

Weekly media and issues update

For the week ending: 28 February 2020

PHARMAC Senior Leadership Team	PHARMAC Communications Team
Minister of Health Press Secretaries	Minister of Health Private Secretary
Ministry of Health Deputy Director General System Strategy and Policy	Ministry of Health Manager System Stewardship
Ministry of Health Relationship Manager	Ministry of Health Media Team

This update may contain personal or sensitive information that must not be disclosed or forwarded to anyone other than the recipients listed above.

On call communications advisor

Senior communications advisor Jane Wright is on call. The on-call media phone number is 021 863 342.

Communications team

- Jannel Fisher, communications manager – s9(2)(a)
- Jane Wright, senior communications advisor s9(2)(a)
- Cameron Webb, communications advisor – s9(2)(a)

Act

Out of Scope

Media responses

Subject	Media outlet	Details
COVID-19 and medicine supply	NZ Doctor RNZ Wall Street Journal	<p>On Monday we provided responses to the New Zealand Doctor and RNZ on if New Zealand was having supply issues as a result of COVID-19. We have advised them about the contingency planning that was happening with suppliers.</p> <p>On Thursday we provided information to the Wall Street Journal on the PHARMAC model and how our contract process works when there is a global shortage of medicines.</p>

Out of Scope

Fluoxetine	RNZ NZ Herald Newshub radio Newshub TVNZ Pharmacy Today	<p>On Monday our director of operations, Lisa Williams, spoke with RNZ and responded to questions from NZ Herald on Thursday. Following their stories on Friday morning, we provided information to Newshub, TVNZ and Pharmacy Today. Lisa spoke with Newshub radio.</p> <p>The currently funded brand of fluoxetine is Arrow-Fluoxetine. There is information on our</p>
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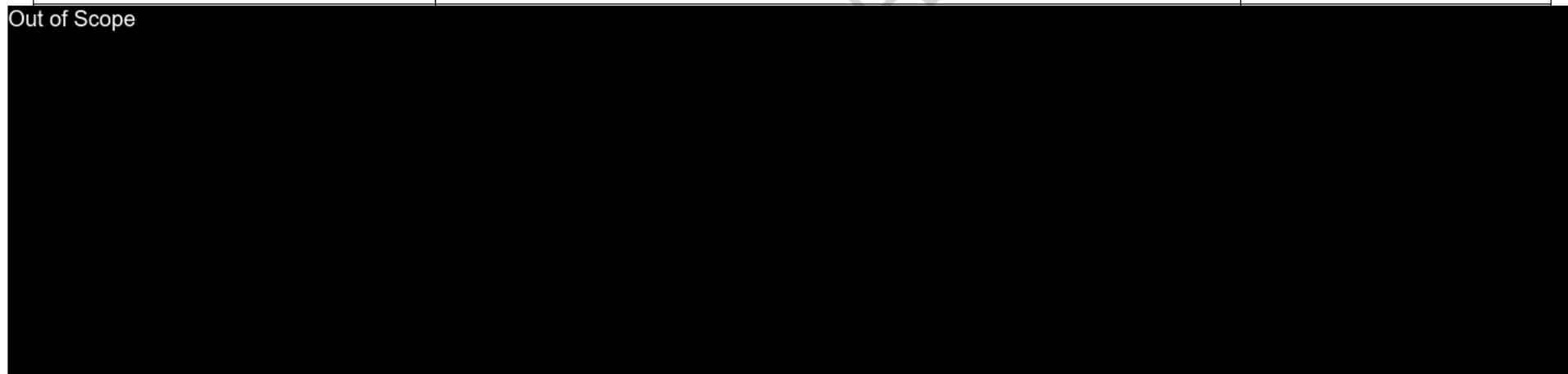
Official Act
Released

		website which confirms there are manufacturing delays affecting the supply of Arrow-Fluoxetine tab dispersible 20 mg and 20 mg capsule. On Monday PHARMAC instructed pharmacists to dispense one months' supply, instead of three months' supply. This is to help ensure that no patients miss out on treatment. The additional stock is expected to arrive in mid-March 2020, and we will be able to reassess those dispensing limits then.
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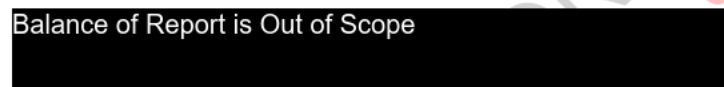
Official Information Act responses sent or received this week

Requestor	Request	Date
s9(2)(a)	Security of supply of medications	Received 28 Feb 20
s9(2)(a)	Pharmac medications from China	Received 25 Feb 20

Out of Scope



Balance of Report is Out of Scope



Official Information Act

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