

16 March 2018

April 2018 Pharmaceutical Schedule Dispatch

This document is provided to pharmacists as an early notification of the changes to be announced in the **April 2018** Update to the Pharmaceutical Schedule. Please notify PHARMAC (enquiry@pharmac.govt.nz) if you want to change or remove your contact details.

New listings

- Aminoacid formula without phenylalanine liquid (juicy tropical) 125 ml, 30 OP (PKU Lophlex LQ 20) (p'code 2528592); oral semi-solid (berries) 109 g, 36 OP (PKU Lophlex Sensation 20) (p'code 2528606) – Special Authority – Hospital pharmacy [HP3]
- Ciprofloxacin (Ciprofloxacin Teva) eye drops 0.3%, 5 ml OP – subsidy by endorsement (p'code 2539144)
- Ethambutol hydrochloride (EMB Fatol) tab 100 mg – Retail pharmacy-Specialist, no patient co-payment payable, S29, wastage claimable (p'code 2540746)
- Pharmacy services (BSF Rolin) brand switch fee – may be claimed once per patient (p'code 2540959)
- Phenoxybenzamine hydrochloride (Dibenzyline) cap 10 mg – S29, wastage claimable (p'code 2541793)
- Prednisolone acetate (Pred Forte) eye drops 1%, 5 ml OP (p'code 260533)
- Varicella zoster virus (oka strain) live attenuated vaccine [shingles vaccine] (Zostavax) inj 19,400 PFU prefilled syringe plus vial, 1 inj (p'code 2493039) and 10 inj pack (p'code 2535858) – Xpharm, funding criteria applies

Changes to restrictions, chemical names and presentations

- Anastrozole (Rolin) tab 1 mg – Brand Switch Fee payable
- Escitalopram (Escitalopram-Apotex) tab 10 mg and 20 mg – amended brand name
- Furosemide [frusemide] (Urex Forte) tab 500 mg – Sole Supple suspended 2 March 2018
- Montelukast (Apo-Montelukast) tab 4 mg, 5 mg and 10 mg – Special Authority removed and addition of STAT dispensing

Increased subsidy

Chemical	Presentation	Fully subsidised brands
Cytarabine	Inj 20 mg per ml, 5 ml vial Inj 100 mg intrathecal syringe for ECP, 100 mg OP	Pfizer Baxter
Daunorubicin	Inj 2 mg per ml, 10 ml Inj 20 mg for ECP, 20 mg OP	Pfizer Baxter

Decreased subsidy

Chemical	Presentation	Fully subsidised brands	Partially subsidised brands*
Clonazepam	Tab 500 mcg and 2 mg	Paxam	
Docusate sodium with sennosides	Tab 50 mg with sennosides 8 mg	Laxsol	
Ferrous fumarate with folic acid	Tab 310 mg (100 mg elemental) with folic acid 350 mcg	Ferro-F-Tabs	
Prednisolone	Oral liq 5 mg per ml, 30 ml OP	Redipred	

Increased price but not subsidy

Chemical	Presentation	Fully subsidised brands	Partially subsidised brands*
Oestrogens	Conjugated, equine tab 300 mcg and 625 mcg		Premarin
Oral feed (powder)	Powder (chocolate and vanilla)	Ensure* Fortisip*	Sustagen Hospital Formula

* no price or subsidy changes for these brands for 1 April 2018.

Changes to the Pharmaceutical Schedule Rules – consultation

PHARMAC has begun consultation on changes to the Pharmaceutical Schedule Rules, to make them easier to find, use and apply.

PHARMAC is proposing to tidy up the rules by bringing them together in one place and removing redundant text. Practical resources will be developed to help explain the rules.

The proposed changes to the Schedules Rules should make it easier for health professionals to help their patients, but PHARMAC wants to hear from you to make sure we get this right.

Consultation on the proposed changes to the Pharmaceutical Schedule rules is on our website (<https://www.pharmac.govt.nz/news/consultation-2018-02-15-schedule-rules-changes/>) and is open until Thursday 29 March 2018. We encourage you to respond to it.