

20 December 2012

Decision to fund Paradigm X22 insulin pump and consumables

PHARMAC is pleased to announce the approval of an agreement with Medtronic New Zealand Ltd for the funding of Paradigm X22 insulin pumps and related consumables. This was the subject of a consultation letter dated 26 November 2012. In summary, the effect of the decision is that:

- Paradigm X22 (522 and 722) insulin pumps and consumables will be fully funded from 1 January 2013, subject to the existing Special Authority criteria;
- Two different models of the Paradigm X22 pump will be available: the 522 and the 722 - these models are designed to hold different cartridge sizes, based on the volume of insulin required and are each available in five different colours;
- The dual supply period will run from 1 January 2013 until 30 June 2015; and
- Paradigm X22 will be listed in addition to the Animas brand of insulin pumps and consumables (listed 1 September 2012).

The consultation letter can be found at the following link:

<http://pharmac.govt.nz/2012/11/26/Medtronic%20listing%20for%20insulin%20pumps.pdf>

Details of the Decision

The decision is to list Paradigm insulin pumps and consumables in Section B of the Pharmaceutical Schedule from 1 January 2013. Full details of the funded products can be found in the consultation letter (see link above).

One insulin pump will be funded per patient, not more frequently than once every 4 years (warranty period). Patients should be advised to note the terms of warranty at the time of being fitted with a pump. Patients will be responsible for theft or damage not covered by the warranty and therefore should be advised to consider personal insurance for the device.

All existing restrictions will apply to these insulin pumps and consumables.

Applications for funding of insulin pumps and consumables can be submitted electronically online or by completing a PDF form and sending it to the Insulin Pump Panel Co-ordinator at PHARMAC. The application forms (Special Authority form 1237 and 1240) can be found on the PHARMAC website at the following link: www.pharmac.govt.nz/healthpros/SAForms

The Special Authority criteria can be found at the following link: www.pharmac.govt.nz/2012/08/31?q=collated+insulin+pumps

Feedback received

We appreciate all of the feedback that we received and acknowledge the time people took to respond. All consultation responses received by 5 pm, 7 December 2012 were considered in their entirety in making a decision on the proposed changes.

Most responses were supportive of the proposal, and the issues below were raised in relation to specific aspects of the proposal:

Theme	Comment
The ability to do continuous glucose monitoring (CGM) with the Medtronic Veo pump and the CareLink software enables clinicians to micromanage the patient's pump and diabetes management and therefore recommend that the Veo pump and CGM consumables should be funded.	PHARMAC staff note that the X22 pump being consulted on (not the Veo X54 pump) also has CGM capability. We have not assessed CGM for funding at this time however we anticipate reviewing this technology in 2013. The X22 pump is compatible with CareLink software and patients can be monitored remotely.
The use of the funded adaptor cartridges which fit the Paradigm pump may risk the warranty of the pump, and consider that the specialised Paradigm cartridges should be funded for this reason.	PHARMAC has decided to fund the Paradigm cartridges. Patients will therefore have funded access to the branded cartridges.
The Carelink software has been installed and is an important tool for managing patients diabetes. However for DHBs who do not have it installed, there may be resource and technical issues in making the software available for use.	The CareLink software is available free of charge to DHBs that wish to utilise it. The supplier, Medtronic, has advised that most major centres currently supporting patients with insulin pumps have CareLink installed.

More information

If you have any questions about this decision, you can call our toll free number (9 am to 5 pm, Monday to Friday) on 0800 66 00 50.