

19 August 2013

September 2013 Pharmaceutical Schedule Dispatch

This document is provided to pharmacists as an early notification of the changes to be announced in the **September 2013** Update to the Pharmaceutical Schedule. Please notify PHARMAC (0800 66 00 50) to change or remove your contact details.

New listings

- Mesalazine (Pentasa) modified release granules 1 g, 120 g OP (p'code 2443406)
- Tetracosactrin (Synacthen) inj 250 mcg per ml, 1 ml ampoule (p'code 2444836)
- Desmopressin (Minirin) tab 100 mcg (p'code 492620) and 200 mcg (p'code 492639) – Special Authority – Retail pharmacy
- Boceprevir (Victrelis) cap 200 mg (p'code 2442477) – Special Authority – Retail pharmacy
- Risedronate sodium (Risedronate Sandoz) tab 35 mg (p'code 2440202)
- Thiotepa (Tepadina) inj 15 mg – PCT only – Specialist – S29 (p'code 2445700)
- Imipramine hydrochloride (Tofranil S29) tab 10 mg (p'code 2445468) – S29
- Paraffin liquid with soft white paraffin (Refresh Night Time) eye oint (p'code 2436930)
- Pharmacy Services (BSF Acetec) Brand switch fee (p'code 2445441)
- Paediatric oral feed 1 kcal/ml (Pediasure) liquid (chocolate) 200 ml OP (p'code 2444852), (strawberry) 200 ml OP (p'code 2444860), (vanilla) 200 ml OP (p'code 2444844) – Special Authority – Hospital pharmacy [HP3]
- Paediatric oral feed 1 kcal/ml (Pediasure) liquid (vanilla) 250 ml OP (p'code 2444879) – Special Authority – Hospital pharmacy [HP3]

Changes to restrictions, chemical names and presentations

- Enalapril maleate – Brand Switch Fee payable and removal of the stat symbol
- Tetracosactrin (Synacthen) inj 250 mg amendment of presentation to inj 250 mcg per ml, 1 ml ampoule
- Amend interferon alpha-2a to interferon alfa-2a
- Amend interferon alpha-2b to interferon alfa-2b
- Amend pegylated interferon alpha-2a to pegylated interferon alfa-2a – amendment to Special Authority
- Venlafaxine (Arrow-Venlafaxine XR) tab 37.5 mg, 75 mg, 150 mg and 225 mg – removal of Special Authority
- Risperidone (Risperdal Quicklet) tab orally-disintegrating tablets amended to tab orodispersible
- Cytarabine inj – amendment to presentation description
- Paediatric enteral feed with fibre 0.75 kcal/ml changed to paediatric enteral feed with fibre 0.76 kcal/ml
- Imiglucerase inj 40 iu per ml, 200 iu vial and 400 iu vial amendment to access criteria – note the criteria are not printed in the Schedule

Increased subsidy

Chemical	Presentation	Fully subsidised brands	Partially subsidised brands
Pindolol	Tab 5 mg, 10 mg and 15 mg	Apo-Pindolol	
Gemfibrozil	Tab 600 mg	Lipazil	
Lamivudine	Oral liquid, 10 mg per ml	3TC	

Decreased subsidy

Chemical	Presentation	Fully subsidised brands	Partially subsidised brands
Vitamin B complex	Tab, strong, BPC	Bplex B-Plexade	
Ascorbic acid	Tab 100 mg	Vitala-C Cvite	
Vitamins	Tab (BPC cap strength)	MultiADE Mvite	
Potassium iodate	Tab 256 mcg (150 mcg elemental iodine)	NeuroKare	
Dextrose with electrolytes	Soln with electrolytes	Pedialyte -Bubblegum	
Pegylated interferon alfa-2a	Inj 180 mcg prefilled syringe	Pegasys	
Pegylated interferon alfa-2a	Inj 180 mcg prefilled syringe x 4 with ribavirin tab 200 mg x 112 and inj 180 mcg prefilled syringe x 4 with ribavirin tab 200 mg x 168	Pegasys RBV combination pack	
Lidocaine [lignocaine] hydrochloride	Inj 1%, 5 ml ampoule and inj 1%, 20 ml ampoule	Licocaine-Claris*	Xylocaine
Venlafaxine	Tab 37.5 mg, 75 mg, 150 mg and 225 mg	Arrow-Venlafaxine XR Efexor XR*	
Cytarabine	Inj 20 mg per ml, 5 ml; inj 100 mg per ml, 10 ml vial and inj 100 mg per ml, 20 ml vial	Pfizer	
Cytarabine	Inj 1 mg for ECP and inj 100 mg intrathecal syringe for ECP	Baxter	
Mycophenolate mofetil	Tab 500 mg and cap 250 mg	Cellcept Myaccord* Ceptolate*	

* no subsidy changes for these brands

Change to the definition of Specialist

From 1 September 2013 the defined list of approved vocational scopes will be removed from the definition of Specialist. All vocational scopes approved by the Medical Council will now be classed as Specialists. This will see the following four new vocational scopes of practice included that were not previously listed for Specialist subsidy:

- General Practice.
- Pain Medicine
- Rural Hospital Medicine
- Urgent Care (formerly known as Accident and Medical Practice)

What will a vocationally registered general practitioner do differently from 1 September 2013?

For any subsidised pharmaceutical where a Specialist recommendation is required, the vocationally registered general practitioner will be able to authorise that recommendation themselves and will not need to refer their patient on to another practitioner.

What if the medical practitioner does not hold a vocational registration?

There is no change for these prescribers. They will still be required to seek Specialist advice for pharmaceuticals requiring a Specialist recommendation for subsidy.

How can a dispensing pharmacist identify vocationally registered medical practitioners?

Although a pharmacist is not required to check the vocational scope of a medical practitioner under the Schedule rules, they may want to if they are unfamiliar with the vocational registration. Vocational registrations can be checked on the Medical Council of New Zealand's website. It has a searchable register that identifies a practitioner's vocational scope if applicable. Vocationally registered general practitioners may also have 'FRNZCGP' identified with their name and address on their prescription stationery.