

18 February 2015

March 2015 Pharmaceutical Schedule Dispatch

This document is provided to pharmacists as an early notification of the changes to be announced in the **March 2015** Update to the Pharmaceutical Schedule. Please notify PHARMAC (0800 66 00 50) if you want to change or remove your contact details.

New listings

- Flecainide acetate (Tambocor) inj 10 mg per ml, 15 ml ampoule – Pharmacode change (p'code 2447363)
- Amlodipine (Apo-Amlodipine) tab 5 mg (p'code 2384027) and 10 mg (p'code 2384043), 250 tab pack size
- Ketoconazole (Link Healthcare) tab 200 mg – PCT, Retail pharmacy-Specialist, subsidy by endorsement, section 29 (p'code 2475111)
- Pharmacy services (BSF Eprex) brand switch fee – may only be claimed once per patient (p'code 2474727)

Changes to restrictions, chemical names and presentations

- Epoetin alfa [erythropoietin alfa] inj syringes all strengths – addition of Brand Switch Fee
- Atorvastatin (Lipitor, Pfizer atorvastatin, and Zarator) tab 10 mg, 20 mg, 40 mg and 80 mg – Stat dispensing reinstated
- Citalopram hydrobromide (Celapram) tab 20 mg – removal of Brand Switch Fee
- Olanzapine tab 2.5 mg, 5 mg and 10 mg (Zypine) and tab orodispersible 5 mg and 10 mg (Zypine ODT) – removal of Brand Switch Fee
- Quetiapine (Quetapel) tab 25 mg, 100 mg, 200 mg and 300 mg – removal of Brand Switch Fee
- Risperidone (Risperon) oral liq 1 mg per ml – removal of Brand Switch Fee
- Capecitabine (Capecitabine Winthrop) tab 150 mg and 500 mg – removal of Brand Switch Fee
- Amsacrine (Amsidine) inj 50 mg per ml, 1.5 mg ampoule – amended presentation description

Increased subsidy

Chemical	Presentation	Fully subsidised brands
Cyclophosphamide	Inj 1 g and 2 g vial Inj 1 mg for ECP	Endoxan Baxter

Stakeholder survey

We're giving stakeholders the opportunity to tell us how we're doing, what it's like to work with us and what we can do better, through a survey which started in early February.

TNS, an independent research company, are doing the survey on our behalf. A wide range of stakeholders are being surveyed including healthcare professionals, Primary Health Organisations, District Health Boards, pharmaceutical and medical device suppliers, Patient Advocacy groups and Māori and Pacific stakeholders. .

You may have received an email inviting you to participate in the survey. If you haven't and you would like to participate, you can find a link to the survey on our website.

We really value your feedback and hope you can make the time to complete it by **27 February 2015**. Your participation is appreciated, but of course completely voluntary.

Pharmacists – let us know if you would prefer to receive the dispatch and pharmacy notifications via email rather than fax. Please call 0800 66 00 50, option 1.