

18 November 2016

Upcoming changes to alprazolam (Xanax) tablets

The supplier of alprazolam (Xanax) tablets has informed us that it is no longer commercially viable to supply alprazolam tablets in New Zealand at the current subsidy. As a result, alprazolam will be discontinued once the remaining supplies are exhausted.

To limit the disruption to existing patients we have applied a funding restriction from **1 December 2016**. The funding of alprazolam will have a restriction which means it will not be funded for new patients.

For more information, please see the News Story in the December 2016 Update.

December 2016 Pharmaceutical Schedule Dispatch

This document is provided to pharmacists as an early notification of the changes to be announced in the **December 2016** Update to the Pharmaceutical Schedule. Please notify PHARMAC (enquiry@pharmac.govt.nz) if you want to change or remove your contact details.

New listings

- Alglucosidase alfa (Myozyme) inj 50 mg vial – Special Authority – Retail pharmacy (p'code 2500701)
- Allopurinol (Allopurinol-Apotex) tab 100 mg (p'code 2511878) and 300 mg (p'code 2511886)
- Hydrocortisone (DermAssist) crm 1%, 30 g OP – Only on a prescription (p'code 2513137)
- Idursulfase (Elaprase) inj 2 mg per ml, 3 ml vial – Special Authority – Retail pharmacy (p'code 2336359)
- Loratadine (Lorfast) oral liq 1 mg per ml, 120 ml (p'code 2184419)
- Methyldopa (Methyldopa Mylan) tab 250 mg (p'code 2500167)
- Midazolam (Midazolam-Claris) inj 1 mg per ml, 5 ml ampoule (p'code 2503433) and 5 mg per ml, 3 ml ampoule (p'code 2471302) – Safety medicine
- Temozolomide (Orion Temozolomide) cap 5 mg (p'code 2505940), 20 mg (p'code 2505959), 100 mg (p'code 2505967) and 250 mg (p'code 2505975) – Special Authority – Retail pharmacy
- Terazosin (Apo-Terazosin) tab 5 mg (p'code 2265346)
- Tobramycin (Tobramycin Mylan) inj 40 mg per ml, 2 ml vial – Subsidy by endorsement (p'code 2503492)

Changes to restrictions, chemical names and presentations

- Adalimumab inj 10 mg per 0.2 ml, 20 mg per 0.4 ml and 40 mg per 0.8 ml prefilled syringes (Humira), and inj 40 mg per 0.8 ml prefilled pen (HumiraPen) – amended Special Authority criteria
- Alprazolam (Xanax) tab 250 mcg, 500 mcg and 1 mg – addition of Subsidy by endorsement
- Etanercept (Enbrel) inj 25 mg, 50 mg autoinjector and 50 mg prefilled syringe – amended Special Authority criteria
- Fluphenazine decanoate (Modecate) inj 12.5 mg per 0.5 ml, 0.5 ml, 25 mg per ml, 1 ml, 25 mg per ml, 2 ml and 100 mg per ml, 1 ml – addition of Subsidy by endorsement
- Ibuprofen (Brufen SR) tab long-acting 800 mg – STAT dispensing reinstated
- Ledipasvir with sofosbuvir (Harvoni) tab 90 mg with sofosbuvir 400 mg – amended Special Authority criteria
- Leuprorelin inj 3.75 mg prefilled dual chamber syringe (Lucrin Depot 1 month), 7.5 mg syringe with diluent (Eligard 1 Month), 11.25 mg prefilled dual chamber syringe (Lucrin Depot 3-month), 22.5 mg syringe with diluent (Eligard 3 Month), 30 mg prefilled dual chamber syringe (Lucrin Depot 6-month), and 45 mg syringe with diluent (Eligard 6 Month) – addition of Higher subsidy with Endorsement
- Midazolam (Hypnovel, Midazolam-Clarix and Pfizer) inj 1 mg per ml, 5 ml ampoule and 5 mg per ml, 3 ml ampoule – amended presentation description
- Paritaprevir, ritonavir and ombitasvir with dasabuvir (Viekira Pak) tab 75 mg with ritonavir 50 mg, and ombitasvir 12.5 mg (56), with dasabuvir tab 250 mg (56) – amended note
- Paritaprevir, ritonavir and ombitasvir with dasabuvir and ribavirin (Viekira Pak-RBV) Tab 75 mg with ritonavir 50 mg, and ombitasvir 12.5 mg (56) with dasabuvir tab 250 mg (56) and ribavirin tab 200 mg (168) – amended note
- Propranolol (Cardinol LA) cap long-acting 160 mg – STAT dispensing removed
- Tobramycin (Tobramycin Mylan and DBL Tobramycin) inj 40 mg per ml, 2 ml vial – amended presentation description
- Triamcinolone acetonide inj 10 mg per ml, 1 ml ampoule (Kenacort-A 10) and inj 40 mg per ml, 1 ml ampoule (Kenacort-A 40) – addition of up to 5 inj available on a PSO

Decreased subsidy

Chemical	Presentation	Fully subsidised brands	Partially subsidised brands
Ceftriaxone	Inj 1 g vial	DEVA*	Ceftriaxone-AFT
Cetirizine hydrochloride	Tab 10 mg	Zista*	Zetop
Cilazapril	Tab 2.5 mg and 5 mg	Apo-Cilazapril*	Zapril
Clobetasol propionate	Crn 0.05%, 30 g OP and oint 0.055, 30 g OP	Dermol*	Clobetasol BNM
Leuprorelin	inj 3.75 mg prefilled dual chamber syringe inj 11.25 mg prefilled dual chamber syringe inj 30 mg prefilled dual chamber syringe Inj 7.5 mg syringe with diluent inj 22.5 mg syringe with diluent Inj 45 mg syringe with diluent	Zoladex (gosarelin)*	Lucrin Depot 1-month** Lucrin Depot 3-month** Lucrin Depot 6-month** Eligard 1 month** Eligard 3 month** Eligard 6 month**
Pantoprazole	Tab EC 20 mg Tab EC 40 mg	Panzop Relief* Panzop Relief*	Pantoprazole Actavis 20 Pantoprazole Actavis 40

* no subsidy changes for these brands for 1 December 2016.

**fully subsidised by Endorsement

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