

17 September 2015

### October 2015 Pharmaceutical Schedule Dispatch

This document is provided to pharmacists as an early notification of the changes to be announced in the **October 2015** Update to the Pharmaceutical Schedule. Please notify PHARMAC (enquiry@pharmac.govt.nz) if you want to change or remove your contact details.

#### New listings

- Metformin hydrochloride (Metformin Mylan) tab immediate-release 850 mg (p'code 2479265)
- Pioglitazone (Vexazone) tab 15 mg (p'code 2479435), 30 mg (p'code 2479443) and 45 mg (p'code 2479451)
- Multivitamin renal (Clinicians Renal Vit) cap – Special Authority – Retail pharmacy (p'code 2479168)
- Factor eight inhibitors bypassing fraction (FEIBA) inj 2,500 U – Xpharm (p'code 2487926)
- Furosemide [frusemide] (Lasix) oral liq 10 mg per ml, 30 ml OP – Pharmacode change (p'code 2489341)
- Diclofenac sodium (Diclofenac Sandoz) tab EC 25 mg (p'code 2355981) and 50 mg (p'code 2356007)
- Diclofenac sodium (Apo-Diclo SR) tab long-acting 75 mg (p'code 2025752) and 100 mg (p'code 2025760)
- Paracetamol (Gacet) suppos 125 mg (p'code 2482711) and 250 mg (p'code 2482738)
- Ethosuximide (Zarontin) cap 250 mg, 100 tab pack (p'code 2489937)
- Aripiprazole (Abilify) tab 5 mg – Special Authority – Retail pharmacy, Safety medicine, no more than 1 tab per day (p'code 2490250)
- Zopiclone (Zopiclone Actavis) tab 7.5 mg – Safety medicine (p'code 2480662)
- Thiotepe (Tepadina) inj 15 mg vial – PCT only – Specialist, section 29, Pharmacode change (p'code 2487985)
- Fluticasone (Floair) aerosol inhaler, 50 mcg per dose (p'code 2438909), 125 mcg per dose (p'code 2438925) and 250 mcg per dose (p'code 2438917), 120 dose OP
- Salmeterol (Meterol) aerosol inhaler 25 mcg per dose, 120 dose OP (p'code 2438895)
- Fluticasone with salmeterol (RexAir) aerosol inhaler 50 mcg with salmeterol 25 mcg (p'code 2438941), and 125 mcg with salmeterol 25 mcg (p'code 2438968), 120 dose OP
- Salbutamol (SalAir) aerosol inhaler 100 mcg per dose CFC free, 200 dose OP – Up to 1000 dose available on a PSO (p'code 2404516)
- Prednisolone sodium phosphate (Minims Prednisolone) eye drops 0.5%, single dose (preservative free) – Special Authority – Retail pharmacy (p'code 307475)
- Dorzolamide with timolol (Arrow-Dortim) eye drops 2% with timolol 0.5%, 5 ml OP (p'code 2480670)
- Pharmacy services (BSF Air Flow Escitalopram) brand switch fee – may only be claimed once per patient (p'code 2489112)
- Oral feed (powder) (Sustagen Hospital Formula) powder (chocolate) (p'code 2489309) and powder (vanilla) (p'code 2489295), 840 g OP – Special Authority – Hospital pharmacy [HP3], higher subsidy with Endorsement

**Changes to restrictions, chemical names and presentations**

- Oxycodone hydrochloride inj 10 mg per ml, 1 ml and 2 ml ampoule (Oxycodone Orion) and inj 50 mg per ml, 1 ml ampoule (OxyNorm) – amended presentation description
- Escitalopram (Air Flow Products) tab 10 mg and 20 mg – addition of Brand Switch Fee
- Ethosuximide (Zarontin) cap 250 mg and oral liq 250 mg per 5 ml – Stat dispensing removed
- Dorzolamide with timolol (Arrow-Dortim and Cosopt) eye drops 2% with timolol – amended chemical name and presentation description
- Dietitians' Prescriptions – General Rule 3.5 removed
- Dietitian prescribing – removal of dietitian eligible pharmaceuticals for subsidy
- Paediatric enteral feed 1.5kcal/ml (Nutrini Energy RTH) liquid – amended chemical name

**Increased subsidy**

Chemical	Presentation	Fully subsidised brands
Phenobarbitone	Tab 15 mg & 30 mg	PSM
Dexamfetamine sulfate	Tab 5 mg	PSM

**Decreased subsidy**

Chemical	Presentation	Fully subsidised brands	Partially subsidised brands
Acarbose	Tab 50 mg & 100 mg	Accarb Glucobay*	
Calamine	Crn, aqueous, BP Lotn, BP	Pharmacy Health PSM	
Chlorhexidine gluconate	Soln 4% wash	healthE*	Orion
Cyproterone acetate	Tab 50 mg & 100 mg	Procur*	Siterone
Domperidone	Tab 10 mg	Prokinex	
Etanercept	Inj 25 mg Inj 50 mg autoinjector Inj 50 mg prefilled syringe	Enbrel	
Isotretinoin	Cap 10 mg & 20 mg	Isotane 10 and 20* Oratane	
Oxycodone hydrochloride	Inj 50 mg per ml, 1 ml ampoule	OxyNorm	
Pioglitazone	Tab 15 mg, 30 mg & 45 mg	Pizaccord Vexazone*	

\* no subsidy changes for these brands for 1 October 2015.

## MS treatments and Special Authority renewals

Fingolimod and natalizumab are two treatments for Multiple Sclerosis (MS) funded via Special Authority (SA) since 1 November 2014. Only a neurologist or general physician (internal medicine specialist; not general practitioners) can apply to renew the SA for these medicines. The application is made to a separate committee and cannot be completed using the usual online process. This committee meets monthly.

As it has been close to a year since these new treatments were funded, some patients have an SA approval number that will soon be expiring. PHARMAC has written to all clinics to remind them of the need to renew the SA approval for patients.

You may wish to remind patients that they need to have their neurologist or general physician renew their SA approval for them so they can continue to access funded treatment. This may help to prevent patients presenting without a valid SA for their treatment.

## Gabapentin – changes to funding

From 1 November 2015, the Neurontin brand of gabapentin 100 mg, 300 mg and 400 mg capsules will be funded under the same Special Authority criteria that currently apply to other brands of gabapentin (Arrow-Gabapentin and Nupentin).

From 1 November 2015, the 600 mg Neurontin tablets will be delisted. More information can be found on our website at <http://www.pharmac.health.nz/news/notification-tnf-inhibitors/>.