee considered other applications at the meeting to inform Pharmac's assessment of the applications. A funding recommendation was not required and therefore not included in the table below. Further information and updates for all applications discussed will be explained in the full meeting record.

Summary of Provisional Recommendations

Pharmaceutical and Indication	Provisional Recommendation
Upadacitinib for the treatment of Giant Cell Arteritis, within the context of rheumatology treatments, subject to special authority criteria.	High priority
Ustekinumab for the treatment of psoriatic arthritis in the first line biologic setting, within the context of rheumatology treatments, subject to special authority criteria.	Decline
Ustekinumab for the treatment of psoriatic arthritis in the second line biologic setting, within the context of rheumatology treatments, subject to special authority criteria.	Medium priority

[More information about the agenda items considered at the recent Rheumatology Advisory Committee meeting can be found on the Pharmac website.](#)

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