

17 January 2018

February 2019 Pharmaceutical Schedule Dispatch

This document is provided to pharmacists as an early notification of the changes to be announced in the **February 2019** Update to the Pharmaceutical Schedule. Please notify PHARMAC (enquiry@pharmac.govt.nz) if you want to change or remove your contact details.

New listings

- Acarbose (Acarbose Mylan) tab 100 mg – S29 and wastage claimable (p'code 2560666)
- Aminoacid formula without phenylalanine powder (vanilla) 36 g sachet (PKU Anamix Junior Vanilla) (p'code 2556162) and powder (chocolate) 36 g sachet (PKU Anamix Junior Chocolate) (p'code 2556154) – Special Authority – Hospital pharmacy [HP3]
- Baclofen (Medsurge) inj 2 mg per ml, 5 ml ampoule – subsidy by endorsement (p'code 2560054)
- Celecoxib (Celebrex) cap 100 mg (p'code 380857)
- Coal tar with salicylic acid and sulphur (Coco-Scalp) soln 12% with salicylic acid 2% and sulphur 4% oint, 25 g OP (p'code 2461617)
- Epoetin alfa (Binocrit) inj 1,000 iu in 0.5 ml syringe (p'code 2559765); inj 2,000 iu in 1 ml, syringe (p'code 2559773); inj 3,000 iu in 0.3 ml, syringe (p'code 2559781); inj 4,000 iu in 0.4 ml, syringe (p'code 2559803); inj 5,000 iu in 0.5 ml, syringe (p'code 2559811); inj 6,000 iu in 0.6 ml, syringe (p'code 2559838); inj 8,000 iu in 0.8 ml, syringe (p'code 2559846); inj 10,000 iu in 1 ml, syringe (p'code 2559854); inj 40,000 iu in 1 ml, syringe (p'code 2559862) – Special Authority – Retail pharmacy – wastage claimable
- Glatiramer acetate (Copaxone) inj 40 mg prefilled syringe – Special Authority and no patient co-payment payable (p'code 2545349)
- Glecaprevir with pibrentasvir (Maviret) tab 100 mg with pibrentasvir 40 mg, 84 OP – [Xpharm] (p'code 2552019)
- Infliximab inj 100 mg (Remicade) (p'code 2016710) and inj 1 mg for ECP (Baxter) (p'code 2478420) – PCT only – Special Authority
- Latanoprost (Teva) eye drops 0.005%, 2.5 ml OP (p'code 2553139)
- Moclobemide (Aurorix) tab 150 mg (p'code 2560429) and 300 mg (p'code 2560437)
- Modafinil (Modavigil) tab 100 mg, 60 tab pack – Special Authority – Retail pharmacy (p'code 2560615)
- Tetracosactrin (Synacthene Retard) inj 1 mg per ml, 1 ml ampoule – S29 and wastage claimable (p'code 2560003)
- Tocilizumab inj 20 mg per ml, 4 ml vial (p'code 2337983); inj 20 mg per ml, 10 ml vial (p'code 2337991) and inj 20 mg per ml, 20 ml vial (p'code 2440571) (Actemra) and inj 1 mg for ECP (Baxter) (p'code 2478439) – PCT only – Special Authority

Changes to restrictions, chemical names and presentations

- Acarbose tab 50 mg (Glucobay) and tab 100 mg (Glucobay and Acarbose Mylan) – remove stat dispensing
- Alendronate sodium (Fosamax) tab 70 mg – Special Authority removed
- Alendronate sodium with colecalciferol (Fosamax Plus) tab 70 mg with colecalciferol 5,600 iu – Special Authority removed
- Aripiprazole (Aripiprazole Sandoz) tab 5 mg, 10 mg, 15 mg, 20 mg and 30 mg – Brand Switch Fee removed
- Denosumab (Prolia) inj 60 mg prefilled syringe – amended Special Authority criteria
- Doxepin hydrochloride (Anten) cap 10 mg, 25 mg and 50 mg – Subsidy by endorsement added
- Emulsifying ointment (AFT) oint BP – reinstate stat dispensing
- Epoetin alfa inj 1,000 iu in 0.5 ml, syringe; inj 3,000 iu in 0.3 ml, syringe; inj 4,000 iu in 0.4 ml, syringe; inj 5,000 iu in 0.5 ml, syringe; inj 6,000 iu in 0.6 ml, syringe; inj 8,000 iu in 0.8 ml, syringe; inj 10,000 iu in 1 ml, syringe and inj 40,000 iu in 1 ml, syringe (Eprex and Binocrit); inj 2,000 iu in 0.5 ml, syringe (Eprex) and inj 2,000 iu in 1 ml, syringe (Binocrit) – amended Special Authority criteria and chemical name
- Ethinyloestradiol with levonorgestrel (Levlen ED) tab 30 mcg with levonorgestrel 150 mcg and 7 inert tablets – stat dispensing removed, dispensing quantity note added and PSO quantity amended
- Gabapentin (Apo-Gabapentin) cap 100 mg, 300 mg and 400 mg – Brand Switch Fee removed
- Glatiramer acetate (Copaxone) inj 20 mg prefilled syringe – amended Special Authority criteria and [Xpharm] restriction moved from chemical to presentation level
- Levodopa with carbidopa (Sinemet) tab 250 mg with carbidopa 25 mg – reinstate stat dispensing
- Medroxyprogesterone acetate (Provera and Provera S29) tab 2.5 mg and 5 mg – reinstate stat dispensing
- Raloxifene hydrochloride (Evista) tab 60 mg – amended Special Authority criteria
- Rituximab inj 100 mg per 10 ml vial and 500 mg per 50 ml vial (Mabthera) and inj 1 mg for ECP (Baxter) – amended Special Authority criteria
- Tenofovir disoproxil (Tenofovir Disoproxil Teva) tab 245 mg (300.6 mg as a succinate) – Brand Switch Fee removed
- Zoledronic acid (Aclasta) inj 0.05 mg per ml, 100 ml vial – amended Special Authority criteria

Increased subsidy

Chemical	Presentation	Fully subsidised brands
Disulfiram	Tab 200 mg	Antabuse
Epirubicin hydrochloride	Inj 2 mg per ml, 100 ml vial	Epirubicin Ebewe
Irinotecan hydrochloride	Inj 20 mg per ml, 5 ml vial	Irinotecan Actavis 100
Procarbazine hydrochloride	Cap 50 mg	Natulan

Decreased subsidy

Chemical	Presentation	Fully subsidised brands	Partially subsidised brands
Alendronate sodium	Tab 70 mg	Fosamax	
Alendronate sodium with colecalciferol	Tab 70 mg with colecalciferol 5,600 iu	Fosamax Plus	
Bimatoprost	Eye drops 0.03%, 3 ml OP	Bimatoprost Multichem*	Bimatoprost Actavis
Metformin hydrochloride	Tab immediate-release 500 mg Tab immediate-release 850 mg	Apotex*	Metchek Metformin Mylan
Modafinil	Tab 100 mg, 30 tab pack	Modavigil	
Paracetamol	Suppos 500 mg	Gacet*	Paracare

* no subsidy changes for these brands for 1 February 2019.

Epoetin alfa inj – shortened brand transition

From 1 February 2019, the Binocrit brand (Novartis) of epoetin alfa will be funded, with sufficient stock available for purchase now. Binocrit will replace the Eprex brand (Janssen) which will be delisted from 1 April 2019 (note reduced transition period from previous notification). Special Authority criteria will continue to apply for epoetin alfa.

We have informed DHB Renal Centres about the change and the shortened transition period and suggested to prescribers it is preferable the patient is given a new prescription for Binocrit during the 2-month transition period.

More information on this brand change can be found on our website at:

<https://www.pharmac.govt.nz/medicines/my-medicine-has-changed/erythropoietin/>.