

Decisions on new HML products and restrictions changes

PHARMAC has made decisions for the following products, with the changes being effective **from 12 July 2013**:

Vaccines

Meningococcal (a, c, y and w-135) polysaccharide and Pneumococcal (ppv23) polysaccharide vaccines

PHARMAC has amended the access criteria for Meningococcal (a, c, y and w-135) polysaccharide vaccine and Pneumococcal (ppv23) polysaccharide vaccine to reflect that these products should not be used in patients aged under 2 years of age.

Varicella zoster (chicken pox) vaccine

PHARMAC has amended the restriction applying to varicella zoster (chicken pox) vaccine to reflect that this is a live vaccine and shouldn't be given to patients whilst immunocompromised. The changes to the restrictions (below) provide a more refined definition of the high risk patient groups who would benefit from varicella vaccination.

Varicella zoster vaccine (**chicken pox vaccine**)

Restricted

Any of the following:

- 1 For non-immune patients
 - 1.1 with chronic liver disease who may in future be candidates for transplantation; or
 - 1.2 with deteriorating renal function before transplantation; or
 - 1.3 prior to solid organ transplant; or
 - 1.4 prior to any elective immunosuppression; or
 - 1.5 for post exposure prophylaxis who are immune competent inpatients.
- 2 For patients at least 2 years after bone marrow transplantation, on advice of their specialist;
- 3 For patients at least 6 months after completion of chemotherapy, on advice of their specialist;
- 4 For HIV positive non immune to varicella with mild or moderate immunosuppression on advice of HIV specialist;
- 5 For household contacts of paediatric patients who are immunocompromised, or undergoing a procedure leading to immune compromise where the household contact has:
 - a) adult household contact – a negative serology result for varicella
 - b) child household contact – no clinical history of varicella or negative varicella serology;

Bacillus calmette-guerin vaccine

The listing for Bacillus calmette-guerin (BCG) vaccine has been amended to the Inj 1.5 mg vial with diluent presentation as the current listing (Inj 2-8 million CFU per ml vial with diluent) was incorrect.

Amphotericin B inj 50 mg vial

The indication restrictions applying to amphotericin B inj 50 mg vial have been removed. However the prescriber restriction remains in place. The indication restrictions remain in place for the amphotericin B inj (liposomal) 50 mg vial presentation.

Sodium cromoglycate powder for inhalation

An error occurred in the listing of sodium cromoglycate powder for inhalation with the strength being incorrectly recorded as being in mcg rather than the correct strength of mg and this has been rectified.

Chlorhexidine gluconate solution 20%

Chlorhexidine gluconate solution 20% has been included in Part II of Section H to allow compounding of chlorhexidine gluconate eye drops 0.02% for the treatment of acanthamoeba (ophthalmic) infection as this was excluded initially.

Lignocaine and bupivacaine sterile pack listings

The sterile pack presentations of lidocaine [lignocaine] hydrochloride and bupivacaine hydrochloride injections have been included in Section H. The amended presentation descriptions are as follows (changes in bold and strikethrough):

Lidocaine [lignocaine] hydrochloride

Inj 1%, 20 ml ampoule – 1% DV Jul-13 to 2015..... 2.40 1 Lidocaine-Claris

Inj 1%, 20 ml ampoule, sterile pack

Inj 2%, 20 ml ampoule – 1% DV Jul-13 to 2015..... 2.40 1 Lidocaine-Claris

Inj 2%, 20 ml ampoule, sterile pack

Bupivacaine hydrochloride injections

Inj 2.5 mg per ml, 20 ml ampoule

Inj 2.5 mg per ml, 20 ml ampoule, **sterile pack** – 1% DV Oct-12 to 2015...35.00 5 Marcain

Inj 5 mg per ml, 10 ml ampoule..... 35.00 50 Marcain

Inj 5 mg per ml, 10 ml ampoule, **sterile pack** – 1% DV Oct-12 to 2015..... 28.00 5 Marcain

Inj 5 mg per ml, 20 ml ampoule

Inj 5 mg per ml, 20 ml ampoule, **sterile pack** – 1% DV Oct-12 to 2015.....28.00 5 Marcain

~~Note: DV limit applies to theatre packs only.~~

Protein free supplement

A protein free supplement (eg *Energivit*) has been included in the Hospital Medicines list under the restriction that currently applies to the Metabolic Products.