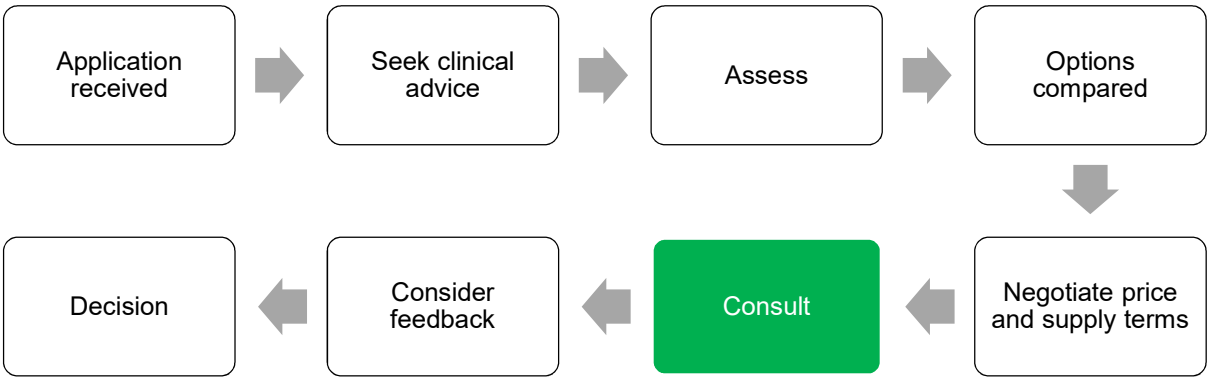
PHARMAC
TE PĀTAKA WHAIORANGA

Consultation factsheet

PHARMAC consults before we make a final decision to fund a medicine or widen access to a current medicine. Consultation is aimed at people who might be affected by our proposal such as patients, clinicians and health service providers.

By the time we issue a proposal for consultation, our expert clinical advisors have usually reviewed the evidence and recommended the medicine be funded. PHARMAC staff have also already negotiated price and supply terms with the drug company.

Process to fund a new medicine or widen access to a current medicine



What kind of feedback are we looking for?

When we consult, we're interested in feedback from health service providers to confirm they can deliver the medicine within the timeframes proposed. For example, some cancer medicines require hospital-based infusions, so it's important we get feedback from hospital staff on whether they can be ready to do this.

We're also keen to hear about whether the clinical access criteria we've proposed will make sure the people who will benefit most from the medicine will be eligible for funded treatment.

The number of submissions doesn't matter – what is important is any issues raised. The feedback is carefully considered by PHARMAC before a final decision on whether to fund the medicine is made.

Overview of consultations released today

Medicine	Condition(s) it treats	How it is given	Number of people who may benefit	Next steps
Levonorgestrel intrauterine system (LIUS) (Mirena and Jaydess)	Contraceptive, heavy menstrual bleeding, endometrial hyperplasia without atypia, and endometriosis	Internally implanted	Up to 21,000 per year	Consider feedback then final decision. If approved medicine funded from 1 November 2019
Meningococcal ACWY vaccine (Menactra)	Prevent meningitis in people 13 to 25 years of age in close living situations such as boarding school, university hostels, military barracks and prisons.	Injection	35,000 in the first year, then 8,000 per year There would be a 1-year catch-up programme to vaccinate people from 13 to 25 years of age already living in such situations	Consider feedback then final decision. If approved medicine funded from 1 December 2019
Olaparib (Lynparza)	Ovarian cancer	Tablet	30-40 per year	Consider feedback then final decision. If approved medicine funded from 1 February 2020
Fulvestrant (Faslodex)	Breast cancer	Injection	1,750 in the first year, then 630 per year	Consider feedback then final decision. If approved medicine funded following Medsafe registration
Venetoclax (Venclexta)	Relapsed or refractory chronic lymphocytic leukaemia	Tablet	150 in the first year, rising to 230 by the end of year two	Consider feedback then final decision. If approved medicine funded from 1 December 2019

Overview of medicine funding decisions this financial year

Medicine	Condition it treats	How it is given	Number of people who may benefit	Next steps
Diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis vaccine *Widening access*	Prevention of pertussis (whooping cough)	Injection	8,000 per year	Approved. Medicine funded from 1 July
Rituximab *Widening access*	Neuromyelitis optica spectrum disorder Severe refractory myasthenia gravis	Injection	40 per year	Approved. Medicine funded from 1 August
Bevacizumab and HPV vaccine *Widening access*	Recurrent respiratory papillomatosis	Injection	40 per year	Approved. Medicine funded from 1 August

Intravenous aspirin	Acute interventional cardiology and neuro-radiology procedures	Injection	200 per year	Approved. Medicine funded from 1 August
Adalimumab (Humira) *Widening access*	Behçets disease Severe or chronic eye inflammation	Injection	20 per year	Approved. Medicine will be funded from 1 August/September 2019
Dexrazoxane	Cardiac protection for children and young adults undergoing chemotherapy	Injection	45 per year	Approved. Medicine will be funded from 1 September 2019
Sildenfil *Widening access*	Erectile dysfunction in people with spinal cord injuries	Tablet	1,355 per year	Approved. Medicine will be funded from 1 September 2019
Varenicline *Widening access*	Smoking cessation	Tablet	10,500 per year	Approved. Medicine will be funded from 1 September 2019
Adalimumab (Humira) *Widening access*	Chronic inflammatory skin condition	Injection	75 per year	Consultation closed. Consider feedback then final decision. If approved medicine funded from 1 October 2019
Nicardipine hydrochloride *Widening access*	Antihypertensive / vasodilator in adults	Injection	Not available	Consultation closed. Consider feedback then final decision. If approved medicine funded from 1 October 2019
Ondansetron	Acute nausea	Tablet	Not available	Consultation closed. Consider feedback then final decision. If approved medicine funded from 1 October 1 October 2019
Atomoxetine	Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) (removal of Special Authority)	Tablet	60 per year	Approved. Medicine will be funded from 1 November 2019
Alectinib (Alecensa)	ALK positive advanced non-small cell lung cancer	Tablet	40 to 70 per year	Consultation closed. Consider feedback then final decision. If approved medicine funded from 1 December 2019
Trastuzumab emtansine (Kadcyla)	Her-2 positive metastatic breast cancer	Injection	60 per year	Consultation closed. Consider feedback then final decision. If approved medicine funded from 1 December 2019
Ocrelizumab (Ocrevus)	Relapsing multiple sclerosis	Injection	1,500 per year	Consultation closed. Consider feedback then final decision. If approved medicine funded from 1 December 2019

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RFP factsheet

PHARMAC generally puts out a request for proposals (RFP) when more than one medicine is available to treat a condition. This could be multiple brands of the same medicine, or two different medicines with the same or similar therapeutic effect.

The same or similar therapeutic effect is when two different medicines treat the same health condition and are considered by clinical experts to bring the same or similar results.

PHARMAC will review the bids put forward by pharmaceutical companies in response to the RFP. If PHARMAC chooses a supplier from this process, it will negotiate pricing and supply terms and then proceed to consultation.

Overview of RFP released today

PHARMAC has issued an RFP for a medicine to treat a specific kind of advanced breast cancer. There are two medicines registered in New Zealand that our experts consider would be suitable to treat this kind of advanced breast cancer; one of these is palbociclib (Ibrance), the other is ribociclib (Kisqali).

We are seeking commercial bids from the suppliers of these medicines. If we reach an agreement with a supplier, we would then consult on the proposal. The following table provides details of this RFP.

Medicine	Condition it treats	How it is given	Number of people who may benefit	Next steps
Palbociclib (Ibrance) Ribociclib (Kisqali) These two medicines are both CDK4/CDK6 inhibitors. Our clinical experts considered they have the same or similar therapeutic effect. We are seeking bids for only one CDK4/CDK6 inhibitor to be funded in New Zealand until June 2023.	HR-positive, HER2-negative locally advanced or metastatic breast cancer	Tablet	Up to 550 for first-line treatment Up to 1,600 in the first year, then 400 per year for second-line treatment	RFP bids evaluated by PHARMAC in October 2019 Negotiation with supplier(s) in November 2019 Consultation on a proposal in December 2019 Consider feedback then decision February 2020 Under this indicative timetable, the earliest that funding could be implemented is 1 April 2020

The timeframes are approximate and may be extended if any stages of the RFP process take longer than anticipated.