

Active ingredient Name	Principle	Note
Abiraterone acetate 125 mg tablet and Abiraterone acetate 125 mg tablet and methylprednisolone 4 mg tablet combination	Similarity in active ingredient names	Availability of the single and composite pack may cause confusion.
Adrenaline (epinephrine) injection; all available strengths and formulations	Differences in administration/delivery device	Even though brands are interchangeable, there are differences in Anapen's delivery device. Non-Anapen and Anapen products should not be prescribed to same patient without training in their use.
Agalisadase and other related products of Enzyme Replacement Therapy (ERT) (including pegunisolalidase); all available strengths and formulations	Similarity in active ingredient names	Availability of alfa and beta formulations may cause confusion and selection errors.
Amphotericin B injection (including as lipid complex or as liposomal); all available strengths and formulations	Differences in dosing regimen and/or rates of administration	Different formulations (e.g. liposomal) have the same chemical name, but different dosing and/or rates of administration.
Antithymocyte immunoglobulin type injection from any source; in all available strengths and formulations	Similarity in active ingredient names	Availability of equine and rabbit formulations may cause confusion and selection errors.
Beclomethasone dipropionate; all available strengths and formulations	Same active ingredient and strength for different indications	Same active ingredient and strength is used for a different indication as a nasal spray.
Betamethasone; all available strengths and formulations	Differences in release characteristics	Different formulations "optimised vehicle" cream/ointment and regular cream/ointment have different release characteristics.
Bifidobacterium and lactobacillus containing products; all available strengths, formulations and combinations	Differences in dosing regimen and/or rates of administration	Drops and capsules are available, which may lead to dosing differences.
Botulinum toxin types A and B; all available strengths and formulations	Brands are not therapeutically equivalent; Differences in dosing regimens for the same indications; Differences in administration/delivery device	Brands are not therapeutically equivalent and are not interchangeable. They differ in dosing regimens for the same indications, as well as in formulation and route of administration.
Budesonide + formoterol fumarate dihydrate inhalation; all available strengths	Differences in administration/delivery device	Same active ingredients and same strength available as pressurised metered dose inhaler and a dry powder inhaler. Delivery device continuity is required.
C1 esterase inhibitor injection; all available strengths	Brands are not therapeutically equivalent; Differences in dosing regimens for different indications	
Carbamazepine; all available strengths and formulations	Narrow therapeutic index; Differences in release characteristics	When prescribing carbamazepine 200 mg, you may specify brand to eliminate confusion between immediate release and modified release tablets.
Ciclosporin containing products; all available strengths and formulations	Narrow therapeutic index; Differences in administration/delivery device	Switching between brands once patient has been stabilised on one brand of ciclosporin, may lead to clinically important changes in blood ciclosporin concentration.
Clozapine; all available strengths and formulations	Narrow therapeutic index; Highly Specialised Drug; Brands are not therapeutically equivalent	Different brands are not 'a' flagged on the PBS. There are specific brand patient monitoring systems.
Contraceptives and Menopause Hormone Therapy (MHT); all available strengths and formulations	Similarity in active ingredient names	There are many oral contraceptive and MHT products that include the same, or similar, active ingredient names which could lead to prescribing, dispensing and administration errors.
Epoetin type injection and related products (including Methoxy polyethylene glycol); all available strengths and formulations	Similarity in active ingredient names	Similar names and similar looking strengths are a potential source of confusion and selection error.
Everolimus; all available strengths and formulations	Narrow therapeutic index; Differences in dosing regimens for different indications	The dispersible tablets are not interchangeable with the regular tablets as they have a lower bioavailability. Switching formulations should only be done under specialist advice, with therapeutic drug monitoring required.
Eye drops containing Atropine sulfate; all available strengths and formulations	Differences in dosing for different indications	Different formulations for different indications, however the similarity in the strength may lead to confusion between products.
Eye drops containing Bimatoprost, Brimonidine, Brinzolamide, Dorzolamide, Latanoprost, Timolol or Travoprost; all available strengths, formulations and combinations	Similarity in active ingredient names	Availability of different formulations and combination may cause confusion and selection error. The 'PF' formulation indicates 'preservative free' and is available in single use dose units.
Eye drops containing Fluorometholone; all available strengths and formulations	Brands not therapeutically equivalent	Brands are not interchangeable.
Fluorouracil creams; all available strengths	Similarity in active ingredient names	Similarity in active ingredient names may lead to confusion and selection error.
Fluticasone powder for inhalation; all available strengths and formulations	Similarity in active ingredient names	Similarity in active ingredient name, and the availability of overlapping strengths may cause confusion and selection error. Arnuity is not interchangeable with Flixotide/Axotide. They have different inhalation devices.
Follitropin injection types; all available strengths and formulations	Differences in dosing regimen and/or rates of administration; Differences in administration/delivery device	These are biosimilar medicines but have different dosing and/or rates of administration. Use of biosimilar name only may lead to selection and administration error. Delivery device continuity required. Patient familiarity with one brand is important, as instructions for use vary between preparations. Pen devices are different and not interchangeable. User training is required. Use of the biosimilar name alone could lead to prescribing, dispensing and administration errors. These items are not 'a' flagged.
Formoterol fumarate dihydrate powder for inhalation; all available strengths	Medicines are not therapeutically equivalent; Differences in administration/delivery device	Administration delivery devices have different instructions for use and consumer familiarity with one product is an important contributor to consumer compliance and safety.

Intramuscular (IM) injectable antipsychotics (including Aripiprazole, Chlorpromazine hydrochloride, Droperidol, Flupentixol decanoate, Fluphenazine decanoate, Haloperidol, Olanzapine, Paliperidone, Prochlorperazine mesilate, Risperidone, Ziprasidone, Zuclophenthixol acetate); all available strengths and formulations	Differences in release characteristics; High-risk medicine (antipsychotic)	There may be confusion between the oral formulation and injections, additional brand specification is appropriate.
Insulin; all available strengths and formulations	Narrow therapeutic index; High-risk medicine (insulin); Similarity in active ingredient names; Differences in dosing regimens for the same indications; Differences in administration/delivery device	Delivery device continuity is required as instruction between brands and pen devices are different, and user training is required. There are many insulin products that include the same, or similar, active ingredient names.
Interferon types and related products (including Peginterferon); all available strengths and formulations	Similarity in active ingredient names	No 'a' flagging across brands. Potential for pegylated interferon to be confused with interferon products and may lead to selection error.
Iron injections; in all available strengths and formulations	Differences in administration/delivery device; Differences in dosing regimens for the same indications; Similarity in active ingredient names	Some brands are administered by intravenous injection or infusion while others may also be administered intramuscularly.
Itraconazole; all available strengths and formulations	Differences in dosing regimens for the same indications	Preparations are not interchangeable.
Lenalidomide; all available strengths	Highly Specialised Drug	The bioequivalent brands of lenalidomide are not considered equivalent for the purposes of substitution on the PBS as each brand has specific patient risk management programs.
Leuprorelin acetate containing products; all available strengths, formulations and combinations	Differences in administration/delivery device	Lucrin is administered by intramuscular injection. Eligard is administered by subcutaneous injection.
Levodopa + benserazide; all available strengths and formulations	Differences in release characteristics; Similarity in active ingredient names	
Levothyroxine sodium tablet; all available strengths	Brands are not therapeutically equivalent	Eltroxin is not bioequivalent on a same-dose basis with Oroxine, Eutroxsig or Levoxine.
Lithium carbonate; all available strengths and formulations	Narrow therapeutic index; Similarity in active ingredient names	
Melatonin; all available strengths and formulations	Brands are not therapeutically equivalent; Differences in dosing regimen and/or rates of administration; Differences in release characteristics; Differences in dosing regimens for the same indications (insomnia); Difference in dosing regimens for different approved indications	Different formulations exist for different indications, with the same strength (Voquily immediate release capsules 5mg indicated for children 6-18 years while Slenyto prolonged release tablet 5 mg is indicated for children 2 – 18 years). The active ingredient of melatonin meets the principles for inclusion in the LMBC - different formulation, same active, different indications or dosing regimens or different release characteristics.
Mesalazine; all available strengths and formulations	Brands not therapeutically equivalent; Differences in release characteristics; Similarity in active ingredient names	There is no 'a' or 'b' flagging across the different brands of enteric tablets including Mesasal, Salofalk and Asacol. Therapeutic equivalence has not been demonstrated between Pentasa and Salofalk brands of mesalazine modified release granules. There is no 'a' or 'b' flagging across the different brands of mesalazine suppository or enema formulations.
Methylphenidate hydrochloride; all available strengths and formulations	Differences in release characteristics	Similarity in strength and active ingredient.
Methylprednisolone; all available strengths and formulations	Differences in dosing regimen and/or rates of administration; Similarity in active ingredient names	Similarity in active ingredient names may lead to selection errors.
Misoprostol containing products (including Mifepristone and misoprostol tablet pack); all available strengths, formulations and combinations	Brands are not therapeutically equivalent; Differences in dosing regimen for different indications; Similarity of active ingredient names	Availability of the single and composite pack may cause confusion.
Monobasic sodium phosphate monohydrate + dibasic sodium phosphate heptahydrate enema	Differences in dosing and/or strength; Similarity in active ingredient names	
Mycophenolate; all available strengths and formulations	Narrow therapeutic index (immunosuppressant)	Switching between brand and generic formulations or between generic formulations should only be initiated by a transplant specialist.
Opioid product - Buprenorphine; all available strengths and formulations	Differences in dosing regimen and/or rates of administration; Differences in dosing regimens for the same indications; Differences in administration/delivery device; Differences in release characteristics; Medicines not therapeutically equivalent; High-risk medicine (opioid)	Buprenorphine sublingual or injection formulations are available for opiate dependence, while transdermal formulations are generally used for pain relief. All doses of buprenorphine should have brand specified to ensure selection error does not occur.
Opioid product - Fentanyl; all available strengths and formulations	Narrow therapeutic index; High-risk medicine (opioid analgesic)	Fentanyl patches are available as matrix and reservoir formulations. Reservoir patches must not be cut because damage to the rate-limiting membrane can lead to rapid release of fentanyl resulting in overdose. Risk of abuse with reservoir patches.
Opioid product - Hydromorphone hydrochloride; all available strengths and formulations	Different formulation release characteristics; High-risk medicine (opioid analgesic); Differences in administration/delivery device; Narrow therapeutic index	Hydromorphone immediate release and modified release tablets have overlapping strengths which may cause selection error. There may also be confusion between hydromorphone and other morphine salt injections. Formulations are not interchangeable.
Opioid product - Morphine; all available strengths and formulations	Differences in release characteristics; High-risk medicine (opioid analgesic); Similarity in active ingredient names	There is immediate release and modified release formulations for both capsules and tablets. Similarities in active ingredient names may lead to confusion and selection error. It is not possible to ensure bioequivalence between different brands of modified release morphine products. Caution is needed when changing between different brands of sustained or modified release morphine, or other strong opioid analgesic preparations.

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Opioid product - Oxycodone; all available strengths and formulations	Differences in release characteristics; High-risk medicine (opioid analgesic)	
Opioid product - Tramadol; all available strengths and formulations	Narrow therapeutic index; High-risk medicine (opioid)	
Paclitaxel; all available strengths and formulations	Differences in release characteristics; Differences in dosing regimens for different indications; Similarity in active ingredient names	The brands of paclitaxel (NOT nanoparticle albumin bound) are interchangeable.
Pomalidomide; all available strengths	Highly Specialised Drug	The bioequivalent brands of pomalidomide are not considered equivalent for the purposes of substitution on the PBS as each brand has specific patient risk management programs.
Primidone 250 mg tablet	Narrow therapeutic index (anti-epileptic)	There is no 'a' or 'b' flagging across both brands of primidone.
Quinine; all available strengths and formulations	Similarity in active ingredient names; Brands are not therapeutically equivalent	
Risedronate sodium; all available strengths, formulations and combinations	Differences in release characteristics; Brands not therapeutically equivalent; Different formulations for the same indications, the similarity in the strength and active ingredient may lead to confusion between products	
Salbutamol; all available strengths and formulations	Differences in administration/delivery device	An autohaler is a breath actuated inhaler, which automatically releases a metered dose, without the patient having to manage actuation with inspiration. An inhaler is a conventional "press and breathe" metered dose inhaler. Delivery device continuity is recommended.
Semaglutide solution for injection; all available strengths	Same active ingredient and strength for different indications	Different brands of the same active ingredient and strength have different dosing regimens for different approved indications.
Growth hormone injection including somatropin, somatrogan, somapacitan; all available strengths and formulations	Differences in dosing regimen and/or rates of administration; Differences in release characteristics; Similarity in active ingredient name and strength; Highly Specialised Drug	There are many different brands of somatropin, which all come in different devices, formulations and presentations and are not interchangeable. Confusion in dosing could lead to adverse results in children diagnosed with growth hormone deficiency. Similarity of active ingredient name with somatropin may cause confusion and selection errors
Tacrolimus; all available strengths and formulations	Narrow therapeutic index; Differences in release characteristics	There are overlapping strengths between the immediate release and modified release capsules.
Theophylline and Aminophylline; all available strengths	Narrow therapeutic index	Aminophylline is a theophylline-ethylenediamine complex. Aminophylline and theophylline are not directly interchangeable on a mg-for-mg basis
Tolvaptan tablet; all available strengths	Different formulations of the same active ingredient have different dosing	Brands are not interchangeable.
Trastuzumab injection; all available strengths and formulations	Similarity in active ingredient names	The availability of the same active ingredient as different formulations may cause confusion and selection error. Potential for confusion between an antibody and antibody-medicine conjugate.
Warfarin tablets; all available strengths	Brands are not therapeutically equivalent	Brands are not interchangeable.