



Australian Government

**Department of Health
and Aged Care**



Schedule of Pharmaceutical Benefits

Summary of Changes

Effective 1 July 2024



Fees, Patient Contributions and Safety Net Thresholds

The following fees, patient contributions and safety net thresholds apply as at 1 July 2024 and are included, where applicable, in prices published in the Schedule —

Dispensing Fees:	Ready-prepared	\$8.67
	Dangerous drug fee	\$5.37
	Extemporaneously-prepared	\$10.71
	Allowable additional patient charge*	\$3.45
Additional Fees (for safety net prices):	Ready-prepared	\$1.45
	Extemporaneously-prepared	\$1.87
Patient Co-payments:	General	\$31.60
	Concessional	\$7.70
Safety Net Thresholds:	General	\$1647.90
	Concessional	\$277.20
Safety Net Card Issue Fee:		\$12.04

* The allowable additional patient charge is a discretionary charge to general patients if a pharmaceutical item has a dispensed price for maximum quantity less than the general patient co-payment. The pharmacist may charge general patients the allowable additional fee but the fee cannot take the cost of the prescription above the general patient co-payment for the medicine. This fee does not count towards the Safety Net threshold.

Summary of Changes

These changes to the Schedule of Pharmaceutical Benefits are effective from 1 July 2024. The Schedule is updated on the first day of each month and is available on the internet at www.pbs.gov.au.

Prescriber Bag

Deletions

Deletion – Brand

13801J *Benzylpenicillin Benzathine (Brancaster Pharma, UK), OJ* – **BENZATHINE BENZYLPENICILLIN**, benzathine benzylpenicillin 1.2 million units powder for injection [1 vial] (&) inert substance diluent [5 mL vial], 1 pack

Alterations

Alteration – Note

11755Q **BENZATHINE BENZYLPENICILLIN**, benzathine benzylpenicillin tetrahydrate 1.2 million units (1016.6 mg)/2.3 mL injection, 10 x 2.3 mL syringes (*Bicillin L-A*)

13801J **BENZATHINE BENZYLPENICILLIN**, benzathine benzylpenicillin 1.2 million units powder for injection [1 vial] (&) inert substance diluent [5 mL vial], 1 pack (*Extencilline Benzathine Benzylpenicillin (France)*)

General Pharmaceutical Benefits

Additions

Addition – Item

14188R **MELATONIN**, melatonin 1 mg modified release tablet, 60 (*Slentyto*)

14211Y **MELATONIN**, melatonin 5 mg modified release tablet, 30 (*Slentyto*)

14202L **METHADONE**, methadone hydrochloride 10 mg/mL injection, 5 x 1 mL vials (*Physeptone*)

14203M **MORPHINE**, morphine hydrochloride trihydrate 5 mg/mL oral liquid, 200 mL (*RA-Morph (NZ)*)

14220K **MORPHINE**, morphine hydrochloride trihydrate 5 mg/mL oral liquid, 200 mL (*RA-Morph (NZ)*)

14194C **MORPHINE**, morphine hydrochloride trihydrate 10 mg/mL oral liquid, 200 mL (*RA-Morph (NZ)*)

14204N **MORPHINE**, morphine hydrochloride trihydrate 10 mg/mL oral liquid, 200 mL (*RA-Morph (NZ)*)

14172X **NIRAPARIB**, niraparib 100 mg tablet, 56 (*Zejula*)

14173Y **NIRAPARIB**, niraparib 100 mg tablet, 84 (*Zejula*)

14179G **NIRAPARIB**, niraparib 100 mg tablet, 56 (*Zejula*)

14190W **NIRAPARIB**, niraparib 100 mg tablet, 84 (*Zejula*)

14196E **NIRAPARIB**, niraparib 100 mg tablet, 56 (*Zejula*)

14206Q **NIRAPARIB**, niraparib 100 mg tablet, 56 (*Zejula*)

14207R **NIRAPARIB**, niraparib 100 mg tablet, 84 (*Zejula*)

14212B **NIRAPARIB**, niraparib 100 mg tablet, 84 (*Zejula*)

14181J **OLAPARIB**, olaparib 100 mg tablet, 56 (*Lynparza*)

14216F **OLAPARIB**, olaparib 100 mg tablet, 56 (*Lynparza*)

14208T **OLAPARIB**, olaparib 150 mg tablet, 56 (*Lynparza*)

14215E **OLAPARIB**, olaparib 150 mg tablet, 56 (*Lynparza*)

Addition – Brand

1007B	ARX-ACICLOVIR, XT – ACICLOVIR , aciclovir 200 mg tablet, 90
13532F	APX-AMLODIPINE, TW – AMLODIPINE , amlodipine 5 mg tablet, 30
2751T	APX-AMLODIPINE, TW – AMLODIPINE , amlodipine 5 mg tablet, 30
8844L	BIVALIRUDIN ARX, XT – BIVALIRUDIN , bivalirudin 250 mg injection, 1 vial
10241B	BTC Desvenlafaxine, BG – DESVENLAFAXINE , desvenlafaxine 50 mg modified release tablet, 28
10231L	BTC Desvenlafaxine, BG – DESVENLAFAXINE , desvenlafaxine 100 mg modified release tablet, 28
8431R	SalplusF DPI 250/50, SZ – FLUTICASONE PROPIONATE + SALMETEROL , fluticasone propionate 250 microgram/actuation + salmeterol 50 microgram/actuation powder for inhalation, 60 actuations
8432T	SalplusF DPI 500/50, SZ – FLUTICASONE PROPIONATE + SALMETEROL , fluticasone propionate 500 microgram/actuation + salmeterol 50 microgram/actuation powder for inhalation, 60 actuations
13848W	ARX-GLIMEPIRIDE, XT – GLIMEPIRIDE , glimepiride 1 mg tablet, 30
8450R	ARX-GLIMEPIRIDE, XT – GLIMEPIRIDE , glimepiride 1 mg tablet, 30
13870B	ARX-GLIMEPIRIDE, XT – GLIMEPIRIDE , glimepiride 2 mg tablet, 30
8451T	ARX-GLIMEPIRIDE, XT – GLIMEPIRIDE , glimepiride 2 mg tablet, 30
14020X	ARX-GLIMEPIRIDE, XT – GLIMEPIRIDE , glimepiride 3 mg tablet, 30
8533D	ARX-GLIMEPIRIDE, XT – GLIMEPIRIDE , glimepiride 3 mg tablet, 30
14055R	ARX-GLIMEPIRIDE, XT – GLIMEPIRIDE , glimepiride 4 mg tablet, 30
8452W	ARX-GLIMEPIRIDE, XT – GLIMEPIRIDE , glimepiride 4 mg tablet, 30
13940Q	APO-LEFLUNOMIDE, TX – LEFLUNOMIDE , leflunomide 10 mg tablet, 30
14068K	APO-LEFLUNOMIDE, TX – LEFLUNOMIDE , leflunomide 10 mg tablet, 30
5449T	APO-LEFLUNOMIDE, TX – LEFLUNOMIDE , leflunomide 10 mg tablet, 30
8374R	APO-LEFLUNOMIDE, TX – LEFLUNOMIDE , leflunomide 10 mg tablet, 30
13998R	APO-LEFLUNOMIDE, TX – LEFLUNOMIDE , leflunomide 20 mg tablet, 30
14069L	APO-LEFLUNOMIDE, TX – LEFLUNOMIDE , leflunomide 20 mg tablet, 30
5450W	APO-LEFLUNOMIDE, TX – LEFLUNOMIDE , leflunomide 20 mg tablet, 30
8375T	APO-LEFLUNOMIDE, TX – LEFLUNOMIDE , leflunomide 20 mg tablet, 30
13411W	ARX-LERCANIDIPINE, TX – LERCANIDIPINE , lercanidipine hydrochloride 10 mg tablet, 28
8534E	ARX-LERCANIDIPINE, TX – LERCANIDIPINE , lercanidipine hydrochloride 10 mg tablet, 28
13939P	ARX-LETROZOLE, XT – LETROZOLE , letrozole 2.5 mg tablet, 30
8245Y	ARX-LETROZOLE, XT – LETROZOLE , letrozole 2.5 mg tablet, 30
13992K	Levetiracetam Viatris, MQ – LEVETIRACETAM , levetiracetam 250 mg tablet, 60
8654L	Levetiracetam Viatris, MQ – LEVETIRACETAM , levetiracetam 250 mg tablet, 60
13937M	Levetiracetam Viatris, MQ – LEVETIRACETAM , levetiracetam 1 g tablet, 60
8656N	Levetiracetam Viatris, MQ – LEVETIRACETAM , levetiracetam 1 g tablet, 60
8370M	ARX-NALTREXONE, XT – NALTREXONE , naltrexone hydrochloride 50 mg tablet, 30
8170B	APO-OLANZAPINE, TX – OLANZAPINE , olanzapine 2.5 mg tablet, 28
11681T	APX-PANTOPRAZOLE, TW – PANTOPRAZOLE , pantoprazole 40 mg enteric tablet, 30
12277E	APX-PANTOPRAZOLE, TW – PANTOPRAZOLE , pantoprazole 40 mg enteric tablet, 30
8007K	APX-PANTOPRAZOLE, TW – PANTOPRAZOLE , pantoprazole 40 mg enteric tablet, 30
8008L	APX-PANTOPRAZOLE, TW – PANTOPRAZOLE , pantoprazole 40 mg enteric tablet, 30
11406H	Pirfenidone Dr.Reddy's, RZ – PIRFENIDONE , pirfenidone 267 mg tablet, 90
11410M	Pirfenidone Dr.Reddy's, RZ – PIRFENIDONE , pirfenidone 801 mg tablet, 90
13588E	APO-ROSUVASTATIN, TX – ROSUVASTATIN , rosuvastatin 20 mg tablet, 30
2574L	APO-ROSUVASTATIN, TX – ROSUVASTATIN , rosuvastatin 20 mg tablet, 30

13589F	<i>APO-ROSUVASTATIN, TX</i> – ROSUVASTATIN , rosuvastatin 40 mg tablet, 30
2594M	<i>APO-ROSUVASTATIN, TX</i> – ROSUVASTATIN , rosuvastatin 40 mg tablet, 30
11856B	<i>ARX-SEVELAMER, XT</i> – SEVELAMER , sevelamer carbonate 800 mg tablet, 180
14027G	<i>ARX-SEVELAMER, XT</i> – SEVELAMER , sevelamer carbonate 800 mg tablet, 180
14021Y	<i>Sitagliptin Mylan, AF</i> – SITAGLIPTIN , sitagliptin 25 mg tablet, 28
9180E	<i>Sitagliptin Mylan, AF</i> – SITAGLIPTIN , sitagliptin 25 mg tablet, 28
14058X	<i>Sitagliptin Mylan, AF</i> – SITAGLIPTIN , sitagliptin 50 mg tablet, 28
9181F	<i>Sitagliptin Mylan, AF</i> – SITAGLIPTIN , sitagliptin 50 mg tablet, 28
13871C	<i>Sitagliptin Mylan, AF</i> – SITAGLIPTIN , sitagliptin 100 mg tablet, 28
9182G	<i>Sitagliptin Mylan, AF</i> – SITAGLIPTIN , sitagliptin 100 mg tablet, 28
13994M	<i>Sitagliptin/Metformin Mylan 50/500, AF</i> – SITAGLIPTIN + METFORMIN , sitagliptin 50 mg + metformin hydrochloride 500 mg tablet, 56
9449H	<i>Sitagliptin/Metformin Mylan 50/500, AF</i> – SITAGLIPTIN + METFORMIN , sitagliptin 50 mg + metformin hydrochloride 500 mg tablet, 56
14064F	<i>Sitagliptin/Metformin Mylan 50/850, AF</i> – SITAGLIPTIN + METFORMIN , sitagliptin 50 mg + metformin hydrochloride 850 mg tablet, 56
9450J	<i>Sitagliptin/Metformin Mylan 50/850, AF</i> – SITAGLIPTIN + METFORMIN , sitagliptin 50 mg + metformin hydrochloride 850 mg tablet, 56
14035Q	<i>Sitagliptin/Metformin Mylan 50/1000, AF</i> – SITAGLIPTIN + METFORMIN , sitagliptin 50 mg + metformin hydrochloride 1 g tablet, 56
9451K	<i>Sitagliptin/Metformin Mylan 50/1000, AF</i> – SITAGLIPTIN + METFORMIN , sitagliptin 50 mg + metformin hydrochloride 1 g tablet, 56
5469W	<i>Varenicline Viatris, AF</i> – VARENICLINE , varenicline 1 mg tablet, 56
9129L	<i>Varenicline Viatris, AF</i> – VARENICLINE , varenicline 1 mg tablet, 56

Addition – Equivalence Indicator

8844L	<i>Bivalirudin APOTEX, TX</i> – BIVALIRUDIN , bivalirudin 250 mg injection, 1 vial
13258T	<i>Buformix Easyhaler 400/12, OX</i> – BUDESONIDE + FORMOTEROL , budesonide 400 microgram/actuation + formoterol fumarate dihydrate 12 microgram/actuation powder for inhalation, 60 actuations
2123R	<i>Ordine 5, XT</i> – MORPHINE , morphine hydrochloride trihydrate 5 mg/mL oral liquid, 200 mL
5238Q	<i>Ordine 5, XT</i> – MORPHINE , morphine hydrochloride trihydrate 5 mg/mL oral liquid, 200 mL
8370M	<i>Naltrexone GH, GQ</i> – NALTREXONE , naltrexone hydrochloride 50 mg tablet, 30
13079J	<i>Zejula, GK</i> – NIRAPARIB , niraparib 100 mg capsule, 84
13089X	<i>Zejula, GK</i> – NIRAPARIB , niraparib 100 mg capsule, 56
13092C	<i>Zejula, GK</i> – NIRAPARIB , niraparib 100 mg capsule, 84
13112D	<i>Zejula, GK</i> – NIRAPARIB , niraparib 100 mg capsule, 56
14088L	<i>Zejula, GK</i> – NIRAPARIB , niraparib 100 mg capsule, 56
14094T	<i>Zejula, GK</i> – NIRAPARIB , niraparib 100 mg capsule, 56
14098B	<i>Zejula, GK</i> – NIRAPARIB , niraparib 100 mg capsule, 84
14104H	<i>Zejula, GK</i> – NIRAPARIB , niraparib 100 mg capsule, 84

Addition – Note

2123R	MORPHINE , morphine hydrochloride trihydrate 5 mg/mL oral liquid, 200 mL (<i>Ordine 5</i>)
5238Q	MORPHINE , morphine hydrochloride trihydrate 5 mg/mL oral liquid, 200 mL (<i>Ordine 5</i>)
13079J	NIRAPARIB , niraparib 100 mg capsule, 84 (<i>Zejula</i>)
13089X	NIRAPARIB , niraparib 100 mg capsule, 56 (<i>Zejula</i>)
13092C	NIRAPARIB , niraparib 100 mg capsule, 84 (<i>Zejula</i>)
13112D	NIRAPARIB , niraparib 100 mg capsule, 56 (<i>Zejula</i>)

14088L	NIRAPARIB , niraparib 100 mg capsule, 56 (<i>Zejula</i>)
14094T	NIRAPARIB , niraparib 100 mg capsule, 56 (<i>Zejula</i>)
14098B	NIRAPARIB , niraparib 100 mg capsule, 84 (<i>Zejula</i>)
14104H	NIRAPARIB , niraparib 100 mg capsule, 84 (<i>Zejula</i>)

Deletions

Deletion – Item

13694R	AMOXICILLIN + CLAVULANIC ACID , amoxicillin 400 mg/5 mL + clavulanic acid 57 mg/5 mL powder for oral liquid, 50 mL (<i>Amoxicillin and clavulanate potassium for oral suspension, USP 400 mg/57 mg per 5 mL (Aurobindo)</i>)
13728M	AMOXICILLIN + CLAVULANIC ACID , amoxicillin 400 mg/5 mL + clavulanic acid 57 mg/5 mL powder for oral liquid, 50 mL (<i>Amoxicillin and clavulanate potassium for oral suspension, USP 400 mg/57 mg per 5 mL (Aurobindo)</i>)
13179P	AMOXICILLIN + CLAVULANIC ACID , amoxicillin 875 mg + clavulanic acid 125 mg tablet, 20 (<i>Amoxicillin and clavulanate potassium tablets, USP 875 mg/125 mg (Aurobindo - Medsurge)</i>)
13190F	AMOXICILLIN + CLAVULANIC ACID , amoxicillin 875 mg + clavulanic acid 125 mg tablet, 20 (<i>Amoxicillin and clavulanate potassium tablets, USP 875 mg/125 mg (Aurobindo - Medsurge)</i>)
13194K	AMOXICILLIN + CLAVULANIC ACID , amoxicillin 875 mg + clavulanic acid 125 mg tablet, 20 (<i>Amoxicillin and clavulanate potassium tablets, USP 875 mg/125 mg (Aurobindo - Medsurge)</i>)
13282C	PHENOXYMETHYLPENICILLIN , phenoxymethylpenicillin 250 mg/5 mL powder for oral liquid, 100 mL (<i>Penopen</i>)
13291M	PHENOXYMETHYLPENICILLIN , phenoxymethylpenicillin 250 mg/5 mL powder for oral liquid, 100 mL (<i>Penopen</i>)
12670W	TERIPARATIDE , teriparatide 250 microgram/mL injection, 2.4 mL cartridge (<i>Terrosa</i>)
13891D	TERIPARATIDE , teriparatide 250 microgram/mL injection, 2.4 mL cartridge (<i>Terrosa</i>)
13341E	VARENICLINE , varenicline 500 microgram tablet, 56 (<i>APO-Varenicline (Canada)</i>)

Deletion – Brand

8717T	<i>Aripic Aripiprazole, LR</i> – ARIPIPRAZOLE , aripiprazole 10 mg tablet, 30
13495G	<i>Atorvastatin GH, GQ</i> – ATORVASTATIN , atorvastatin 10 mg tablet, 30
8213G	<i>Atorvastatin GH, GQ</i> – ATORVASTATIN , atorvastatin 10 mg tablet, 30
13468W	<i>Atorvastatin GH, GQ</i> – ATORVASTATIN , atorvastatin 40 mg tablet, 30
8215J	<i>Atorvastatin GH, GQ</i> – ATORVASTATIN , atorvastatin 40 mg tablet, 30
13790T	<i>Benzylpenicillin Benzathine (Brancaster Pharma, UK), OJ</i> – BENZATHINE BENZYL PENICILLIN , benzathine benzylpenicillin 1.2 million units powder for injection [1 vial] (&) inert substance diluent [5 mL vial], 1 pack
13816E	<i>Benzylpenicillin Benzathine (Brancaster Pharma, UK), OJ</i> – BENZATHINE BENZYL PENICILLIN , benzathine benzylpenicillin 1.2 million units powder for injection [1 vial] (&) inert substance diluent [5 mL vial], 1 pack
13592J	<i>NOUMED CANDESARTAN, VO</i> – CANDESARTAN , candesartan cilexetil 4 mg tablet, 30
8295N	<i>NOUMED CANDESARTAN, VO</i> – CANDESARTAN , candesartan cilexetil 4 mg tablet, 30
13436E	<i>NOUMED CANDESARTAN, VO</i> – CANDESARTAN , candesartan cilexetil 8 mg tablet, 30
8296P	<i>NOUMED CANDESARTAN, VO</i> – CANDESARTAN , candesartan cilexetil 8 mg tablet, 30
13565Y	<i>NOUMED CANDESARTAN, VO</i> – CANDESARTAN , candesartan cilexetil 16 mg tablet, 30
8297Q	<i>NOUMED CANDESARTAN, VO</i> – CANDESARTAN , candesartan cilexetil 16 mg tablet, 30
13438G	<i>NOUMED CANDESARTAN, VO</i> – CANDESARTAN , candesartan cilexetil 32 mg tablet, 30
8889W	<i>NOUMED CANDESARTAN, VO</i> – CANDESARTAN , candesartan cilexetil 32 mg tablet, 30
11169W	<i>Ceftriaxone Alphapharm, AF</i> – CEFTRIAZONE , ceftriaxone 2 g injection, 5 vials
12112L	<i>Ceftriaxone Alphapharm, AF</i> – CEFTRIAZONE , ceftriaxone 2 g injection, 10 vials
3138E	<i>Clindamycin BNM, BZ</i> – CLINDAMYCIN , clindamycin 150 mg capsule, 24
5057E	<i>Clindamycin BNM, BZ</i> – CLINDAMYCIN , clindamycin 150 mg capsule, 24
9318K	<i>PHARMACOR DABIGATRAN, CR</i> – DABIGATRAN , dabigatran etexilate 75 mg capsule, 10

9322P	<i>PHARMACOR DABIGATRAN, CR</i> – DABIGATRAN , dabigatran etexilate 75 mg capsule, 10
9319L	<i>PHARMACOR DABIGATRAN, CR</i> – DABIGATRAN , dabigatran etexilate 110 mg capsule, 10
9323Q	<i>PHARMACOR DABIGATRAN, CR</i> – DABIGATRAN , dabigatran etexilate 110 mg capsule, 10
3118D	<i>Depo-Ralovera, FZ</i> – MEDROXYPROGESTERONE , medroxyprogesterone acetate 150 mg/mL injection, 1 mL vial
12001P	<i>Roximycin, AF</i> – ROXITHROMYCIN , roxithromycin 150 mg tablet, 10
1760P	<i>Roximycin, AF</i> – ROXITHROMYCIN , roxithromycin 150 mg tablet, 10
5260W	<i>Roximycin, AF</i> – ROXITHROMYCIN , roxithromycin 150 mg tablet, 10
11993F	<i>Roximycin, AF</i> – ROXITHROMYCIN , roxithromycin 300 mg tablet, 5
5261X	<i>Roximycin, AF</i> – ROXITHROMYCIN , roxithromycin 300 mg tablet, 5
8016X	<i>Roximycin, AF</i> – ROXITHROMYCIN , roxithromycin 300 mg tablet, 5
13969F	<i>NOUMED TOPIRAMATE, VO</i> – TOPIRAMATE , topiramate 25 mg tablet, 60
8163P	<i>NOUMED TOPIRAMATE, VO</i> – TOPIRAMATE , topiramate 25 mg tablet, 60
13913G	<i>NOUMED TOPIRAMATE, VO</i> – TOPIRAMATE , topiramate 50 mg tablet, 60
8164Q	<i>NOUMED TOPIRAMATE, VO</i> – TOPIRAMATE , topiramate 50 mg tablet, 60
14008G	<i>NOUMED TOPIRAMATE, VO</i> – TOPIRAMATE , topiramate 100 mg tablet, 60
8165R	<i>NOUMED TOPIRAMATE, VO</i> – TOPIRAMATE , topiramate 100 mg tablet, 60
14009H	<i>NOUMED TOPIRAMATE, VO</i> – TOPIRAMATE , topiramate 200 mg tablet, 60
8166T	<i>NOUMED TOPIRAMATE, VO</i> – TOPIRAMATE , topiramate 200 mg tablet, 60

Deletion – Equivalence Indicator

9318K	<i>Pradaxa, BY</i> – DABIGATRAN , dabigatran etexilate 75 mg capsule, 10
9322P	<i>Pradaxa, BY</i> – DABIGATRAN , dabigatran etexilate 75 mg capsule, 10
9319L	<i>Pradaxa, BY</i> – DABIGATRAN , dabigatran etexilate 110 mg capsule, 10
9323Q	<i>Pradaxa, BY</i> – DABIGATRAN , dabigatran etexilate 110 mg capsule, 10
5029Q	<i>Phenoxymethylpenicillin-AFT, AE</i> – PHENOXYMETHYLPENICILLIN , phenoxymethylpenicillin 250 mg/5 mL powder for oral liquid, 100 mL
8977L	<i>Phenoxymethylpenicillin-AFT, AE</i> – PHENOXYMETHYLPENICILLIN , phenoxymethylpenicillin 250 mg/5 mL powder for oral liquid, 100 mL

Deletion – Note

5011R	AMOXICILLIN + CLAVULANIC ACID , amoxicillin 400 mg/5 mL + clavulanic acid 57 mg/5 mL powder for oral liquid, 60 mL (<i>Augmentin Duo 400, Curam Duo</i>)
8319W	AMOXICILLIN + CLAVULANIC ACID , amoxicillin 400 mg/5 mL + clavulanic acid 57 mg/5 mL powder for oral liquid, 60 mL (<i>Augmentin Duo 400, Curam Duo</i>)
11933C	AMOXICILLIN + CLAVULANIC ACID , amoxicillin 875 mg + clavulanic acid 125 mg tablet, 10 (<i>AMCLAVOX DUO FORTE 875/125, APO-AMOXY/CLAV 875/125, APO-Amoxicillin and Clavulanic Acid, APX-Amoxicillin/Clavulanic Acid, AlphaClav Duo Forte, Alphaclav Duo Forte Viatris, AmoxyClav generichealth 875/125, Augmentin Duo forte, Blooms The Chemist Amoxicillin/Clavulanic Acid 875/125, Curam Duo Forte 875/125</i>)
5006L	AMOXICILLIN + CLAVULANIC ACID , amoxicillin 875 mg + clavulanic acid 125 mg tablet, 10 (<i>AMCLAVOX DUO FORTE 875/125, APO-AMOXY/CLAV 875/125, APO-Amoxicillin and Clavulanic Acid, APX-Amoxicillin/Clavulanic Acid, AlphaClav Duo Forte, Alphaclav Duo Forte Viatris, AmoxyClav generichealth 875/125, Augmentin Duo forte, Blooms The Chemist Amoxicillin/Clavulanic Acid 875/125, Curam Duo Forte 875/125</i>)
8254K	AMOXICILLIN + CLAVULANIC ACID , amoxicillin 875 mg + clavulanic acid 125 mg tablet, 10 (<i>AMCLAVOX DUO FORTE 875/125, APO-AMOXY/CLAV 875/125, APO-Amoxicillin and Clavulanic Acid, APX-Amoxicillin/Clavulanic Acid, AlphaClav Duo Forte, Alphaclav Duo Forte Viatris, AmoxyClav generichealth 875/125, Augmentin Duo forte, Blooms The Chemist Amoxicillin/Clavulanic Acid 875/125, Curam Duo Forte 875/125</i>)
10958R	EVOLOCUMAB , evolocumab 140 mg/mL injection, 1 mL pen device (<i>Repatha</i>)
11484K	EVOLOCUMAB , evolocumab 140 mg/mL injection, 1 mL pen device (<i>Repatha</i>)

11193D	EVOLOCUMAB , evolocumab 420 mg/3.5 mL injection, 3.5 mL cartridge (<i>Repatha</i>)
11485L	EVOLOCUMAB , evolocumab 420 mg/3.5 mL injection, 3.5 mL cartridge (<i>Repatha</i>)
13290L	LENVATINIB , lenvatinib 4 mg capsule, 30 (<i>Lenvima</i>)
13283D	LENVATINIB , lenvatinib 10 mg capsule, 30 (<i>Lenvima</i>)
5029Q	PHENOXYMETHYLPENICILLIN , phenoxymethylpenicillin 250 mg/5 mL powder for oral liquid, 100 mL (<i>Phenoxyethylpenicillin-AFT</i>)
8977L	PHENOXYMETHYLPENICILLIN , phenoxymethylpenicillin 250 mg/5 mL powder for oral liquid, 100 mL (<i>Phenoxyethylpenicillin-AFT</i>)
14093R	TERIPARATIDE , teriparatide 250 microgram/mL injection, 2.4 mL pen device (<i>Teriparatide Lupin, Terrosa</i>)
5469W	VARENICLINE , varenicline 1 mg tablet, 56 (<i>Champix, PHARMACOR VARENICLINE, VARENAPIX, Varenicline Viatris</i>)
9129L	VARENICLINE , varenicline 1 mg tablet, 56 (<i>Champix, PHARMACOR VARENICLINE, VARENAPIX, Varenicline Viatris</i>)

Deletion – Restriction

13290L	LENVATINIB , lenvatinib 4 mg capsule, 30 (<i>Lenvima</i>)
13283D	LENVATINIB , lenvatinib 10 mg capsule, 30 (<i>Lenvima</i>)

Alterations

Alteration – Authorised Prescriber

		From	To
13485R	CALCIUM , calcium carbonate 1.25 g (calcium 500 mg) chewable tablet, 120 (<i>Cal-500</i>)	M,N	M

Alteration – Note

2267H	BENZATHINE BENZYL PENICILLIN , benzathine benzylpenicillin tetrahydrate 1.2 million units (1016.6 mg)/2.3 mL injection, 10 x 2.3 mL syringes (<i>Bicillin L-A</i>)
5027N	BENZATHINE BENZYL PENICILLIN , benzathine benzylpenicillin tetrahydrate 1.2 million units (1016.6 mg)/2.3 mL injection, 10 x 2.3 mL syringes (<i>Bicillin L-A</i>)
13790T	BENZATHINE BENZYL PENICILLIN , benzathine benzylpenicillin 1.2 million units powder for injection [1 vial] (& inert substance diluent [5 mL vial], 1 pack (<i>Extencilline Benzathine Benzylpenicillin (France)</i>)
13816E	BENZATHINE BENZYL PENICILLIN , benzathine benzylpenicillin 1.2 million units powder for injection [1 vial] (& inert substance diluent [5 mL vial], 1 pack (<i>Extencilline Benzathine Benzylpenicillin (France)</i>)
14077X	MORPHINE , morphine hydrochloride trihydrate 10 mg/mL oral liquid, 20 mL (<i>Morphini HCl Streuli</i>)
14083F	MORPHINE , morphine hydrochloride trihydrate 10 mg/mL oral liquid, 20 mL (<i>Morphini HCl Streuli</i>)
2124T	MORPHINE , morphine hydrochloride trihydrate 10 mg/mL oral liquid, 200 mL (<i>Ordine 10</i>)
5239R	MORPHINE , morphine hydrochloride trihydrate 10 mg/mL oral liquid, 200 mL (<i>Ordine 10</i>)

Alteration – Restriction

12613W	ALIROCUMAB , alirocumab 75 mg/mL injection, 2 x 1 mL pen devices (<i>Praluent</i>)
12604J	ALIROCUMAB , alirocumab 150 mg/mL injection, 2 x 1 mL pen devices (<i>Praluent</i>)
13649J	DEUCRAVACITINIB , deucravacitinib 6 mg tablet, 28 (<i>Sotyktu</i>)
10958R	EVOLOCUMAB , evolocumab 140 mg/mL injection, 1 mL pen device (<i>Repatha</i>)
11484K	EVOLOCUMAB , evolocumab 140 mg/mL injection, 1 mL pen device (<i>Repatha</i>)
11193D	EVOLOCUMAB , evolocumab 420 mg/3.5 mL injection, 3.5 mL cartridge (<i>Repatha</i>)
11485L	EVOLOCUMAB , evolocumab 420 mg/3.5 mL injection, 3.5 mL cartridge (<i>Repatha</i>)
14101E	INCLISIRAN , inclisiran 284 mg/1.5 mL injection, 1.5 mL syringe (<i>Leqvio</i>)
14152W	INCLISIRAN , inclisiran 284 mg/1.5 mL injection, 1.5 mL syringe (<i>Leqvio</i>)
14100D	TAFAMIDIS , tafamidis 61 mg capsule, 30 (<i>Vyndamax</i>)

Alteration – Restriction Level

		From	To
10958R	EVOLOCUMAB , evolocumab 140 mg/mL injection, 1 mL pen device (<i>Repatha</i>)	authority-required	streamlined

11484K	EVOLOCUMAB , evolocumab 140 mg/mL injection, 1 mL pen device (Repatha)	authority-required	streamlined
11193D	EVOLOCUMAB , evolocumab 420 mg/3.5 mL injection, 3.5 mL cartridge (Repatha)	authority-required	streamlined
11485L	EVOLOCUMAB , evolocumab 420 mg/3.5 mL injection, 3.5 mL cartridge (Repatha)	authority-required	streamlined

Alteration – Manufacturer Code

		<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>
1270W	<i>Androcur</i> – CYPROTERONE , cyproterone acetate 50 mg tablet, 50	BN	GH
14023C	<i>Androcur</i> – CYPROTERONE , cyproterone acetate 50 mg tablet, 50	BN	GH
14022B	<i>Androcur-100</i> – CYPROTERONE , cyproterone acetate 100 mg tablet, 50	BN	GH
8019C	<i>Androcur-100</i> – CYPROTERONE , cyproterone acetate 100 mg tablet, 50	BN	GH
11753N	<i>Glivec</i> – IMATINIB , imatinib 100 mg tablet, 60	AF	NV
11762C	<i>Glivec</i> – IMATINIB , imatinib 100 mg tablet, 60	AF	NV
11769K	<i>Glivec</i> – IMATINIB , imatinib 100 mg tablet, 60	AF	NV
11775R	<i>Glivec</i> – IMATINIB , imatinib 100 mg tablet, 60	AF	NV
11780B	<i>Glivec</i> – IMATINIB , imatinib 100 mg tablet, 60	AF	NV
11781C	<i>Glivec</i> – IMATINIB , imatinib 100 mg tablet, 60	AF	NV
11784F	<i>Glivec</i> – IMATINIB , imatinib 100 mg tablet, 60	AF	NV
11787J	<i>Glivec</i> – IMATINIB , imatinib 100 mg tablet, 60	AF	NV
11880G	<i>Glivec</i> – IMATINIB , imatinib 100 mg tablet, 60	AF	NV
5443L	<i>Glivec</i> – IMATINIB , imatinib 100 mg tablet, 60	AF	NV
9111M	<i>Glivec</i> – IMATINIB , imatinib 100 mg tablet, 60	AF	NV
9113P	<i>Glivec</i> – IMATINIB , imatinib 100 mg tablet, 60	AF	NV
9115R	<i>Glivec</i> – IMATINIB , imatinib 100 mg tablet, 60	AF	NV
9123E	<i>Glivec</i> – IMATINIB , imatinib 100 mg tablet, 60	AF	NV
9172R	<i>Glivec</i> – IMATINIB , imatinib 100 mg tablet, 60	AF	NV
9174W	<i>Glivec</i> – IMATINIB , imatinib 100 mg tablet, 60	AF	NV
9176Y	<i>Glivec</i> – IMATINIB , imatinib 100 mg tablet, 60	AF	NV
9178C	<i>Glivec</i> – IMATINIB , imatinib 100 mg tablet, 60	AF	NV
11752M	<i>Glivec</i> – IMATINIB , imatinib 400 mg tablet, 30	AF	NV
11758W	<i>Glivec</i> – IMATINIB , imatinib 400 mg tablet, 30	AF	NV
11765F	<i>Glivec</i> – IMATINIB , imatinib 400 mg tablet, 30	AF	NV
11778X	<i>Glivec</i> – IMATINIB , imatinib 400 mg tablet, 30	AF	NV
11785G	<i>Glivec</i> – IMATINIB , imatinib 400 mg tablet, 30	AF	NV
11786H	<i>Glivec</i> – IMATINIB , imatinib 400 mg tablet, 30	AF	NV
11788K	<i>Glivec</i> – IMATINIB , imatinib 400 mg tablet, 30	AF	NV
11789L	<i>Glivec</i> – IMATINIB , imatinib 400 mg tablet, 30	AF	NV
11878E	<i>Glivec</i> – IMATINIB , imatinib 400 mg tablet, 30	AF	NV
5444M	<i>Glivec</i> – IMATINIB , imatinib 400 mg tablet, 30	AF	NV
9112N	<i>Glivec</i> – IMATINIB , imatinib 400 mg tablet, 30	AF	NV
9114Q	<i>Glivec</i> – IMATINIB , imatinib 400 mg tablet, 30	AF	NV
9116T	<i>Glivec</i> – IMATINIB , imatinib 400 mg tablet, 30	AF	NV
9124F	<i>Glivec</i> – IMATINIB , imatinib 400 mg tablet, 30	AF	NV
9173T	<i>Glivec</i> – IMATINIB , imatinib 400 mg tablet, 30	AF	NV

9175X	<i>Glivec</i> – IMATINIB , imatinib 400 mg tablet, 30	AF	NV
9177B	<i>Glivec</i> – IMATINIB , imatinib 400 mg tablet, 30	AF	NV
9179D	<i>Glivec</i> – IMATINIB , imatinib 400 mg tablet, 30	AF	NV
10205D	<i>Reandron 1000</i> – TESTOSTERONE UNDECANOATE , testosterone undecanoate 1 g/4 mL modified release injection, 4 mL vial	BN	AS

Supply Only

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12117R	ACALABRUTINIB , acalabrutinib 100 mg capsule, 56 (<i>Calquence</i>)
12826C	ACALABRUTINIB , acalabrutinib 100 mg capsule, 56 (<i>Calquence</i>)
1606M	METHADONE , methadone hydrochloride 10 mg/mL injection, 5 x 1 mL ampoules (<i>Physeptone</i>)

Advance Notices

1 August 2024

Deletion – Brand

8357W	<i>Acamprosate Mylan, AL</i> – ACAMPROSATE , acamprosate calcium 333 mg enteric tablet, 180
13955L	<i>Acarbose Mylan, AF</i> – ACARBOSE , acarbose 50 mg tablet, 90
8188Y	<i>Acarbose Mylan, AF</i> – ACARBOSE , acarbose 50 mg tablet, 90
12604J	<i>Praluent, SW</i> – ALIROCUMAB , alirocumab 150 mg/mL injection, 2 x 1 mL pen devices
12607M	<i>Praluent, SW</i> – ALIROCUMAB , alirocumab 75 mg/mL injection, 2 x 1 mL pen devices
12608N	<i>Praluent, SW</i> – ALIROCUMAB , alirocumab 150 mg/mL injection, 2 x 1 mL pen devices
12613W	<i>Praluent, SW</i> – ALIROCUMAB , alirocumab 75 mg/mL injection, 2 x 1 mL pen devices
2900P	<i>Alfamino, NT</i> – AMINO ACID SYNTHETIC FORMULA SUPPLEMENTED WITH LONG CHAIN POLYUNSATURATED FATTY ACIDS AND MEDIUM CHAIN TRIGLYCERIDES , amino acid synthetic formula supplemented with long chain polyunsaturated fatty acids and medium chain triglycerides powder for oral liquid, 400 g
2928D	<i>Alfamino, NT</i> – AMINO ACID SYNTHETIC FORMULA SUPPLEMENTED WITH LONG CHAIN POLYUNSATURATED FATTY ACIDS AND MEDIUM CHAIN TRIGLYCERIDES , amino acid synthetic formula supplemented with long chain polyunsaturated fatty acids and medium chain triglycerides powder for oral liquid, 400 g
12115P	<i>Cephazolin Alphapharm, AF</i> – CEFAZOLIN , cefazolin 2 g injection, 10 vials
12118T	<i>Cephazolin Alphapharm, AF</i> – CEFAZOLIN , cefazolin 2 g injection, 10 vials
1256D	<i>Cefazolin-AFT, AE</i> – CEFAZOLIN , cefazolin 500 mg injection, 5 vials
5477G	<i>Cefazolin-AFT, AE</i> – CEFAZOLIN , cefazolin 500 mg injection, 5 vials
1788D	<i>Ceftriaxone Viatrix, AL</i> – CEFTRIAZONE , ceftriaxone 1 g injection, 5 vials
9159C	<i>Cinacalcet Mylan, AF</i> – CINACALCET , cinacalcet 90 mg tablet, 28
13440J	<i>Blooms The Chemist Ezetimibe, IB</i> – EZETIMIBE , ezetimibe 10 mg tablet, 30
8757X	<i>Blooms The Chemist Ezetimibe, IB</i> – EZETIMIBE , ezetimibe 10 mg tablet, 30
1204J	<i>FML Liquifilm, VE</i> – FLUOROMETHOLONE , fluorometholone 0.1% eye drops, 5 mL
5513E	<i>FML Liquifilm, VE</i> – FLUOROMETHOLONE , fluorometholone 0.1% eye drops, 5 mL
1704Q	<i>Leucovorin Calcium (Pfizer Australia Pty Ltd), PF</i> – FOLINIC ACID , folinic acid 100 mg/10 mL injection, 10 x 10 mL ampoules
3104J	<i>Diastix, DX</i> – GLUCOSE INDICATOR URINE , glucose indicator urine diagnostic strip, 50
12255B	<i>Mixtard 30/70 InnoLet, NI</i> – INSULIN NEUTRAL HUMAN + INSULIN ISOPHANE HUMAN , insulin neutral human 30 units/mL + insulin isophane human 70 units/mL injection, 5 x 3 mL pen devices
1542E	<i>Aeron 250, AL</i> – IPRATROPIUM , ipratropium bromide 250 microgram/mL inhalation solution, 30 x 1 mL ampoules

8238N	<i>Aeron 500, AL</i> – IPRATROPIUM , ipratropium bromide 500 microgram/mL inhalation solution, 30 x 1 mL ampoules
13847T	<i>Blooms the Chemist Metformin XR 1000, IB</i> – METFORMIN , metformin hydrochloride 1 g modified release tablet, 60
13899M	<i>Blooms the Chemist Metformin XR 500, IB</i> – METFORMIN , metformin hydrochloride 500 mg modified release tablet, 120
3439B	<i>Blooms the Chemist Metformin XR 1000, IB</i> – METFORMIN , metformin hydrochloride 1 g modified release tablet, 60
9435N	<i>Blooms the Chemist Metformin XR 500, IB</i> – METFORMIN , metformin hydrochloride 500 mg modified release tablet, 120
13884R	<i>CellCept, RO</i> – MYCOPHENOLATE , mycophenolate mofetil 250 mg capsule, 100
14000W	<i>CellCept, RO</i> – MYCOPHENOLATE , mycophenolate mofetil 500 mg tablet, 50
8649F	<i>CellCept, RO</i> – MYCOPHENOLATE , mycophenolate mofetil 250 mg capsule, 100
8650G	<i>CellCept, RO</i> – MYCOPHENOLATE , mycophenolate mofetil 500 mg tablet, 50
13079J	<i>Zejula, GK</i> – NIRAPARIB , niraparib 100 mg capsule, 84
13089X	<i>Zejula, GK</i> – NIRAPARIB , niraparib 100 mg capsule, 56
13092C	<i>Zejula, GK</i> – NIRAPARIB , niraparib 100 mg capsule, 84
13112D	<i>Zejula, GK</i> – NIRAPARIB , niraparib 100 mg capsule, 56
14088L	<i>Zejula, GK</i> – NIRAPARIB , niraparib 100 mg capsule, 56
14094T	<i>Zejula, GK</i> – NIRAPARIB , niraparib 100 mg capsule, 56
14098B	<i>Zejula, GK</i> – NIRAPARIB , niraparib 100 mg capsule, 84
14104H	<i>Zejula, GK</i> – NIRAPARIB , niraparib 100 mg capsule, 84
2961W	<i>Corbeton 40, AF</i> – OXPRENOLOL , oxprenolol hydrochloride 40 mg tablet, 100
2335X	<i>Cipla Pregabalin, LR</i> – PREGABALIN , pregabalin 75 mg capsule, 56
2348N	<i>Cipla Pregabalin, LR</i> – PREGABALIN , pregabalin 25 mg capsule, 56
2363J	<i>Cipla Pregabalin, LR</i> – PREGABALIN , pregabalin 300 mg capsule, 56
2676W	<i>Alfaré, NT</i> – PROTEIN HYDROLYSATE FORMULA WITH MEDIUM CHAIN TRIGLYCERIDES , protein hydrolysate formula with medium chain triglycerides powder for oral liquid, 400 g
2748P	<i>Saflután, MF</i> – TAFLUPROST , tafluprost 0.0015% eye drops, 30 x 0.3 mL ampoules
2755B	<i>Saflután, MF</i> – TAFLUPROST , tafluprost 0.0015% eye drops, 30 x 0.3 mL ampoules

1 September 2024

Deletion – Brand

11933C	<i>AlphaClav Duo Forte, AF</i> – AMOXICILLIN + CLAVULANIC ACID , amoxicillin 875 mg + clavulanic acid 125 mg tablet, 10
5006L	<i>AlphaClav Duo Forte, AF</i> – AMOXICILLIN + CLAVULANIC ACID , amoxicillin 875 mg + clavulanic acid 125 mg tablet, 10
8254K	<i>AlphaClav Duo Forte, AF</i> – AMOXICILLIN + CLAVULANIC ACID , amoxicillin 875 mg + clavulanic acid 125 mg tablet, 10
10024N	<i>Symbicort Rapihaler 50/3, AP</i> – BUDESONIDE + FORMOTEROL , budesonide 50 microgram/actuation + formoterol fumarate dihydrate 3 microgram/actuation inhalation, 120 actuations
12100W	<i>Symbicort Rapihaler 50/3, AP</i> – BUDESONIDE + FORMOTEROL , budesonide 50 microgram/actuation + formoterol fumarate dihydrate 3 microgram/actuation inhalation, 120 actuations
8401E	<i>Fosetic 20/12.5, ZP</i> – FOSINOPRIL + HYDROCHLOROTHIAZIDE , fosinopril sodium 20 mg + hydrochlorothiazide 12.5 mg tablet, 30
8729K	<i>Granisetron Kabi, PK</i> – GRANISETRON , granisetron 3 mg/3 mL injection, 3 mL ampoule
8730L	<i>Granisetron Kabi, PK</i> – GRANISETRON , granisetron 3 mg/3 mL injection, 3 mL ampoule

1 October 2024

Deletion – Brand

- 10790X *Dicloxacillin Mylan 500, AL* – **DICLOXACILLIN**, dicloxacillin 500 mg capsule, 24
5097G *Dicloxacillin Mylan 500, AL* – **DICLOXACILLIN**, dicloxacillin 500 mg capsule, 24
8122L *Dicloxacillin Mylan 500, AL* – **DICLOXACILLIN**, dicloxacillin 500 mg capsule, 24

Palliative Care

Additions

Addition – Item

- 14193B **METHADONE**, methadone hydrochloride 10 mg/mL injection, 5 x 1 mL vials (*Physeptone*)
14186P **MORPHINE**, morphine hydrochloride trihydrate 5 mg/mL oral liquid, 200 mL (*RA-Morph (NZ)*)
14187Q **MORPHINE**, morphine hydrochloride trihydrate 10 mg/mL oral liquid, 200 mL (*RA-Morph (NZ)*)

Addition – Equivalence Indicator

- 12549L *Ordine 5, XT* – **MORPHINE**, morphine hydrochloride trihydrate 5 mg/mL oral liquid, 200 mL

Addition – Note

- 12549L **MORPHINE**, morphine hydrochloride trihydrate 5 mg/mL oral liquid, 200 mL (*Ordine 5*)

Alterations

Alteration – Note

- 12472K **MORPHINE**, morphine hydrochloride trihydrate 10 mg/mL oral liquid, 200 mL (*Ordine 10*)
14081D **MORPHINE**, morphine hydrochloride trihydrate 10 mg/mL oral liquid, 20 mL (*Morphini HCl Streuli*)

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- 12481X **METHADONE**, methadone hydrochloride 10 mg/mL injection, 5 x 1 mL ampoules (*Physeptone*)

Highly Specialised Drugs Program (Private Hospital)

Additions

Addition – Item

- 14189T **ANIFROLUMAB**, anifrolumab 300 mg/2 mL injection, 2 mL vial (*Saphnelo*)
14170T **DAUNORUBICIN + CYTARABINE**, daunorubicin hydrochloride 44 mg + cytarabine 100 mg injection, 1 vial (*Vyxeos*)
14214D **DAUNORUBICIN + CYTARABINE**, daunorubicin hydrochloride 44 mg + cytarabine 100 mg injection, 1 vial (*Vyxeos*)
14213C **OCTREOTIDE**, octreotide 50 microgram/mL injection, 5 x 1 mL vials (*Octreotide Acetate Omega (Canada)*)
14177E **OCTREOTIDE**, octreotide 100 microgram/mL injection, 5 x 1 mL vials (*Octreotide Acetate Omega (Canada)*)
14201K **OCTREOTIDE**, octreotide 500 microgram/mL injection, 5 x 1 mL vials (*Octreotide Acetate Omega (Canada)*)

Addition – Brand

- 11838C *ARX-SEVELAMER, XT* – **SEVELAMER**, sevelamer carbonate 800 mg tablet, 180

Addition – Note

- 6227R **OCTREOTIDE**, octreotide 50 microgram/mL injection, 5 x 1 mL ampoules (*Octreotide (SUN)*, *Octreotide GH*, *Sandostatin 0.05*)
6228T **OCTREOTIDE**, octreotide 100 microgram/mL injection, 5 x 1 mL ampoules (*Octreotide (SUN)*, *Octreotide GH*, *Sandostatin 0.1*)
6229W **OCTREOTIDE**, octreotide 500 microgram/mL injection, 5 x 1 mL ampoules (*Octreotide (SUN)*, *Octreotide GH*, *Sandostatin 0.5*)

Deletions

Deletion – Note

13317X **AVATROMBOPAG**, avatrombopag 20 mg tablet, 30 (*Doptelet*)

Deletion – Restriction

13099K **SELINEXOR**, selinexor 20 mg tablet, 16 (*Xpovio*)

13103P **SELINEXOR**, selinexor 20 mg tablet, 20 (*Xpovio*)

Alterations

Alteration – Note

11996J **BENRALIZUMAB**, benralizumab 30 mg/mL injection, 1 mL pen device (*Fasenra Pen*)

11997K **BENRALIZUMAB**, benralizumab 30 mg/mL injection, 1 mL pen device (*Fasenra Pen*)

11999M **BENRALIZUMAB**, benralizumab 30 mg/mL injection, 1 mL pen device (*Fasenra Pen*)

12313C **DUPILUMAB**, dupilumab 200 mg/1.14 mL injection, 2 x 1.14 mL syringes (*Dupixent*)

12316F **DUPILUMAB**, dupilumab 200 mg/1.14 mL injection, 2 x 1.14 mL syringes (*Dupixent*)

12294C **DUPILUMAB**, dupilumab 300 mg/2 mL injection, 2 x 2 mL syringes (*Dupixent*)

12310X **DUPILUMAB**, dupilumab 300 mg/2 mL injection, 2 x 2 mL syringes (*Dupixent*)

12043W **MEPOLIZUMAB**, mepolizumab 100 mg/mL injection, 1 mL pen device (*Nucala*)

12051G **MEPOLIZUMAB**, mepolizumab 100 mg/mL injection, 1 mL pen device (*Nucala*)

12052H **MEPOLIZUMAB**, mepolizumab 100 mg/mL injection, 1 mL pen device (*Nucala*)

11003D **MEPOLIZUMAB**, mepolizumab 100 mg injection, 1 vial (*Nucala*)

11014Q **MEPOLIZUMAB**, mepolizumab 100 mg injection, 1 vial (*Nucala*)

11829N **MEPOLIZUMAB**, mepolizumab 100 mg injection, 1 vial (*Nucala*)

10110D **OMALIZUMAB**, omalizumab 75 mg/0.5 mL injection, 0.5 mL syringe (*Xolair*)

10956P **OMALIZUMAB**, omalizumab 75 mg/0.5 mL injection, 0.5 mL syringe (*Xolair*)

11826K **OMALIZUMAB**, omalizumab 75 mg/0.5 mL injection, 0.5 mL syringe (*Xolair*)

11840E **OMALIZUMAB**, omalizumab 75 mg/0.5 mL injection, 0.5 mL syringe (*Xolair*)

11952C **OMALIZUMAB**, omalizumab 75 mg/0.5 mL injection, 0.5 mL syringe (*Xolair*)

11958J **OMALIZUMAB**, omalizumab 75 mg/0.5 mL injection, 0.5 mL syringe (*Xolair*)

10122R **OMALIZUMAB**, omalizumab 150 mg/mL injection, 1 mL syringe (*Xolair*)

10968G **OMALIZUMAB**, omalizumab 150 mg/mL injection, 1 mL syringe (*Xolair*)

11825J **OMALIZUMAB**, omalizumab 150 mg/mL injection, 1 mL syringe (*Xolair*)

11864K **OMALIZUMAB**, omalizumab 150 mg/mL injection, 1 mL syringe (*Xolair*)

11932B **OMALIZUMAB**, omalizumab 150 mg/mL injection, 1 mL syringe (*Xolair*)

11953D **OMALIZUMAB**, omalizumab 150 mg/mL injection, 1 mL syringe (*Xolair*)

13099K **SELINEXOR**, selinexor 20 mg tablet, 16 (*Xpovio*)

13103P **SELINEXOR**, selinexor 20 mg tablet, 20 (*Xpovio*)

13105R **SELINEXOR**, selinexor 20 mg tablet, 32 (*Xpovio*)

Alteration – Restriction

13317X **AVATROMBOPAG**, avatrombopag 20 mg tablet, 30 (*Doptelet*)

11996J **BENRALIZUMAB**, benralizumab 30 mg/mL injection, 1 mL pen device (*Fasenra Pen*)

11997K **BENRALIZUMAB**, benralizumab 30 mg/mL injection, 1 mL pen device (*Fasenra Pen*)

11999M **BENRALIZUMAB**, benralizumab 30 mg/mL injection, 1 mL pen device (*Fasenra Pen*)

6232B **CICLOSPORIN**, ciclosporin 10 mg capsule, 60 (*Neoral 10*)

6352H **CICLOSPORIN**, ciclosporin 25 mg capsule, 30 (*APO-Ciclosporin, Cyclosporin Sandoz, Neoral 25*)

6353J **CICLOSPORIN**, ciclosporin 50 mg capsule, 30 (*APO-Ciclosporin, Cyclosporin Sandoz, Neoral 50*)

6354K **CICLOSPORIN**, ciclosporin 100 mg capsule, 30 (*APO-Ciclosporin, Cyclosporin Sandoz, Neoral 100*)

6125J	CICLOSPORIN , ciclosporin 100 mg/mL oral liquid, 50 mL (<i>Neoral</i>)
12313C	DUPILUMAB , dupilumab 200 mg/1.14 mL injection, 2 x 1.14 mL syringes (<i>Dupixent</i>)
12316F	DUPILUMAB , dupilumab 200 mg/1.14 mL injection, 2 x 1.14 mL syringes (<i>Dupixent</i>)
12294C	DUPILUMAB , dupilumab 300 mg/2 mL injection, 2 x 2 mL syringes (<i>Dupixent</i>)
12310X	DUPILUMAB , dupilumab 300 mg/2 mL injection, 2 x 2 mL syringes (<i>Dupixent</i>)
12043W	MEPOLIZUMAB , mepolizumab 100 mg/mL injection, 1 mL pen device (<i>Nucala</i>)
12051G	MEPOLIZUMAB , mepolizumab 100 mg/mL injection, 1 mL pen device (<i>Nucala</i>)
12052H	MEPOLIZUMAB , mepolizumab 100 mg/mL injection, 1 mL pen device (<i>Nucala</i>)
11003D	MEPOLIZUMAB , mepolizumab 100 mg injection, 1 vial (<i>Nucala</i>)
11014Q	MEPOLIZUMAB , mepolizumab 100 mg injection, 1 vial (<i>Nucala</i>)
11829N	MEPOLIZUMAB , mepolizumab 100 mg injection, 1 vial (<i>Nucala</i>)
10110D	OMALIZUMAB , omalizumab 75 mg/0.5 mL injection, 0.5 mL syringe (<i>Xolair</i>)
10956P	OMALIZUMAB , omalizumab 75 mg/0.5 mL injection, 0.5 mL syringe (<i>Xolair</i>)
11826K	OMALIZUMAB , omalizumab 75 mg/0.5 mL injection, 0.5 mL syringe (<i>Xolair</i>)
11840E	OMALIZUMAB , omalizumab 75 mg/0.5 mL injection, 0.5 mL syringe (<i>Xolair</i>)
11952C	OMALIZUMAB , omalizumab 75 mg/0.5 mL injection, 0.5 mL syringe (<i>Xolair</i>)
11958J	OMALIZUMAB , omalizumab 75 mg/0.5 mL injection, 0.5 mL syringe (<i>Xolair</i>)
10122R	OMALIZUMAB , omalizumab 150 mg/mL injection, 1 mL syringe (<i>Xolair</i>)
10968G	OMALIZUMAB , omalizumab 150 mg/mL injection, 1 mL syringe (<i>Xolair</i>)
11825J	OMALIZUMAB , omalizumab 150 mg/mL injection, 1 mL syringe (<i>Xolair</i>)
11864K	OMALIZUMAB , omalizumab 150 mg/mL injection, 1 mL syringe (<i>Xolair</i>)
11932B	OMALIZUMAB , omalizumab 150 mg/mL injection, 1 mL syringe (<i>Xolair</i>)
11953D	OMALIZUMAB , omalizumab 150 mg/mL injection, 1 mL syringe (<i>Xolair</i>)

Advance Notices

1 August 2024

Deletion – Brand

12146G	<i>Bosentan Cipla, LR</i> – BOSENTAN , bosentan 125 mg tablet, 60
6430K	<i>Bosentan Cipla, LR</i> – BOSENTAN , bosentan 125 mg tablet, 60
11888Q	<i>Cinacalcet Mylan, AF</i> – CINACALCET , cinacalcet 90 mg tablet, 28
9627Q	<i>Cinacalcet Mylan, AF</i> – CINACALCET , cinacalcet 90 mg tablet, 28
11003D	<i>Nucala, GK</i> – MEPOLIZUMAB , mepolizumab 100 mg injection, 1 vial
11014Q	<i>Nucala, GK</i> – MEPOLIZUMAB , mepolizumab 100 mg injection, 1 vial
11829N	<i>Nucala, GK</i> – MEPOLIZUMAB , mepolizumab 100 mg injection, 1 vial
6208R	<i>CellCept, RO</i> – MYCOPHENOLATE , mycophenolate mofetil 250 mg capsule, 100
6209T	<i>CellCept, RO</i> – MYCOPHENOLATE , mycophenolate mofetil 500 mg tablet, 50
6357N	<i>VALGANCICLOVIR HETERO, GG</i> – VALGANCICLOVIR , valganciclovir 450 mg tablet, 60

Highly Specialised Drugs Program (Public Hospital)

Additions

Addition – Item

14195D	ANIFROLUMAB , anifrolumab 300 mg/2 mL injection, 2 mL vial (<i>Saphnelo</i>)
14171W	DAUNORUBICIN + CYTARABINE , daunorubicin hydrochloride 44 mg + cytarabine 100 mg injection, 1 vial (<i>Vyxeos</i>)
14205P	DAUNORUBICIN + CYTARABINE , daunorubicin hydrochloride 44 mg + cytarabine 100 mg injection, 1 vial (<i>Vyxeos</i>)
14178F	OCTREOTIDE , octreotide 50 microgram/mL injection, 5 x 1 mL vials (<i>Octreotide Acetate Omega (Canada)</i>)

-
- 14219J **OCTREOTIDE**, octreotide 100 microgram/mL injection, 5 x 1 mL vials (*Octreotide Acetate Omega (Canada)*)
14218H **OCTREOTIDE**, octreotide 500 microgram/mL injection, 5 x 1 mL vials (*Octreotide Acetate Omega (Canada)*)

Addition – Brand

- 11855Y **ARX-SEVELAMER, XT – SEVELAMER**, sevelamer carbonate 800 mg tablet, 180

Addition – Note

- 9508K **OCTREOTIDE**, octreotide 50 microgram/mL injection, 5 x 1 mL ampoules (*Octreotide (SUN), Octreotide GH, Sandostatin 0.05*)
9509L **OCTREOTIDE**, octreotide 100 microgram/mL injection, 5 x 1 mL ampoules (*Octreotide (SUN), Octreotide GH, Sandostatin 0.1*)
9510M **OCTREOTIDE**, octreotide 500 microgram/mL injection, 5 x 1 mL ampoules (*Octreotide (SUN), Octreotide GH, Sandostatin 0.5*)

Deletions

Deletion – Note

- 13313Q **AVATROMBOPAG**, avatrombopag 20 mg tablet, 30 (*Doptelet*)

Deletion – Restriction

- 13085Q **SELINEXOR**, selinexor 20 mg tablet, 16 (*Xpovio*)
13086R **SELINEXOR**, selinexor 20 mg tablet, 20 (*Xpovio*)

Alterations

Alteration – Note

- 11994G **BENRALIZUMAB**, benralizumab 30 mg/mL injection, 1 mL pen device (*Fasenra Pen*)
11995H **BENRALIZUMAB**, benralizumab 30 mg/mL injection, 1 mL pen device (*Fasenra Pen*)
12000N **BENRALIZUMAB**, benralizumab 30 mg/mL injection, 1 mL pen device (*Fasenra Pen*)
12309W **DUPILUMAB**, dupilumab 200 mg/1.14 mL injection, 2 x 1.14 mL syringes (*Dupixent*)
12318H **DUPILUMAB**, dupilumab 200 mg/1.14 mL injection, 2 x 1.14 mL syringes (*Dupixent*)
12293B **DUPILUMAB**, dupilumab 300 mg/2 mL injection, 2 x 2 mL syringes (*Dupixent*)
12302L **DUPILUMAB**, dupilumab 300 mg/2 mL injection, 2 x 2 mL syringes (*Dupixent*)
12007Y **MEPOLIZUMAB**, mepolizumab 100 mg/mL injection, 1 mL pen device (*Nucala*)
12021Q **MEPOLIZUMAB**, mepolizumab 100 mg/mL injection, 1 mL pen device (*Nucala*)
12064Y **MEPOLIZUMAB**, mepolizumab 100 mg/mL injection, 1 mL pen device (*Nucala*)
10980X **MEPOLIZUMAB**, mepolizumab 100 mg injection, 1 vial (*Nucala*)
10996R **MEPOLIZUMAB**, mepolizumab 100 mg injection, 1 vial (*Nucala*)
11839D **MEPOLIZUMAB**, mepolizumab 100 mg injection, 1 vial (*Nucala*)
10118M **OMALIZUMAB**, omalizumab 75 mg/0.5 mL injection, 0.5 mL syringe (*Xolair*)
10967F **OMALIZUMAB**, omalizumab 75 mg/0.5 mL injection, 0.5 mL syringe (*Xolair*)
11835X **OMALIZUMAB**, omalizumab 75 mg/0.5 mL injection, 0.5 mL syringe (*Xolair*)
11846L **OMALIZUMAB**, omalizumab 75 mg/0.5 mL injection, 0.5 mL syringe (*Xolair*)
11946R **OMALIZUMAB**, omalizumab 75 mg/0.5 mL injection, 0.5 mL syringe (*Xolair*)
11962N **OMALIZUMAB**, omalizumab 75 mg/0.5 mL injection, 0.5 mL syringe (*Xolair*)
10109C **OMALIZUMAB**, omalizumab 150 mg/mL injection, 1 mL syringe (*Xolair*)
10973M **OMALIZUMAB**, omalizumab 150 mg/mL injection, 1 mL syringe (*Xolair*)
11824H **OMALIZUMAB**, omalizumab 150 mg/mL injection, 1 mL syringe (*Xolair*)
11828M **OMALIZUMAB**, omalizumab 150 mg/mL injection, 1 mL syringe (*Xolair*)
11945Q **OMALIZUMAB**, omalizumab 150 mg/mL injection, 1 mL syringe (*Xolair*)
11950Y **OMALIZUMAB**, omalizumab 150 mg/mL injection, 1 mL syringe (*Xolair*)
13085Q **SELINEXOR**, selinexor 20 mg tablet, 16 (*Xpovio*)

13086R **SELINEXOR**, selinexor 20 mg tablet, 20 (*Xpovio*)
13104Q **SELINEXOR**, selinexor 20 mg tablet, 32 (*Xpovio*)

Alteration – Restriction

13313Q **AVATROMBOPAG**, avatrombopag 20 mg tablet, 30 (*Doptelet*)
11994G **BENRALIZUMAB**, benralizumab 30 mg/mL injection, 1 mL pen device (*Fasenra Pen*)
11995H **BENRALIZUMAB**, benralizumab 30 mg/mL injection, 1 mL pen device (*Fasenra Pen*)
12000N **BENRALIZUMAB**, benralizumab 30 mg/mL injection, 1 mL pen device (*Fasenra Pen*)
5632K **CICLOSPORIN**, ciclosporin 10 mg capsule, 60 (*Neoral 10*)
5634M **CICLOSPORIN**, ciclosporin 25 mg capsule, 30 (*APO-Ciclosporin, Cyclosporin Sandoz, Neoral 25*)
5635N **CICLOSPORIN**, ciclosporin 50 mg capsule, 30 (*APO-Ciclosporin, Cyclosporin Sandoz, Neoral 50*)
5636P **CICLOSPORIN**, ciclosporin 100 mg capsule, 30 (*APO-Ciclosporin, Cyclosporin Sandoz, Neoral 100*)
5633L **CICLOSPORIN**, ciclosporin 100 mg/mL oral liquid, 50 mL (*Neoral*)
12309W **DUPILUMAB**, dupilumab 200 mg/1.14 mL injection, 2 x 1.14 mL syringes (*Dupixent*)
12318H **DUPILUMAB**, dupilumab 200 mg/1.14 mL injection, 2 x 1.14 mL syringes (*Dupixent*)
12293B **DUPILUMAB**, dupilumab 300 mg/2 mL injection, 2 x 2 mL syringes (*Dupixent*)
12302L **DUPILUMAB**, dupilumab 300 mg/2 mL injection, 2 x 2 mL syringes (*Dupixent*)
12007Y **MEPOLIZUMAB**, mepolizumab 100 mg/mL injection, 1 mL pen device (*Nucala*)
12021Q **MEPOLIZUMAB**, mepolizumab 100 mg/mL injection, 1 mL pen device (*Nucala*)
12064Y **MEPOLIZUMAB**, mepolizumab 100 mg/mL injection, 1 mL pen device (*Nucala*)
10980X **MEPOLIZUMAB**, mepolizumab 100 mg injection, 1 vial (*Nucala*)
10996R **MEPOLIZUMAB**, mepolizumab 100 mg injection, 1 vial (*Nucala*)
11839D **MEPOLIZUMAB**, mepolizumab 100 mg injection, 1 vial (*Nucala*)
10118M **OMALIZUMAB**, omalizumab 75 mg/0.5 mL injection, 0.5 mL syringe (*Xolair*)
10967F **OMALIZUMAB**, omalizumab 75 mg/0.5 mL injection, 0.5 mL syringe (*Xolair*)
11835X **OMALIZUMAB**, omalizumab 75 mg/0.5 mL injection, 0.5 mL syringe (*Xolair*)
11846L **OMALIZUMAB**, omalizumab 75 mg/0.5 mL injection, 0.5 mL syringe (*Xolair*)
11946R **OMALIZUMAB**, omalizumab 75 mg/0.5 mL injection, 0.5 mL syringe (*Xolair*)
11962N **OMALIZUMAB**, omalizumab 75 mg/0.5 mL injection, 0.5 mL syringe (*Xolair*)
10109C **OMALIZUMAB**, omalizumab 150 mg/mL injection, 1 mL syringe (*Xolair*)
10973M **OMALIZUMAB**, omalizumab 150 mg/mL injection, 1 mL syringe (*Xolair*)
11824H **OMALIZUMAB**, omalizumab 150 mg/mL injection, 1 mL syringe (*Xolair*)
11828M **OMALIZUMAB**, omalizumab 150 mg/mL injection, 1 mL syringe (*Xolair*)
11945Q **OMALIZUMAB**, omalizumab 150 mg/mL injection, 1 mL syringe (*Xolair*)
11950Y **OMALIZUMAB**, omalizumab 150 mg/mL injection, 1 mL syringe (*Xolair*)

Advance Notices

1 August 2024

Deletion – Brand

12149K *Bosentan Cipla, LR* – **BOSENTAN**, bosentan 125 mg tablet, 60
5619R *Bosentan Cipla, LR* – **BOSENTAN**, bosentan 125 mg tablet, 60
11885M *Cinacalcet Mylan, AF* – **CINACALCET**, cinacalcet 90 mg tablet, 28
5623Y *Cinacalcet Mylan, AF* – **CINACALCET**, cinacalcet 90 mg tablet, 28
10980X *Nucala, GK* – **MEPOLIZUMAB**, mepolizumab 100 mg injection, 1 vial
10996R *Nucala, GK* – **MEPOLIZUMAB**, mepolizumab 100 mg injection, 1 vial
11839D *Nucala, GK* – **MEPOLIZUMAB**, mepolizumab 100 mg injection, 1 vial

9501C	<i>CellCept, RO</i> – MYCOPHENOLATE , mycophenolate mofetil 250 mg capsule, 100
9502D	<i>CellCept, RO</i> – MYCOPHENOLATE , mycophenolate mofetil 500 mg tablet, 50
9569P	<i>VALGANCICLOVIR HETERO, GG</i> – VALGANCICLOVIR , valganciclovir 450 mg tablet, 60

Highly Specialised Drugs Program (Community Access)

Alterations

Alteration – Restriction

13328L	BUPRENORPHINE , buprenorphine 8 mg/0.16 mL modified release injection, 0.16 mL syringe (<i>Buvidal Weekly</i>)
13297W	BUPRENORPHINE , buprenorphine 16 mg/0.32 mL modified release injection, 0.32 mL syringe (<i>Buvidal Weekly</i>)
13296T	BUPRENORPHINE , buprenorphine 24 mg/0.48 mL modified release injection, 0.48 mL syringe (<i>Buvidal Weekly</i>)
13314R	BUPRENORPHINE , buprenorphine 32 mg/0.64 mL modified release injection, 0.64 mL syringe (<i>Buvidal Weekly</i>)
13298X	BUPRENORPHINE , buprenorphine 64 mg/0.18 mL modified release injection, 0.18 mL syringe (<i>Buvidal Monthly</i>)
13309L	BUPRENORPHINE , buprenorphine 96 mg/0.27 mL modified release injection, 0.27 mL syringe (<i>Buvidal Monthly</i>)
13320C	BUPRENORPHINE , buprenorphine 100 mg/0.5 mL modified release injection, 0.5 mL syringe (<i>Sublocade</i>)
13302D	BUPRENORPHINE , buprenorphine 128 mg/0.36 mL modified release injection, 0.36 mL syringe (<i>Buvidal Monthly</i>)
13303E	BUPRENORPHINE , buprenorphine 160 mg/0.45 mL modified release injection, 0.45 mL syringe (<i>Buvidal Monthly</i>)
13327K	BUPRENORPHINE , buprenorphine 300 mg/1.5 mL modified release injection, 1.5 mL syringe (<i>Sublocade</i>)
13310M	BUPRENORPHINE , buprenorphine 400 microgram sublingual tablet, 7 (<i>Subutex</i>)
13336X	BUPRENORPHINE , buprenorphine 2 mg sublingual tablet, 7 (<i>Subutex</i>)
13337Y	BUPRENORPHINE , buprenorphine 8 mg sublingual tablet, 7 (<i>Subutex</i>)
13322E	BUPRENORPHINE + NALOXONE , buprenorphine 2 mg + naloxone 500 microgram sublingual film, 28 (<i>Suboxone Film 2/0.5</i>)
13321D	BUPRENORPHINE + NALOXONE , buprenorphine 8 mg + naloxone 2 mg sublingual film, 28 (<i>Suboxone Film 8/2</i>)
13333R	METHADONE , methadone hydrochloride 5 mg/mL oral liquid, 1 L (<i>Aspen Methadone Syrup, Biodone Forte</i>)
13334T	METHADONE , methadone hydrochloride 5 mg/mL oral liquid, 200 mL (<i>Aspen Methadone Syrup, Biodone Forte</i>)

Alteration – Number of Repeats

		From	To
13328L	BUPRENORPHINE , buprenorphine 8 mg/0.16 mL modified release injection, 0.16 mL syringe (<i>Buvidal Weekly</i>)	2	5
13297W	BUPRENORPHINE , buprenorphine 16 mg/0.32 mL modified release injection, 0.32 mL syringe (<i>Buvidal Weekly</i>)	2	5
13296T	BUPRENORPHINE , buprenorphine 24 mg/0.48 mL modified release injection, 0.48 mL syringe (<i>Buvidal Weekly</i>)	2	5
13314R	BUPRENORPHINE , buprenorphine 32 mg/0.64 mL modified release injection, 0.64 mL syringe (<i>Buvidal Weekly</i>)	2	5
13298X	BUPRENORPHINE , buprenorphine 64 mg/0.18 mL modified release injection, 0.18 mL syringe (<i>Buvidal Monthly</i>)	2	5
13309L	BUPRENORPHINE , buprenorphine 96 mg/0.27 mL modified release injection, 0.27 mL syringe (<i>Buvidal Monthly</i>)	2	5
13320C	BUPRENORPHINE , buprenorphine 100 mg/0.5 mL modified release injection, 0.5 mL syringe (<i>Sublocade</i>)	2	5
13302D	BUPRENORPHINE , buprenorphine 128 mg/0.36 mL modified release injection, 0.36 mL syringe (<i>Buvidal Monthly</i>)	2	5
13303E	BUPRENORPHINE , buprenorphine 160 mg/0.45 mL modified release injection, 0.45 mL syringe (<i>Buvidal Monthly</i>)	2	5

13327K	BUPRENORPHINE , buprenorphine 300 mg/1.5 mL modified release injection, 1.5 mL syringe (<i>Sublocade</i>)	2	5
13310M	BUPRENORPHINE , buprenorphine 400 microgram sublingual tablet, 7 (<i>Subutex</i>)	2	5
13336X	BUPRENORPHINE , buprenorphine 2 mg sublingual tablet, 7 (<i>Subutex</i>)	2	5
13337Y	BUPRENORPHINE , buprenorphine 8 mg sublingual tablet, 7 (<i>Subutex</i>)	2	5
13322E	BUPRENORPHINE + NALOXONE , buprenorphine 2 mg + naloxone 500 microgram sublingual film, 28 (<i>Suboxone Film 2/0.5</i>)	2	5
13321D	BUPRENORPHINE + NALOXONE , buprenorphine 8 mg + naloxone 2 mg sublingual film, 28 (<i>Suboxone Film 8/2</i>)	2	5
13333R	METHADONE , methadone hydrochloride 5 mg/mL oral liquid, 1 L (<i>Aspen Methadone Syrup, Biodone Forte</i>)	2	5
13334T	METHADONE , methadone hydrochloride 5 mg/mL oral liquid, 200 mL (<i>Aspen Methadone Syrup, Biodone Forte</i>)	2	5

Advance Notices

1 August 2024

Deletion – Brand

10306K VALGANCICLOVIR HETERO, GG – **VALGANCICLOVIR**, valganciclovir 450 mg tablet, 60

1 October 2024

Deletion – Brand

10279B *Entecavir Mylan, AF* – **ENTECAVIR**, entecavir 500 microgram tablet, 30

Repatriation Pharmaceutical Benefits

Additions

Addition – Item

14183L	ALFUZOSIN , alfuzosin hydrochloride 10 mg modified release tablet, 30 (<i>Xatral SR</i>)
14176D	CALCIUM , calcium carbonate 1.25 g (calcium 500 mg) chewable tablet, 120 (<i>Cal-500</i>)
14217G	CALCIUM , calcium carbonate 1.25 g (calcium 500 mg) chewable tablet, 120 (<i>Cal-500</i>)
14174B	CALCIUM , calcium carbonate 1.5 g (calcium 600 mg) tablet, 120 (<i>CAL-600, Cal-care 600 mg</i>)
14175C	CALCIUM , calcium carbonate 1.5 g (calcium 600 mg) tablet, 120 (<i>CAL-600, Cal-care 600 mg</i>)
14180H	CHLORAMPHENICOL , chloramphenicol 0.5% eye drops, 10 mL (<i>Chlorsig</i>)
14210X	DUTASTERIDE , dutasteride 500 microgram capsule, 30 (<i>APO-Dutasteride, Avodart</i>)
14184M	DUTASTERIDE + TAMSULOSIN , dutasteride 500 microgram + tamsulosin hydrochloride 400 microgram modified release capsule, 30 (<i>Duodart 500ug/400ug</i>)
14191X	FINASTERIDE , finasteride 5 mg tablet, 28 (<i>Finpro</i>)
14199H	FINASTERIDE , finasteride 5 mg tablet, 30 (<i>APO-Finasteride, Finasta, Finasteride GH 5, Finasteride Mylan 5, Finasteride-GA 5, Finide, Finnacar, Pharmacor Finasteride 5, Proscar</i>)
14209W	RISEDRONATE , risedronate sodium 5 mg tablet, 28 (<i>Actonel</i>)
14197F	RISEDRONATE , risedronate sodium 35 mg tablet, 4 (<i>APO-Risedronate, Risedronate Sandoz, Risedronate-GA</i>)
14198G	RISEDRONATE , risedronate sodium 35 mg enteric tablet, 4 (<i>Actonel EC</i>)
14185N	SILODOSIN , silodosin 4 mg capsule, 30 (<i>Urorec</i>)
14192Y	SILODOSIN , silodosin 8 mg capsule, 30 (<i>Urorec</i>)
14200J	TAMSULOSIN , tamsulosin hydrochloride 400 microgram modified release tablet, 30 (<i>Apo-Tamsulosin SR, BTC Tamsulosin SR, Blooms the Chemist Tamsulosin SR, Flomaxtra, Flosix, Tamsulosin Sandoz SR</i>)
14182K	THIAMINE , thiamine hydrochloride 100 mg tablet, 100 (<i>Betavit</i>)

Addition – Brand

4222F *Fluorouracil Viatris, AF* – **FLUOROURACIL**, fluorouracil 5% cream, 20 g

4279F *HYOSCINE BUTYLBROMIDE-AFT, AE* – **HYOSCINE BUTYLBROMIDE**, hyoscine butylbromide 20 mg/mL injection, 5 x 1 mL ampoules

4348W *SUPIROCIN, JM* – **MUPIROCIN**, mupirocin 2% cream, 15 g
10598T *Parapane OSTEO, AF* – **PARACETAMOL**, paracetamol 665 mg modified release tablet, 96
10598T *Pharmacy Action OSTEO Relief 665, HQ* – **PARACETAMOL**, paracetamol 665 mg modified release tablet, 96
4070F *BTC Tamsulosin SR, BG* – **TAMSULOSIN**, tamsulosin hydrochloride 400 microgram modified release tablet, 30


Addition – Equivalence Indicator

4348W *Bactroban, GK* – **MUPIROCIN**, mupirocin 2% cream, 15 g

Prescriber Bag


▪ BENZATHINE BENZYL PENICILLIN

benzathine benzylpenicillin 1.2 million units powder for injection [1 vial] (&) inert substance diluent [5 mL vial], 1 pack

13801J	Max. Qty Packs	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	10	*511.97	^a Extencilline Benzathine Benzylpenicillin (France) [YO]

OR

benzathine benzylpenicillin tetrahydrate 1.2 million units (1016.6 mg)/2.3 mL injection, 10 x 2.3 mL syringes

11755Q	Max. Qty Packs	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	335.98	^a Bicillin L-A [PF]

General Pharmaceutical Benefits

▪ ALIROCUMAB

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 888 333.

Note No increase in the maximum quantity or number of units may be authorised.

Note No increase in the maximum number of repeats may be authorised.

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

Familial heterozygous hypercholesterolaemia

Treatment Phase: Initial treatment

Clinical criteria:

- The treatment must be in conjunction with dietary therapy and exercise, **AND**
- The condition must have been confirmed by genetic testing; OR
- The condition must have been confirmed by a Dutch Lipid Clinic Network Score of at least 6, **AND**
- Patient must have an LDL cholesterol level in excess of 2.6 millimoles per litre in the presence of symptomatic atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease; OR
- Patient must have an LDL cholesterol level in excess of 5 millimoles per litre, **AND**
- Patient must have been treated with the maximum recommended dose of atorvastatin (80 mg daily) or rosuvastatin (40 mg daily) according to the TGA-approved Product Information or the maximum tolerated dose of atorvastatin or rosuvastatin for at least 12 consecutive weeks in conjunction with dietary therapy and exercise; OR
- Patient must have developed clinically important product-related adverse events necessitating withdrawal of statin treatment to trials of each of atorvastatin and rosuvastatin; OR
- Patient must be contraindicated to treatment with a HMG CoA reductase inhibitor (statin) as defined in the TGA-approved Product Information, **AND**
- Patient must have been treated with ezetimibe for at least 12 consecutive weeks in conjunction with a statin (if tolerated), dietary therapy and exercise; OR
- Patient must have developed clinically important product-related adverse event/contraindication as defined in the TGA approved Product Information necessitating withdrawal of ezetimibe, **AND**
- Patient must not be receiving concomitant PBS-subsidised treatment with any of: (i) another monoclonal antibody inhibiting proprotein convertase subtilisin kexin type 9 (PCSK9), (ii) inclisiran, for this PBS indication.

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a specialist physician.

Symptomatic atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease is defined as:

- (i) the presence of symptomatic coronary artery disease (prior myocardial infarction, prior revascularisation procedure, angina associated with demonstrated significant coronary artery disease (50% or greater stenosis in 1 or more coronary arteries on imaging), or positive functional testing (e.g. myocardial perfusion scanning or stress echocardiography); or
- (ii) the presence of symptomatic cerebrovascular disease (prior ischaemic stroke, prior revascularisation procedure, or transient ischaemic attack associated with 50% or greater stenosis in 1 or more cerebral arteries on imaging); or
- (iii) the presence of symptomatic peripheral arterial disease (prior acute ischaemic event due to atherosclerosis, prior revascularisation procedure, or symptoms of ischaemia with evidence of significant peripheral artery disease (50% or greater stenosis in 1 or more peripheral arteries on imaging)).

The qualifying LDL cholesterol level following at least 12 consecutive weeks of combined treatment with a statin, ezetimibe, dietary therapy and exercise (unless treatment with a statin is contraindicated, or following completion of statin trials as described in these prescriber instructions in the event of clinically important adverse events) must be stated at the time of application, documented in the patient's medical records and must be no more than 8 weeks old.

A clinically important product-related adverse event is defined as follows:

- (i) Severe myalgia (muscle symptoms without creatine kinase elevation) which is proven to be temporally associated with statin treatment; or
- (ii) Myositis (clinically important creatine kinase elevation, with or without muscle symptoms) demonstrated by results twice the upper limit of normal on a single reading or a rising pattern on consecutive measurements and which is unexplained by other causes; or
- (iii) Unexplained, persistent elevations of serum transaminases (greater than 3 times the upper limit of normal) during treatment with a statin.

If treatment with atorvastatin or rosuvastatin results in development of a clinically important product-related adverse event resulting in treatment withdrawal, the patient must be treated with the alternative statin (atorvastatin or rosuvastatin) unless there is a contraindication (e.g. prior rhabdomyolysis) to the alternative statin. This retreat should occur after a washout period of at least 4 weeks, or if the creatine kinase (CK) level is elevated, retreat should not occur until CK has returned to normal.

In the event of a trial of the alternative statin, it is recommended that the patient is started with the minimum dose of statin in conjunction with ezetimibe. The dose of the alternative statin should be increased not more often than every 4 weeks until the recommended or maximum tolerated dose has been reached or target LDL-c has been achieved.

The following must be stated at the time of application and documented in the patient's medical records:

(i) the qualifying Dutch Lipid Clinic Network Score; or

(ii) the result of genetic testing confirming a diagnosis of familial heterozygous hypercholesterolaemia

One of the following must be stated at the time of application and documented in the patient's medical records regarding prior statin treatment:

(i) the patient was treated with atorvastatin 80 mg or rosuvastatin 40 mg or the maximum tolerated dose of either for 12 consecutive weeks; or

(ii) the doses, duration of treatment and details of adverse events experienced with trials with each of atorvastatin and rosuvastatin; or

(iii) the patient is contraindicated to treatment with a statin as defined in the TGA-approved Product Information.

Patients with symptomatic atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease where LDL cholesterol cannot be measured due to hypertriglyceridaemia, may qualify under this authority application if they have a non-HDL in excess of 2.4 millimoles per litre.

Authority required

Non-familial hypercholesterolaemia

Treatment Phase: Initial treatment

Clinical criteria:

- The treatment must be in conjunction with dietary therapy and exercise, **AND**
- Patient must have symptomatic atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease, **AND**
- Patient must have an LDL cholesterol level in excess of 2.6 millimoles per litre prior to commencing treatment with a monoclonal antibody inhibiting proprotein convertase subtilisin kexin type 9 (PCSK9), **AND**
- Patient must have atherosclerotic disease in two or more vascular territories (coronary, cerebrovascular or peripheral vascular territories); OR
- Patient must have severe multi-vessel coronary heart disease defined as at least 50% stenosis in at least two large vessels; OR
- Patient must have had at least two major cardiovascular events (i.e. myocardial infarction, unstable angina, stroke or unplanned revascularisation) in the previous 5 years; OR
- Patient must have diabetes mellitus with microalbuminuria; OR
- Patient must have diabetes mellitus and be aged 60 years or more; OR
- Patient must be an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander with diabetes mellitus; OR
- Patient must have a Thrombolysis in Myocardial Infarction (TIMI) risk score for secondary prevention of 4 or higher, **AND**
- Patient must have been treated with the maximum recommended dose of atorvastatin (80 mg daily) or rosuvastatin (40 mg daily) according to the TGA-approved Product Information or the maximum tolerated dose of atorvastatin or rosuvastatin for at least 12 consecutive weeks in conjunction with dietary therapy and exercise; OR
- Patient must have developed clinically important product-related adverse events necessitating withdrawal of statin treatment to trials of each of atorvastatin and rosuvastatin; OR
- Patient must be contraindicated to treatment with a HMG CoA reductase inhibitor (statin) as defined in the TGA-approved Product Information, **AND**
- Patient must have been treated with ezetimibe for at least 12 consecutive weeks in conjunction with a statin (if tolerated), dietary therapy and exercise; OR
- Patient must have developed clinically important product-related adverse event/contraindication as defined in the TGA approved Product Information necessitating withdrawal of ezetimibe, **AND**
- Patient must not be receiving concomitant PBS-subsidised treatment with any of: (i) another monoclonal antibody inhibiting proprotein convertase subtilisin kexin type 9 (PCSK9), (ii) inclisiran, for this PBS indication.

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a specialist physician.

Symptomatic atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease is defined as:

(i) the presence of symptomatic coronary artery disease (prior myocardial infarction, prior revascularisation procedure, angina associated with demonstrated significant coronary artery disease (50% or greater stenosis in 1 or more coronary arteries on imaging), or positive functional testing (e.g. myocardial perfusion scanning or stress echocardiography)); or

(ii) the presence of symptomatic cerebrovascular disease (prior ischaemic stroke, prior revascularisation procedure, or transient ischaemic attack associated with 50% or greater stenosis in 1 or more cerebral arteries on imaging); or

(iii) the presence of symptomatic peripheral arterial disease (prior acute ischaemic event due to atherosclerosis, prior revascularisation procedure, or symptoms of ischaemia with evidence of significant peripheral artery disease (50% or greater stenosis in 1 or more peripheral arteries on imaging)).

The qualifying LDL cholesterol level following at least 12 consecutive weeks of combined treatment with a statin, ezetimibe, dietary therapy and exercise (unless treatment with a statin is contraindicated, or following completion of statin trials as described in these prescriber instructions in the event of clinically important adverse events) must be stated at the time of application, documented in the patient's medical records and must be no more than 8 weeks old.

A clinically important product-related adverse event is defined as follows:

- (i) Severe myalgia (muscle symptoms without creatine kinase elevation) which is proven to be temporally associated with statin treatment; or
- (ii) Myositis (clinically important creatine kinase elevation, with or without muscle symptoms) demonstrated by results twice the upper limit of normal on a single reading or a rising pattern on consecutive measurements and which is unexplained by other causes; or
- (iii) Unexplained, persistent elevations of serum transaminases (greater than 3 times the upper limit of normal) during treatment with a statin.

If treatment with atorvastatin or rosuvastatin results in development of a clinically important product-related adverse event resulting in treatment withdrawal, the patient must be treated with the alternative statin (atorvastatin or rosuvastatin) unless there is a contraindication (e.g. prior rhabdomyolysis) to the alternative statin. This retreat should occur after a washout period of at least 4 weeks, or if the creatine kinase (CK) level is elevated, retreat should not occur until CK has returned to normal.

In the event of a trial of the alternative statin, it is recommended that the patient is started with the minimum dose of statin in conjunction with ezetimibe. The dose of the alternative statin should be increased not more often than every 4 weeks until the recommended or maximum tolerated dose has been reached or target LDL-c has been achieved.

One of the following must be stated at the time of application and documented in the patient's medical records regarding prior statin treatment:

- (i) the patient was treated with atorvastatin 80 mg or rosuvastatin 40 mg or the maximum tolerated dose of either for 12 consecutive weeks; or
- (ii) the doses, duration of treatment and details of adverse events experienced with trials with each of atorvastatin and rosuvastatin; or
- (iii) the patient is contraindicated to treatment with a statin as defined in the TGA-approved Product Information.

One or more of the following must be stated at the time of application and documented in the patient's medical records regarding the presence of cardiovascular disease or high risk of experiencing a cardiovascular event:

- (i) atherosclerotic disease in two or more vascular territories (coronary, cerebrovascular or peripheral vascular territories); or
- (ii) severe multi-vessel coronary heart disease defined as at least 50% stenosis in at least two large vessels; or
- (iii) history of at least two major cardiovascular events (i.e. myocardial infarction, unstable angina, stroke or unplanned revascularisation) in the previous 5 years; or
- (iv) diabetes mellitus with microalbuminuria; or
- (v) diabetes mellitus and age 60 years or more; or
- (vi) Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander with diabetes mellitus; or
- (vii) a Thrombolysis in Myocardial Infarction (TIMI) risk score for secondary prevention of 4 or higher.

Patients with symptomatic atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease where LDL cholesterol cannot be measured due to hypertriglyceridaemia, may qualify under this authority application if they have a non-HDL in excess of 2.4 millimoles per litre.

alirocumab 150 mg/mL injection, 2 x 1 mL pen devices

12604J	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	5	..	499.63	31.60	Praluent [SW]


alirocumab 75 mg/mL injection, 2 x 1 mL pen devices

12613W	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	5	..	499.63	31.60	Praluent [SW]


■ BENZATHINE BENZYL PENICILLIN

Note Pharmaceutical benefits that have the brand Extencilline Benzathine Benzylpenicillin (France) may be substituted for pharmaceutical benefits that have the brand Bicillin L-A in case of shortage.


benzathine benzylpenicillin 1.2 million units powder for injection [1 vial] (& inert substance diluent [5 mL vial], 1 pack

13790T	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	10	..	..	*511.97	31.60	^a Extencilline Benzathine Benzylpenicillin (France) [YO]


benzathine benzylpenicillin 1.2 million units powder for injection [1 vial] (& inert substance diluent [5 mL vial], 1 pack

13816E	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	10	..	..	*511.97	31.60	^a Extencilline Benzathine Benzylpenicillin (France) [YO]

benzathine benzylpenicillin tetrahydrate 1.2 million units (1016.6 mg)/2.3 mL injection, 10 x 2.3 mL syringes

2267H	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	..	..	335.98	31.60	^a Bicillin L-A [PF]

benzathine benzylpenicillin tetrahydrate 1.2 million units (1016.6 mg)/2.3 mL injection, 10 x 2.3 mL syringes

5027N	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	..	..	335.98	31.60	^a Bicillin L-A [PF]

■ DEUCRAVACITINIB

Note No increase in the maximum quantity or number of units may be authorised.

Note No increase in the maximum number of repeats may be authorised.

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required (STREAMLINED)

15406

Severe chronic plaque psoriasis

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must not have achieved adequate response after at least 6 weeks of treatment with methotrexate prior to initiating treatment with this drug; OR
- Patient must have a contraindication to methotrexate according to the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) approved Product Information; OR
- Patient must have demonstrated severe intolerance of, or toxicity due to, methotrexate, **AND**
- The condition must have caused significant interference with quality of life, **AND**
- Patient must not be undergoing concurrent PBS-subsidised treatment for psoriasis with each of: (i) a biological medicine, (ii) ciclosporin, (iii) apremilast.

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a medical practitioner who is either: (i) a dermatologist, (ii) a rheumatologist, (iii) general physician; OR
- Must be treated by a medical practitioner in consultation with one of the above specialist types who is either an accredited: (i) dermatology registrar, (ii) rheumatology registrar; OR
- Must be treated by a general practitioner where there is agreement to continue treatment (not initiate treatment) with one of the above practitioner types.

Population criteria:

- Patient must be at least 18 years of age.

For patients who do not demonstrate an adequate response to deucravacitinib, a Psoriasis Area and Severity Index (PASI) assessment must be completed, preferably while on treatment, but no longer than 4 weeks following the cessation of treatment. This assessment will be required for patients who transition to 'biological medicines' for the treatment of 'severe chronic plaque psoriasis'.

This assessment must be documented in the patient's medical records.

deucravacitinib 6 mg tablet, 28

13649J	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	5	..	1259.99	31.60	Sotyktu [BQ]

▪ **EVOLOCUMAB**

Note No increase in the maximum number of repeats may be authorised.

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required (STREAMLINED)

15432

Familial homozygous hypercholesterolaemia

Treatment Phase: Initial treatment

Clinical criteria:

- The treatment must be in conjunction with dietary therapy and exercise, **AND**
- The condition must have been confirmed by genetic testing; OR
- The condition must have been confirmed by a Dutch Lipid Clinic Network Score of at least 7, **AND**
- Patient must have an LDL cholesterol level in excess of 1.8 millimoles per litre, **AND**
- Patient must have been treated with the maximum recommended dose of atorvastatin (80 mg daily) or rosuvastatin (40 mg daily) according to the TGA-approved Product Information or the maximum tolerated dose of atorvastatin or rosuvastatin for at least 12 consecutive weeks in conjunction with dietary therapy and exercise; OR
- Patient must have developed clinically important product-related adverse events necessitating withdrawal of statin treatment to trials of each of atorvastatin and rosuvastatin; OR
- Patient must be contraindicated to treatment with a HMG CoA reductase inhibitor (statin) as defined in the TGA-approved Product Information.

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a specialist physician; OR
- Must be treated by a physician who has consulted a specialist physician.

The qualifying LDL cholesterol level following at least 12 consecutive weeks of treatment with a statin (unless treatment with a statin is contraindicated or following completion of statin trials as described in these prescriber instructions in the event of clinically important adverse events) must be documented in the patient's medical records and must be no more than 8 weeks old.

A clinically important product-related adverse event is defined as follows:

- (i) Severe myalgia (muscle symptoms without creatine kinase elevation) which is proven to be temporally associated with statin treatment; or
- (ii) Myositis (clinically important creatine kinase elevation, with or without muscle symptoms) demonstrated by results twice the upper limit of normal on a single reading or a rising pattern on consecutive measurements and which is unexplained by other causes; or
- (iii) Unexplained, persistent elevations of serum transaminases (greater than 3 times the upper limit of normal) during treatment with a statin.

The following must be documented in the patient's medical records:

- (i) the qualifying Dutch Lipid Clinic Network Score; or
 - (ii) the result of genetic testing confirming a diagnosis of familial homozygous hypercholesterolaemia
- One of the following must be documented in the patient's medical records regarding prior statin treatment:
- (i) the patient was treated with atorvastatin 80 mg or rosuvastatin 40 mg or the maximum tolerated dose of either for 12 consecutive weeks; or
 - (ii) the doses, duration of treatment and details of adverse events experienced with trials with each of atorvastatin and rosuvastatin; or
 - (iii) the patient is contraindicated to treatment with a statin as defined in the TGA-approved Product Information.
- Patients with symptomatic atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease where LDL cholesterol cannot be measured due to hypertriglyceridaemia, may qualify under this authority application if they have a non-HDL in excess of 2.4 millimoles per litre.

evolocumab 140 mg/mL injection, 1 mL pen device

10958R	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	3	5	..	*504.66	31.60	Repatha [AN]

evolocumab 420 mg/3.5 mL injection, 3.5 mL cartridge

11193D	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	5	..	366.68	31.60	Repatha [AN]

■ EVOLOCUMAB

Note No increase in the maximum quantity or number of units may be authorised.

Note No increase in the maximum number of repeats may be authorised.

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required (STREAMLINED)

15410

Familial heterozygous hypercholesterolaemia

Treatment Phase: Initial treatment

Clinical criteria:

- The treatment must be in conjunction with dietary therapy and exercise, **AND**
- The condition must have been confirmed by genetic testing; OR
- The condition must have been confirmed by a Dutch Lipid Clinic Network Score of at least 6, **AND**
- Patient must have an LDL cholesterol level in excess of 1.8 millimoles per litre in the presence of symptomatic atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease; OR
- Patient must have an LDL cholesterol level in excess of 5 millimoles per litre, **AND**
- Patient must have been treated with the maximum recommended dose of atorvastatin (80 mg daily) or rosuvastatin (40 mg daily) according to the TGA-approved Product Information or the maximum tolerated dose of atorvastatin or rosuvastatin for at least 12 consecutive weeks in conjunction with dietary therapy and exercise; OR
- Patient must have developed clinically important product-related adverse events necessitating withdrawal of statin treatment to trials of each of atorvastatin and rosuvastatin; OR
- Patient must be contraindicated to treatment with a HMG CoA reductase inhibitor (statin) as defined in the TGA-approved Product Information, **AND**
- Patient must have been treated with ezetimibe for at least 12 consecutive weeks in conjunction with a statin (if tolerated), dietary therapy and exercise; OR
- Patient must have developed clinically important product-related adverse event/contraindication as defined in the TGA approved Product Information necessitating withdrawal of ezetimibe, **AND**
- Patient must not be receiving concomitant PBS-subsidised treatment with any of: (i) another monoclonal antibody inhibiting proprotein convertase subtilisin kexin type 9 (PCSK9), (ii) inclisiran, for this PBS indication.

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a specialist physician; OR
- Must be treated by a physician who has consulted a specialist physician.

Symptomatic atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease is defined as:

- (i) the presence of symptomatic coronary artery disease (prior myocardial infarction, prior revascularisation procedure, angina associated with demonstrated significant coronary artery disease (50% or greater stenosis in 1 or more coronary arteries on imaging), or positive functional testing (e.g. myocardial perfusion scanning or stress echocardiography)); or
- (ii) the presence of symptomatic cerebrovascular disease (prior ischaemic stroke, prior revascularisation procedure, or transient ischaemic attack associated with 50% or greater stenosis in 1 or more cerebral arteries on imaging); or
- (iii) the presence of symptomatic peripheral arterial disease (prior acute ischaemic event due to atherosclerosis, prior revascularisation procedure, or symptoms of ischaemia with evidence of significant peripheral artery disease (50% or greater stenosis in 1 or more peripheral arteries on imaging)).

The qualifying LDL cholesterol level following at least 12 consecutive weeks of combined treatment with a statin, ezetimibe, dietary therapy and exercise (unless treatment with a statin is contraindicated, or following completion of statin trials as described in these prescriber instructions in the event of clinically important adverse events) must be documented in the patient's medical records and must be no more than 8 weeks old.

A clinically important product-related adverse event is defined as follows:

- (i) Severe myalgia (muscle symptoms without creatine kinase elevation) which is proven to be temporally associated with statin treatment; or

(ii) Myositis (clinically important creatine kinase elevation, with or without muscle symptoms) demonstrated by results twice the upper limit of normal on a single reading or a rising pattern on consecutive measurements and which is unexplained by other causes; or

(iii) Unexplained, persistent elevations of serum transaminases (greater than 3 times the upper limit of normal) during treatment with a statin.

If treatment with atorvastatin or rosuvastatin results in development of a clinically important product-related adverse event resulting in treatment withdrawal, the patient must be treated with the alternative statin (atorvastatin or rosuvastatin) unless there is a contraindication (e.g. prior rhabdomyolysis) to the alternative statin. This retreatment should occur after a washout period of at least 4 weeks, or if the creatine kinase (CK) level is elevated, retreatment should not occur until CK has returned to normal.

In the event of a trial of the alternative statin, it is recommended that the patient is started with the minimum dose of statin in conjunction with ezetimibe. The dose of the alternative statin should be increased not more often than every 4 weeks until the recommended or maximum tolerated dose has been reached or target LDL-c has been achieved.

The following must be documented in the patient's medical records:

(i) the qualifying Dutch Lipid Clinic Network Score; or

(ii) the result of genetic testing confirming a diagnosis of familial heterozygous hypercholesterolaemia

One of the following must be documented in the patient's medical records regarding prior statin treatment:

(i) the patient was treated with atorvastatin 80 mg or rosuvastatin 40 mg or the maximum tolerated dose of either for 12 consecutive weeks; or

(ii) the doses, duration of treatment and details of adverse events experienced with trials with each of atorvastatin and rosuvastatin; or

(iii) the patient is contraindicated to treatment with a statin as defined in the TGA-approved Product Information.

Patients with symptomatic atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease where LDL cholesterol cannot be measured due to hypertriglyceridaemia, may qualify under this authority application if they have a non-HDL in excess of 2.4 millimoles per litre.

Authority required (STREAMLINED)

15395

Non-familial hypercholesterolaemia

Treatment Phase: Initial treatment

Clinical criteria:

- The treatment must be in conjunction with dietary therapy and exercise, **AND**
- Patient must have symptomatic atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease, **AND**
- Patient must have an LDL cholesterol level in excess of 1.8 millimoles per litre, **AND**
- Patient must have atherosclerotic disease in two or more vascular territories (coronary, cerebrovascular or peripheral vascular territories); OR
- Patient must have severe multi-vessel coronary heart disease defined as at least 50% stenosis in at least two large vessels; OR
- Patient must have had at least two major cardiovascular events (i.e. myocardial infarction, unstable angina, stroke or unplanned revascularisation) in the previous 5 years; OR
- Patient must have diabetes mellitus with microalbuminuria; OR
- Patient must have diabetes mellitus and be aged 60 years or more; OR
- Patient must be an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander with diabetes mellitus; OR
- Patient must have a Thrombolysis in Myocardial Infarction (TIMI) risk score for secondary prevention of 4 or higher, **AND**
- Patient must have been treated with the maximum recommended dose of atorvastatin (80 mg daily) or rosuvastatin (40 mg daily) according to the TGA-approved Product Information or the maximum tolerated dose of atorvastatin or rosuvastatin for at least 12 consecutive weeks in conjunction with dietary therapy and exercise; OR
- Patient must have developed clinically important product-related adverse events necessitating withdrawal of statin treatment to trials of each of atorvastatin and rosuvastatin; OR
- Patient must be contraindicated to treatment with a HMG CoA reductase inhibitor (statin) as defined in the TGA-approved Product Information, **AND**
- Patient must have been treated with ezetimibe for at least 12 consecutive weeks in conjunction with a statin (if tolerated), dietary therapy and exercise; OR
- Patient must have developed clinically important product-related adverse event/contraindication as defined in the TGA approved Product Information necessitating withdrawal of ezetimibe, **AND**
- Patient must not be receiving concomitant PBS-subsidised treatment with any of: (i) another monoclonal antibody inhibiting proprotein convertase subtilisin kexin type 9 (PCSK9), (ii) inclisiran, for this PBS indication.

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a specialist physician; OR
- Must be treated by a physician who has consulted a specialist physician.

Symptomatic atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease is defined as:

(i) the presence of symptomatic coronary artery disease (prior myocardial infarction, prior revascularisation procedure, angina associated with demonstrated significant coronary artery disease (50% or greater stenosis in 1 or more coronary arteries on imaging), or positive functional testing (e.g. myocardial perfusion scanning or stress echocardiography); or

(ii) the presence of symptomatic cerebrovascular disease (prior ischaemic stroke, prior revascularisation procedure, or transient ischaemic attack associated with 50% or greater stenosis in 1 or more cerebral arteries on imaging); or

(iii) the presence of symptomatic peripheral arterial disease (prior acute ischaemic event due to atherosclerosis, prior revascularisation procedure, or symptoms of ischaemia with evidence of significant peripheral artery disease (50% or greater stenosis in 1 or more peripheral arteries on imaging)).

The qualifying LDL cholesterol level following at least 12 consecutive weeks of combined treatment with a statin, ezetimibe, dietary therapy and exercise (unless treatment with a statin is contraindicated, or following completion of statin trials as described in these prescriber instructions in the event of clinically important adverse events) must be documented in the patient's medical records and must be no more than 8 weeks old.

A clinically important product-related adverse event is defined as follows:

- (i) Severe myalgia (muscle symptoms without creatine kinase elevation) which is proven to be temporally associated with statin treatment; or
- (ii) Myositis (clinically important creatine kinase elevation, with or without muscle symptoms) demonstrated by results twice the upper limit of normal on a single reading or a rising pattern on consecutive measurements and which is unexplained by other causes; or
- (iii) Unexplained, persistent elevations of serum transaminases (greater than 3 times the upper limit of normal) during treatment with a statin.

If treatment with atorvastatin or rosuvastatin results in development of a clinically important product-related adverse event resulting in treatment withdrawal, the patient must be treated with the alternative statin (atorvastatin or rosuvastatin) unless there is a contraindication (e.g. prior rhabdomyolysis) to the alternative statin. This retreatment should occur after a washout period of at least 4 weeks, or if the creatine kinase (CK) level is elevated, retreatment should not occur until CK has returned to normal.

In the event of a trial of the alternative statin, it is recommended that the patient is started with the minimum dose of statin in conjunction with ezetimibe. The dose of the alternative statin should be increased not more often than every 4 weeks until the recommended or maximum tolerated dose has been reached or target LDL-c has been achieved.

One of the following must be documented in the patient's medical records regarding prior statin treatment:

- (i) the patient was treated with atorvastatin 80 mg or rosuvastatin 40 mg or the maximum tolerated dose of either for 12 consecutive weeks; or
- (ii) the doses, duration of treatment and details of adverse events experienced with trials with each of atorvastatin and rosuvastatin; or
- (iii) the patient is contraindicated to treatment with a statin as defined in the TGA-approved Product Information.

One or more of the following must be documented in the patient's medical records regarding the presence of cardiovascular disease or high risk of experiencing a cardiovascular event:

- (i) atherosclerotic disease in two or more vascular territories (coronary, cerebrovascular or peripheral vascular territories); or
- (ii) severe multi-vessel coronary heart disease defined as at least 50% stenosis in at least two large vessels; or
- (iii) history of at least two major cardiovascular events (i.e. myocardial infarction, unstable angina, stroke or unplanned revascularisation) in the previous 5 years; or
- (iv) diabetes mellitus with microalbuminuria; or
- (v) diabetes mellitus and age 60 years of more; or
- (vi) Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander with diabetes mellitus; or
- (vii) a Thrombolysis in Myocardial Infarction (TIMI) risk score for secondary prevention of 4 or higher

Patients with symptomatic atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease where LDL cholesterol cannot be measured due to hypertriglyceridaemia, may qualify under this authority application if they have a non-HDL in excess of 2.4 millimoles per litre.

evolocumab 140 mg/mL injection, 1 mL pen device

11484K	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	2	5	..	*339.25	31.60	Repatha [AN]

evolocumab 420 mg/3.5 mL injection, 3.5 mL cartridge

11485L	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	5	..	366.68	31.60	Repatha [AN]

■ INCLISIRAN

Note Monoclonal antibody inhibiting proprotein convertase subtilisin kexin type 9 (PCSK9) medications are evolocumab or alirocumab.

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 888 333.

Note No increase in the maximum quantity or number of units may be authorised.

Note No increase in the maximum number of repeats may be authorised.

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

Familial heterozygous hypercholesterolaemia

Treatment Phase: Initial treatment

Clinical criteria:

- The treatment must be in conjunction with dietary therapy and exercise, **AND**
- The condition must have been confirmed by genetic testing; OR
- The condition must have been confirmed by a Dutch Lipid Clinic Network Score of at least 6, **AND**
- Patient must have an LDL cholesterol level in excess of 1.8 millimoles per litre in the presence of symptomatic atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease; OR
- Patient must have an LDL cholesterol level in excess of 5 millimoles per litre, **AND**

- Patient must have been treated with the maximum recommended dose of atorvastatin (80 mg daily) or rosuvastatin (40 mg daily) according to the TGA-approved Product Information or the maximum tolerated dose of atorvastatin or rosuvastatin for at least 12 consecutive weeks in conjunction with dietary therapy and exercise; OR
- Patient must have developed clinically important product-related adverse events necessitating withdrawal of statin treatment to trials of each of atorvastatin and rosuvastatin; OR
- Patient must be contraindicated to treatment with a HMG CoA reductase inhibitor (statin) as defined in the TGA-approved Product Information, **AND**
- Patient must have been treated with ezetimibe for at least 12 consecutive weeks in conjunction with a statin (if tolerated), dietary therapy and exercise; OR
- Patient must have developed clinically important product-related adverse event/contraindication as defined in the TGA approved Product Information necessitating withdrawal of ezetimibe, **AND**
- Patient must not be receiving concomitant PBS-subsidised treatment with a monoclonal antibody inhibiting proprotein convertase subtilisin kexin type 9 (PCSK9) for this PBS indication.

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a specialist physician; OR
- Must be treated by a physician who has consulted a specialist physician.

Symptomatic atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease is defined as:

- (i) the presence of symptomatic coronary artery disease (prior myocardial infarction, prior revascularisation procedure, angina associated with demonstrated significant coronary artery disease (50% or greater stenosis in 1 or more coronary arteries on imaging), or positive functional testing (e.g. myocardial perfusion scanning or stress echocardiography); or
- (ii) the presence of symptomatic cerebrovascular disease (prior ischaemic stroke, prior revascularisation procedure, or transient ischaemic attack associated with 50% or greater stenosis in 1 or more cerebral arteries on imaging); or
- (iii) the presence of symptomatic peripheral arterial disease (prior acute ischaemic event due to atherosclerosis, prior revascularisation procedure, or symptoms of ischaemia with evidence of significant peripheral artery disease (50% or greater stenosis in 1 or more peripheral arteries on imaging)).

The qualifying LDL cholesterol level following at least 12 consecutive weeks of combined treatment with a statin, ezetimibe, dietary therapy and exercise (unless treatment with a statin is contraindicated, or following completion of statin trials as described in these prescriber instructions in the event of clinically important adverse events) must be stated at the time of application, documented in the patient's medical records and must be no more than 8 weeks old.

A clinically important product-related adverse event is defined as follows:

- (i) Severe myalgia (muscle symptoms without creatine kinase elevation) which is proven to be temporally associated with statin treatment; or
- (ii) Myositis (clinically important creatine kinase elevation, with or without muscle symptoms) demonstrated by results twice the upper limit of normal on a single reading or a rising pattern on consecutive measurements and which is unexplained by other causes; or
- (iii) Unexplained, persistent elevations of serum transaminases (greater than 3 times the upper limit of normal) during treatment with a statin.

If treatment with atorvastatin or rosuvastatin results in development of a clinically important product-related adverse event resulting in treatment withdrawal, the patient must be treated with the alternative statin (atorvastatin or rosuvastatin) unless there is a contraindication (e.g. prior rhabdomyolysis) to the alternative statin. This retriial should occur after a washout period of at least 4 weeks, or if the creatine kinase (CK) level is elevated, retriial should not occur until CK has returned to normal.

In the event of a trial of the alternative statin, it is recommended that the patient is started with the minimum dose of statin in conjunction with ezetimibe. The dose of the alternative statin should be increased not more often than every 4 weeks until the recommended or maximum tolerated dose has been reached or target LDL-c has been achieved.

The following must be stated at the time of application and documented in the patient's medical records:

- (i) the qualifying Dutch Lipid Clinic Network Score; or
- (ii) the result of genetic testing confirming a diagnosis of familial heterozygous hypercholesterolaemia

One of the following must be stated at the time of application and documented in the patient's medical records regarding prior statin treatment:

- (i) the patient was treated with atorvastatin 80 mg or rosuvastatin 40 mg or the maximum tolerated dose of either for 12 consecutive weeks; or
- (ii) the doses, duration of treatment and details of adverse events experienced with trials with each of atorvastatin and rosuvastatin; or
- (iii) the patient is contraindicated to treatment with a statin as defined in the TGA-approved Product Information.

Patients with symptomatic atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease where LDL cholesterol cannot be measured due to hypertriglyceridaemia, may qualify under this authority application if they have a non-HDL in excess of 2.4 millimoles per litre.

Authority required

Non-familial hypercholesterolaemia

Treatment Phase: Initial treatment

Clinical criteria:

- The treatment must be in conjunction with dietary therapy and exercise, **AND**
- Patient must have symptomatic atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease, **AND**
- Patient must have an LDL cholesterol level in excess of 1.8 millimoles per litre, **AND**
- Patient must have atherosclerotic disease in two or more vascular territories (coronary, cerebrovascular or peripheral vascular territories); OR
- Patient must have severe multi-vessel coronary heart disease defined as at least 50% stenosis in at least two large vessels; OR

- Patient must have had at least two major cardiovascular events (i.e. myocardial infarction, unstable angina, stroke or unplanned revascularisation) in the previous 5 years; OR
- Patient must have diabetes mellitus with microalbuminuria; OR
- Patient must have diabetes mellitus and be aged 60 years or more; OR
- Patient must be an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander with diabetes mellitus; OR
- Patient must have a Thrombolysis in Myocardial Infarction (TIMI) risk score for secondary prevention of 4 or higher, **AND**
- Patient must have been treated with the maximum recommended dose of atorvastatin (80 mg daily) or rosuvastatin (40 mg daily) according to the TGA-approved Product Information or the maximum tolerated dose of atorvastatin or rosuvastatin for at least 12 consecutive weeks in conjunction with dietary therapy and exercise; OR
- Patient must have developed clinically important product-related adverse events necessitating withdrawal of statin treatment to trials of each of atorvastatin and rosuvastatin; OR
- Patient must be contraindicated to treatment with a HMG CoA reductase inhibitor (statin) as defined in the TGA-approved Product Information, **AND**
- Patient must have been treated with ezetimibe for at least 12 consecutive weeks in conjunction with a statin (if tolerated), dietary therapy and exercise; OR
- Patient must have developed clinically important product-related adverse event/contraindication as defined in the TGA approved Product Information necessitating withdrawal of ezetimibe, **AND**
- Patient must not be receiving concomitant PBS-subsidised treatment with a monoclonal antibody inhibiting proprotein convertase subtilisin kexin type 9 (PCSK9) for this PBS indication.

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a specialist physician; OR
- Must be treated by a physician who has consulted a specialist physician.

Symptomatic atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease is defined as:

- (i) the presence of symptomatic coronary artery disease (prior myocardial infarction, prior revascularisation procedure, angina associated with demonstrated significant coronary artery disease (50% or greater stenosis in 1 or more coronary arteries on imaging), or positive functional testing (e.g. myocardial perfusion scanning or stress echocardiography)); or
- (ii) the presence of symptomatic cerebrovascular disease (prior ischaemic stroke, prior revascularisation procedure, or transient ischaemic attack associated with 50% or greater stenosis in 1 or more cerebral arteries on imaging); or
- (iii) the presence of symptomatic peripheral arterial disease (prior acute ischaemic event due to atherosclerosis, prior revascularisation procedure, or symptoms of ischaemia with evidence of significant peripheral artery disease (50% or greater stenosis in 1 or more peripheral arteries on imaging)).

The qualifying LDL cholesterol level following at least 12 consecutive weeks of combined treatment with a statin, ezetimibe, dietary therapy and exercise (unless treatment with a statin is contraindicated, or following completion of statin trials as described in these prescriber instructions in the event of clinically important adverse events) must be stated at the time of application, documented in the patient's medical records and must be no more than 8 weeks old.

A clinically important product-related adverse event is defined as follows:

- (i) Severe myalgia (muscle symptoms without creatine kinase elevation) which is proven to be temporally associated with statin treatment; or
- (ii) Myositis (clinically important creatine kinase elevation, with or without muscle symptoms) demonstrated by results twice the upper limit of normal on a single reading or a rising pattern on consecutive measurements and which is unexplained by other causes; or
- (iii) Unexplained, persistent elevations of serum transaminases (greater than 3 times the upper limit of normal) during treatment with a statin.

If treatment with atorvastatin or rosuvastatin results in development of a clinically important product-related adverse event resulting in treatment withdrawal, the patient must be treated with the alternative statin (atorvastatin or rosuvastatin) unless there is a contraindication (e.g. prior rhabdomyolysis) to the alternative statin. This retreat should occur after a washout period of at least 4 weeks, or if the creatine kinase (CK) level is elevated, retreat should not occur until CK has returned to normal.

In the event of a trial of the alternative statin, it is recommended that the patient is started with the minimum dose of statin in conjunction with ezetimibe. The dose of the alternative statin should be increased not more often than every 4 weeks until the recommended or maximum tolerated dose has been reached or target LDL-c has been achieved.

One of the following must be stated at the time of application and documented in the patient's medical records regarding prior statin treatment:

- (i) the patient was treated with atorvastatin 80 mg or rosuvastatin 40 mg or the maximum tolerated dose of either for 12 consecutive weeks; or
- (ii) the doses, duration of treatment and details of adverse events experienced with trials with each of atorvastatin and rosuvastatin; or
- (iii) the patient is contraindicated to treatment with a statin as defined in the TGA-approved Product Information.

One or more of the following must be stated at the time of application and documented in the patient's medical records regarding the presence of cardiovascular disease or high risk of experiencing a cardiovascular event:

- (i) atherosclerotic disease in two or more vascular territories (coronary, cerebrovascular or peripheral vascular territories); or
- (ii) severe multi-vessel coronary heart disease defined as at least 50% stenosis in at least two large vessels; or
- (iii) history of at least two major cardiovascular events (i.e. myocardial infarction, unstable angina, stroke or unplanned revascularisation) in the previous 5 years; or
- (iv) diabetes mellitus with microalbuminuria; or
- (v) diabetes mellitus and age 60 years or more; or
- (vi) Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander with diabetes mellitus; or
- (vii) a Thrombolysis in Myocardial Infarction (TIMI) risk score for secondary prevention of 4 or higher.

Patients with symptomatic atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease where LDL cholesterol cannot be measured due to hypertriglyceridaemia, may qualify under this authority application if they have a non-HDL in excess of 2.4 millimoles per litre.

inclisiran 284 mg/1.5 mL injection, 1.5 mL syringe

14101E	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	1	..	1849.47	31.60	Leqvio [NV]

■ INCLISIRAN

Note Monoclonal antibody inhibiting proprotein convertase subtilisin kexin type 9 (PCSK9) medications are evolocumab or alirocumab.

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 888 333.

Note No increase in the maximum quantity or number of units may be authorised.

Note No increase in the maximum number of repeats may be authorised.

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Note This grandfather restriction will cease to operate from 12 months after the date specified in the clinical criteria.

Authority required

Familial heterozygous hypercholesterolaemia

Treatment Phase: Transitioning from non-PBS to PBS-subsidised supply - Grandfather arrangements

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have received non-PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition prior to 1 April 2024, **AND**
- The treatment must be in conjunction with dietary therapy and exercise, **AND**
- The condition must have been confirmed by genetic testing prior to starting non-PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition; OR
- The condition must have been confirmed by a Dutch Lipid Clinic Network Score of at least 6 prior to starting non-PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition, **AND**
- Patient must have had an LDL cholesterol level in excess of 1.8 millimoles per litre in the presence of symptomatic atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease at the time non-PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition was initiated; OR
- Patient must have had an LDL cholesterol level in excess of 5 millimoles per litre at the time non-PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition was initiated, **AND**
- Patient must have been treated with the maximum recommended dose of atorvastatin (80 mg daily) or rosuvastatin (40 mg daily) according to the TGA-approved Product Information or the maximum tolerated dose of atorvastatin or rosuvastatin for at least 12 consecutive weeks in conjunction with dietary therapy and exercise prior to initiating non-PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition; OR
- Patient must have developed a clinically important product-related adverse event necessitating withdrawal of statin treatment to trials of each of atorvastatin and rosuvastatin prior to initiating non-PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition; OR
- Patient must be contraindicated to treatment with a HMG CoA reductase inhibitor (statin) as defined in the TGA-approved Product Information, **AND**
- Patient must have been treated with ezetimibe for at least 12 consecutive weeks in conjunction with a statin (if tolerated), dietary therapy and exercise prior to initiating non-PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition; OR
- Patient must have developed clinically important product-related adverse event/contraindication as defined in the TGA approved Product Information necessitating withdrawal of ezetimibe, **AND**
- Patient must not be receiving concomitant PBS-subsidised treatment with a monoclonal antibody inhibiting proprotein convertase subtilisin kexin type 9 (PCSK9) for this PBS indication.

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a specialist physician; OR
- Must be treated by a physician who has consulted a specialist physician.

Symptomatic atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease is defined as:

- (i) the presence of symptomatic coronary artery disease (prior myocardial infarction, prior revascularisation procedure, angina associated with demonstrated significant coronary artery disease (50% or greater stenosis in 1 or more coronary arteries on imaging), or positive functional testing (e.g. myocardial perfusion scanning or stress echocardiography)); or
- (ii) the presence of symptomatic cerebrovascular disease (prior ischaemic stroke, prior revascularisation procedure, or transient ischaemic attack associated with 50% or greater stenosis in 1 or more cerebral arteries on imaging); or
- (iii) the presence of symptomatic peripheral arterial disease (prior acute ischaemic event due to atherosclerosis, prior revascularisation procedure, or symptoms of ischaemia with evidence of significant peripheral artery disease (50% or greater stenosis in 1 or more peripheral arteries on imaging)).

The qualifying LDL cholesterol level must have been measured following at least 12 consecutive weeks of combined treatment with a statin, ezetimibe, dietary therapy and exercise (unless treatment with a statin is contraindicated, or following completion of statin trials as described in these prescriber instructions in the event of clinically important adverse events), must be stated at the time of application, documented in the patient's medical records and must have been no more than 8 weeks old at the time non-PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition was initiated.

A clinically important product-related adverse event is defined as follows:

- (i) Severe myalgia (muscle symptoms without creatine kinase elevation) which is proven to be temporally associated with statin treatment; or

(ii) Myositis (clinically important creatine kinase elevation, with or without muscle symptoms) demonstrated by results twice the upper limit of normal on a single reading or a rising pattern on consecutive measurements and which is unexplained by other causes; or

(iii) Unexplained, persistent elevations of serum transaminases (greater than 3 times the upper limit of normal) during treatment with a statin.

If treatment with atorvastatin or rosuvastatin resulted in development of a clinically important product-related adverse event resulting in treatment withdrawal, the patient must have been treated with the alternative statin (atorvastatin or rosuvastatin) unless there was a contraindication (e.g. prior rhabdomyolysis) to the alternative statin. This retreatment should have occurred after a washout period of at least 4 weeks, or if the creatine kinase (CK) level was elevated, the retreatment should not have occurred until CK had returned to normal.

In the event of a trial of the alternative statin, it is recommended that the patient is started with the minimum dose of statin in conjunction with ezetimibe. The dose of the alternative statin should be increased not more often than every 4 weeks until the recommended or maximum tolerated dose has been reached or target LDL-c has been achieved.

The following must be stated at the time of application and documented in the patient's medical records:

(i) the qualifying Dutch Lipid Clinic Network Score; or

(ii) the result of genetic testing confirming a diagnosis of familial heterozygous hypercholesterolaemia

One of the following must be stated at the time of application and documented in the patient's medical records regarding prior statin treatment:

(i) the patient was treated with atorvastatin 80 mg or rosuvastatin 40 mg or the maximum tolerated dose of either for 12 consecutive weeks; or

(ii) the doses, duration of treatment and details of adverse events experienced with trials with each of atorvastatin and rosuvastatin; or

(iii) the patient is contraindicated to treatment with a statin as defined in the TGA-approved Product Information.

A patient may qualify for PBS-subsidised treatment under this restriction once only.

For continuing PBS-subsidised treatment, a Grandfathered patient must qualify under the Continuing treatment criteria.

Patients with symptomatic atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease where LDL cholesterol cannot be measured due to hypertriglyceridaemia, may qualify under this authority application if they have a non-HDL in excess of 2.4 millimoles per litre.

Authority required

Non-familial hypercholesterolaemia

Treatment Phase: Transitioning from non-PBS to PBS-subsidised supply - Grandfather arrangements

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have received non-PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition prior to 1 April 2024, **AND**
- The treatment must be in conjunction with dietary therapy and exercise, **AND**
- Patient must have had symptomatic atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease prior to starting non-PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition, **AND**
- Patient must have had an LDL cholesterol level in excess of 1.8 millimoles per litre prior to starting non-PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition, **AND**
- Patient must have had atherosclerotic disease in two or more vascular territories (coronary, cerebrovascular or peripheral vascular territories) prior to starting non-PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition; OR
- Patient must have had severe multi-vessel coronary heart disease defined as at least 50% stenosis in at least two large vessels prior to starting non-PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition; OR
- Patient must have had at least two major cardiovascular events (i.e. myocardial infarction, unstable angina, stroke or unplanned revascularisation) in the previous 5 years prior to starting non-PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition; OR
- Patient must have had diabetes mellitus with microalbuminuria prior to starting non-PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition; OR
- Patient must have had diabetes mellitus and be aged 60 years of more prior to starting non-PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition; OR
- Patient must be an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander with diabetes mellitus that was present prior to starting non-PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition; OR
- Patient must have had a Thrombolysis in Myocardial Infarction (TIMI) Risk Score for Secondary Prevention of 4 or higher prior to starting non-PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition, **AND**
- Patient must have been treated with the maximum recommended dose of atorvastatin (80 mg daily) or rosuvastatin (40 mg daily) according to the TGA-approved Product Information or the maximum tolerated dose of atorvastatin or rosuvastatin for at least 12 consecutive weeks in conjunction with dietary therapy and exercise prior to initiating non-PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition; OR
- Patient must have developed a clinically important product-related adverse event necessitating withdrawal of statin treatment to trials of each of atorvastatin and rosuvastatin prior to initiating non-PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition; OR
- Patient must be contraindicated to treatment with a HMG CoA reductase inhibitor (statin) as defined in the TGA-approved Product Information, **AND**
- Patient must have been treated with ezetimibe for at least 12 consecutive weeks in conjunction with a statin (if tolerated), dietary therapy and exercise prior to initiating non-PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition; OR
- Patient must have developed clinically important product-related adverse event/contraindication as defined in the TGA approved Product Information necessitating withdrawal of ezetimibe, **AND**
- Patient must not be receiving concomitant PBS-subsidised treatment with a monoclonal antibody inhibiting proprotein convertase subtilisin kexin type 9 (PCSK9) for this PBS indication.

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a specialist physician; OR
- Must be treated by a physician who has consulted a specialist physician.

Symptomatic atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease is defined as:

- (i) the presence of symptomatic coronary artery disease (prior myocardial infarction, prior revascularisation procedure, angina associated with demonstrated significant coronary artery disease (50% or greater stenosis in 1 or more coronary arteries on imaging), or positive functional testing (e.g. myocardial perfusion scanning or stress echocardiography); or
- (ii) the presence of symptomatic cerebrovascular disease (prior ischaemic stroke, prior revascularisation procedure, or transient ischaemic attack associated with 50% or greater stenosis in 1 or more cerebral arteries on imaging); or
- (iii) the presence of symptomatic peripheral arterial disease (prior acute ischaemic event due to atherosclerosis, prior revascularisation procedure, or symptoms of ischaemia with evidence of significant peripheral artery disease (50% or greater stenosis in 1 or more peripheral arteries on imaging)).

The qualifying LDL cholesterol level must have been measured following at least 12 consecutive weeks of combined treatment with a statin, ezetimibe, dietary therapy and exercise (unless treatment with a statin is contraindicated, or following completion of statin trials as described in these prescriber instructions in the event of clinically important adverse events), must be stated at the time of application, documented in the patient's medical records and must have been no more than 8 weeks old at the time non-PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition was initiated.

A clinically important product-related adverse event is defined as follows:

- (i) Severe myalgia (muscle symptoms without creatine kinase elevation) which is proven to be temporally associated with statin treatment; or
- (ii) Myositis (clinically important creatine kinase elevation, with or without muscle symptoms) demonstrated by results twice the upper limit of normal on a single reading or a rising pattern on consecutive measurements and which is unexplained by other causes; or
- (iii) Unexplained, persistent elevations of serum transaminases (greater than 3 times the upper limit of normal) during treatment with a statin.

If treatment with atorvastatin or rosuvastatin resulted in development of a clinically important product-related adverse event resulting in treatment withdrawal, the patient must have been treated with the alternative statin (atorvastatin or rosuvastatin) unless there was a contraindication (e.g. prior rhabdomyolysis) to the alternative statin. This retriial should have occurred after a washout period of at least 4 weeks, or if the creatine kinase (CK) level was elevated, the retriial should not have occurred until CK had returned to normal.

In the event of a trial of the alternative statin, it is recommended that the patient is started with the minimum dose of statin in conjunction with ezetimibe. The dose of the alternative statin should be increased not more often than every 4 weeks until the recommended or maximum tolerated dose has been reached or target LDL-c has been achieved.

One of the following must be stated at the time of application and documented in the patient's medical records regarding prior statin treatment:

- (i) the patient was treated with atorvastatin 80 mg or rosuvastatin 40 mg or the maximum tolerated dose of either for 12 consecutive weeks; or
- (ii) the doses, duration of treatment and details of adverse events experienced with trials with each of atorvastatin and rosuvastatin; or
- (iii) the patient is contraindicated to treatment with a statin as defined in the TGA-approved Product Information.

One or more of the following must be stated at the time of application and documented in the patient's medical records regarding the presence of cardiovascular disease or high risk of experiencing a cardiovascular event:

- (i) atherosclerotic disease in two or more vascular territories (coronary, cerebrovascular or peripheral vascular territories); or
- (ii) severe multi-vessel coronary heart disease defined as at least 50% stenosis in at least two large vessels; or
- (iii) history of at least two major cardiovascular events (i.e. myocardial infarction, unstable angina, stroke or unplanned revascularisation) in the previous 5 years; or
- (iv) diabetes mellitus with microalbuminuria; or
- (v) diabetes mellitus and age 60 years or more; or
- (vi) Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander with diabetes mellitus; or
- (vii) a Thrombolysis in Myocardial Infarction (TIMI) risk score for secondary prevention of 4 or higher.

A patient may qualify for PBS-subsidised treatment under this restriction once only.

For continuing PBS-subsidised treatment, a Grandfathered patient must qualify under the Continuing treatment criteria.

Patients with symptomatic atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease where LDL cholesterol cannot be measured due to hypertriglyceridaemia, may qualify under this authority application if they have a non-HDL in excess of 2.4 millimoles per litre.

inclisiran 284 mg/1.5 mL injection, 1.5 mL syringe

14152W	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	..	..	1849.47	31.60	Leqvio [NV]

■ MELATONIN

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 888 333.

Note A developmental specialist is a medical practitioner who is a member of the Neurodevelopmental and Behavioural Paediatric Society of Australasia.

Note Increases in the maximum quantity to provide sufficient treatment duration for 30 days treatment per dispensing at the maximum recommended dose as per the approved Product Information, may be sought.

Note No increase in the maximum number of repeats may be authorised.

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

Insomnia

Treatment Phase: Initial

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have Smith-Magenis Syndrome confirmed by genetic testing, **AND**
- The condition must be inadequately responsive to sleep hygiene measures, resulting in the patient experiencing a period of at least 12 consecutive weeks of impaired sleep (see definition of impaired sleep below).

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a medical practitioner identifying as at least one of: (i) a paediatrician, (ii) a sleep physician, (iii) neurologist, (iv) a psychiatrist, (v) a developmental specialist (see NOTE); this authority approval is being sought by one of these 5 prescriber types.

Population criteria:

- Patient must be at least 2 years of age, but yet to turn 18 years of age, at treatment initiation with this drug.

Definition:

For the purposes of administering this restriction, Smith-Magenis Syndrome is confirmed by the deletion or variation of the retinoic acid induced 1 (RAI1) gene on chromosome 17p11.2

Definition: For the purposes of administering this restriction, impaired sleep is at least one of: (i) less than 6 hours of continuous sleep on at least 3 occasions over a given 5-day interval; (ii) taking at least half an hour to fall asleep on at least 3 occasions over a given 5-day interval.

Prior to seeking authorisation for this pharmaceutical benefit, document the amount of continuous sleep/sleep latency in the patient's medical records for a period of 2 consecutive weeks, but ensure the impairment has been observed for at least 12 consecutive weeks. The documented values (averages) will form baseline measurements upon which the extent of response to treatment is to be considered under the Continuing treatment listing.

The observations of continuous sleep/sleep latency may be based on any of the following, including a mix of: patient self-reporting, parental observation, documented medical history, sleep studies conducted by health professionals.

Authority required

Insomnia

Treatment Phase: Continuing

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have previously received PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition, **AND**
- Patient must have experienced/maintained a clinically meaningful response (as defined below) to the preceding supply of this drug - document the response improvement in the patient's medical records, **AND**
- The treatment must have commenced between the ages of 2 to 17 years inclusive.

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a medical practitioner identifying as at least one of: (i) a paediatrician, (ii) a sleep physician, (iii) neurologist, (iv) a psychiatrist, (v) a developmental specialist (see NOTE); this authority approval is being sought by one of these 5 prescriber types; OR
- Must be treated by a medical practitioner who has consulted at least one of the above mentioned specialist types, with agreement reached that the patient should be treated with this pharmaceutical benefit on this occasion.

Treatment must cease if a patient is unable to achieve a clinically meaningful response on the maximum dose of melatonin specified in the Product Information.

Definition:

A clinically meaningful response to this drug is defined as at least one of:

- (i) an increase in total sleep time of at least 45 minutes per night on average from baseline;
- (ii) a decrease in the time it takes to fall asleep by at least 15 minutes per night on average from baseline.

melatonin 1 mg modified release tablet, 60

14188R	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	5	..	72.60	31.60	Slenyto [AS]

melatonin 5 mg modified release tablet, 30

14211Y	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	5	..	155.23	31.60	Slenyto [AS]

▪ **METHADONE**

Caution The risk of drug dependence is high.

Note This treatment is not suitable for 'as-required' pain relief.

Note This treatment is not recommended for use in ambulant patients.

Note Consider consultation with a multidisciplinary pain service prior to, or after commencement of this medication.

Note Shared Care Model:

For prescribing by nurse practitioners where care of a patient is shared between a nurse practitioner and medical practitioner in a formalised arrangement with an agreed management plan. Further information can be found in the Explanatory Notes for Nurse Practitioners.

Note Real time online applications for increased maximum quantities/repeats may be made using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/organisations/health-professionals/services/medicare/hpos/services/request-authority-using-online-pbs-authorities-hpos).

Phone applications for increased maximum quantities/repeats may be made by calling 1800 888 333.

Written authority applications for increased maximum quantities/repeats can be uploaded online through HPOS form upload or mailed to:

Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme

Reply Paid 9857

[Your capital city]

Note Pharmaceutical benefits that have the form methadone hydrochloride 10 mg/mL injection, 5 x 1 mL ampoules and pharmaceutical benefits that have the form methadone hydrochloride 10 mg/mL injection, 5 x 1 mL vials are equivalent for the purposes of substitution.

Authority required (STREAMLINED)

10745

Chronic severe disabling pain

Treatment Phase: Initial PBS treatment after 1 June 2020 where patient has been treated with opioids for less than 12 months

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must require daily, continuous, long term opioid treatment, **AND**
- Patient must not be opioid naive, **AND**
- Patient must have cancer pain; OR
- Patient must have had or would have inadequate pain management with maximum tolerated doses of non-opioid and other opioid analgesics; OR
- Patient must be unable to use non-opioid and other opioid analgesics due to contraindications or intolerance.

Authorities for increased maximum quantities and/or repeats under this restriction must only be considered for chronic severe disabling pain where the total duration of non-PBS and PBS opioid analgesic treatment is less than 12 months.

Authority requests extending treatment duration up to 1 month may be requested through the Online PBS Authorities system or by calling Services Australia.

Authority requests extending treatment duration beyond 1 month may be requested through the Online PBS Authorities system or in writing and must not provide a treatment duration exceeding 3 months (quantity sufficient for up to 1 month treatment and sufficient repeats).

Authority required (STREAMLINED)

10747

Chronic severe disabling pain

Treatment Phase: Initial PBS treatment after 1 June 2020 where patient has been treated with opioids for more than 12 months

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must require daily, continuous, long term opioid treatment, **AND**
- Patient must not be opioid naive, **AND**
- Patient must have cancer pain; OR
- Patient must have had or would have inadequate pain management with maximum tolerated doses of non-opioid and other opioid analgesics; OR
- Patient must be unable to use non-opioid and other opioid analgesics due to contraindications or intolerance.

Authorities for increased maximum quantities and/or repeats must only be considered for chronic severe disabling pain where the total duration of non-PBS and PBS opioid analgesic treatment:

(i) exceeds 12 months and the palliative care patient is unable to have annual pain management review due to their clinical condition; or

(ii) exceeds 12 months and the patient's clinical need for continuing opioid treatment has been confirmed through consultation with the patient by another medical practitioner or a palliative care nurse practitioner in the past 12 months; or

(iii) has exceeded 12 months prior to 1 June 2020 and the patient's clinical need for continuing opioid treatment has not been confirmed through consultation with the patient by another medical practitioner or a palliative care nurse practitioner in the past 12 months, but is planned in the next 3 months.

Palliative care nurses may conduct annual review under this item for the treatment of palliative care patients only.

Authority requests extending treatment duration up to 1 month may be requested through the Online PBS Authorities system or by calling Services Australia.

Authority requests extending treatment duration beyond 1 month may be requested through the Online PBS Authorities system or in writing and must not provide a treatment duration exceeding 3 months (quantity sufficient for up to 1 month treatment and sufficient repeats).

Authority required (STREAMLINED)

10751

Chronic severe disabling pain

Treatment Phase: Continuing PBS treatment after 1 June 2020

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have previously received PBS-subsidised treatment with this form of this drug for this condition after 1 June 2020.

Authorities for increased maximum quantities and/or repeats must only be considered for chronic severe disabling pain where the patient has received initial authority approval and the total duration of non-PBS and PBS opioid analgesic treatment:

(i) is less than 12 months; or

(ii) exceeds 12 months and the palliative care patient is unable to have annual pain management review due to their clinical condition; or

(iii) exceeds 12 months and the patient's clinical need for continuing opioid treatment has been confirmed through consultation with the patient by another medical practitioner or a palliative care nurse practitioner in the past 12 months; or

(iv) has exceeded 12 months prior to 1 June 2020 and the patient's pain management and clinical need for continuing opioid treatment has not been confirmed through consultation with the patient by another medical practitioner or a palliative care nurse practitioner in the past 12 months, but is planned in the next 3 months.

Palliative care nurses may conduct annual review under this item for the treatment of palliative care patients only.

Authority requests extending treatment duration up to 1 month may be requested through the Online PBS Authorities system or by calling Services Australia.

Authority requests extending treatment duration beyond 1 month may be requested through the Online PBS Authorities system or in writing and must not provide a treatment duration exceeding 3 months (quantity sufficient for up to 1 month treatment and sufficient repeats).

methadone hydrochloride 10 mg/mL injection, 5 x 1 mL vials

14202L	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
NP	1	..	..	54.27	31.60	Physeptone [AS]

▪ MORPHINE

Caution The risk of drug dependence is high.

Note Pharmaceutical benefits that have the brand RA-Morph (NZ) can be substituted for Ordine 5 in case of shortage.

Note Prescribing of drugs of addiction by dentists is not permitted in some States/Territories.

Restricted benefit

Severe pain

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have had or would have inadequate pain management with maximum tolerated doses of non-opioid and other opioid analgesics; OR
- Patient must be unable to use non-opioid and other opioid analgesics due to contraindications or intolerance.

morphine hydrochloride trihydrate 5 mg/mL oral liquid, 200 mL

14203M	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
DP	1	..	..	104.85	31.60	^a RA-Morph (NZ) [WZ]

morphine hydrochloride trihydrate 5 mg/mL oral liquid, 200 mL

5238Q	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
DP	1	..	..	33.26	31.60	^a Ordine 5 [XT]

▪ MORPHINE

Caution The risk of drug dependence is high.

Note Pharmaceutical benefits that have the brand Morphini HCl Streuli or the brand RA-Morph (NZ) can be substituted for pharmaceutical benefits that have the brand Ordine 10 in case of a shortage.

Note Prescribing of drugs of addiction by dentists is not permitted in some States/Territories.

Restricted benefit

Severe pain

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have had or would have inadequate pain management with maximum tolerated doses of non-opioid and other opioid analgesics; OR
- Patient must be unable to use non-opioid and other opioid analgesics due to contraindications or intolerance.

morphine hydrochloride trihydrate 10 mg/mL oral liquid, 20 mL

14077X	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
DP	10	..	..	*566.44	31.60	^a Morphini HCl Streuli [DZ]

morphine hydrochloride trihydrate 10 mg/mL oral liquid, 200 mL

14204N	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
DP	1	..	..	154.95	31.60	^a RA-Morph (NZ) [WZ]

morphine hydrochloride trihydrate 10 mg/mL oral liquid, 200 mL

5239R	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
DP	1	..	..	35.81	31.60	^a Ordine 10 [XT]

▪ MORPHINE

Caution The risk of drug dependence is high.

Note Pharmaceutical benefits that have the brand Morphini HCl Streuli or the brand RA-Morph (NZ) can be substituted for pharmaceutical benefits that have the brand Ordine 10 in case of a shortage.

Note Consider consultation with a multidisciplinary pain service prior to, or after commencement of this medication.

Note Real time online applications for increased maximum quantities/repeats may be made using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/organisations/health-professionals/services/medicare/hpos/services/request-authority-using-online-pbs-authorities-hpos).

Phone applications for increased maximum quantities/repeats may be made by calling 1800 888 333.

Written authority applications for increased maximum quantities/repeats can be uploaded online through HPOS form upload or mailed to:

Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme

Restricted benefit

Severe pain

Treatment Phase: Initial PBS treatment after 1 June 2020 where patient has been treated with opioids for less than 12 months

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have had or would have inadequate pain management with maximum tolerated doses of non-opioid and other opioid analgesics; OR
 - Patient must be unable to use non-opioid and other opioid analgesics due to contraindications or intolerance.
- Authorities for increased maximum quantities and/or repeats under this restriction must only be considered for severe disabling pain associated with malignant neoplasia or chronic severe disabling pain where the total duration of non-PBS and PBS opioid analgesic treatment is less than 12 months.

Authority requests extending treatment duration up to 1 month may be requested through the Online PBS Authorities system or by calling Services Australia.

Authority requests extending treatment duration beyond 1 month may be requested through the Online PBS Authorities system or in writing and must not provide a treatment duration exceeding 3 months (quantity sufficient for up to 1 month treatment and sufficient repeats).

Restricted benefit

Severe pain

Treatment Phase: Initial PBS treatment after 1 June 2020 where patient has been treated with opioids for more than 12 months

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have had or would have inadequate pain management with maximum tolerated doses of non-opioid and other opioid analgesics; OR
 - Patient must be unable to use non-opioid and other opioid analgesics due to contraindications or intolerance.
- Authorities for increased maximum quantities and/or repeats must only be considered for:
- (i) severe disabling pain associated with proven malignant neoplasia; or
 - (ii) palliative care patients with chronic severe disabling pain where the total duration of non-PBS and PBS opioid analgesic treatment exceeds 12 months and the patient is unable to have annual pain management review due to their clinical condition; or
 - (iii) chronic severe disabling pain where the total duration of non-PBS and PBS opioid analgesic treatment exceeds 12 months and the patient's clinical need for continuing opioid treatment has been confirmed through consultation with the patient by another medical practitioner or a palliative care nurse practitioner in the past 12 months; or
 - (iv) chronic severe disabling pain where the total duration of non-PBS and PBS opioid analgesic treatment has exceeded 12 months prior to 1 June 2020 and the patient's clinical need for continuing opioid treatment has not been confirmed through consultation with the patient by another medical practitioner or a palliative care nurse practitioner in the past 12 months, but is planned in the next 3 months.

Palliative care nurses may conduct annual review under this item for the treatment of palliative care patients only.

Authority requests extending treatment duration up to 1 month may be requested through the Online PBS Authorities system or by calling Services Australia.

Authority requests extending treatment duration beyond 1 month may be requested through the Online PBS Authorities system or in writing and must not provide a treatment duration exceeding 3 months (quantity sufficient for up to 1 month treatment and sufficient repeats).

Restricted benefit

Severe pain

Treatment Phase: Continuing PBS treatment after 1 June 2020

Clinical criteria:


- Patient must have previously received PBS-subsidised treatment with this form of this drug for this condition after 1 June 2020.
- Authorities for increased maximum quantities and/or repeats must only be considered where the patient has received initial authority approval for:
- (i) severe disabling pain associated with malignant neoplasia; or
 - (ii) chronic severe disabling pain where the total duration of non-PBS and PBS opioid analgesic treatment is less than 12 months; or
 - (iii) palliative care patients with chronic severe disabling pain where the total duration of non-PBS and PBS opioid analgesic treatment exceeds 12 months and the patient is unable to have annual pain management review due to their clinical condition; or
 - (iv) chronic severe disabling pain where the total duration of non-PBS and PBS opioid analgesic treatment exceeds 12 months and the patient's clinical need for continuing opioid treatment has been confirmed through consultation with the patient by another medical practitioner or a palliative care nurse practitioner in the past 12 months; or
 - (v) chronic severe disabling pain where the total duration of non-PBS and PBS opioid analgesic treatment has exceeded 12 months prior to 1 June 2020 and the patient's clinical need for continuing opioid treatment has not been confirmed through consultation with the patient by another medical practitioner or a palliative care nurse practitioner in the past 12 months, but is planned in the next 3 months.

Palliative care nurses may conduct annual review under this item for the treatment of palliative care patients only.


Authority requests extending treatment duration up to 1 month may be requested through the Online PBS Authorities system or by calling Services Australia.

Authority requests extending treatment duration beyond 1 month may be requested through the Online PBS Authorities system or in writing and must not provide a treatment duration exceeding 3 months (quantity sufficient for up to 1 month treatment and sufficient repeats).


morphine hydrochloride trihydrate 10 mg/mL oral liquid, 20 mL

14083F	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	10	..	..	*566.44	31.60	^a Morphini HCl Streuli [DZ]

morphine hydrochloride trihydrate 10 mg/mL oral liquid, 200 mL

14194C	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	..	..	154.95	31.60	^a RA-Morph (NZ) [WZ]

morphine hydrochloride trihydrate 10 mg/mL oral liquid, 200 mL

2124T	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	..	..	35.81	31.60	^a Ordine 10 [XT]

▪ **MORPHINE**

Caution The risk of drug dependence is high.

Note Pharmaceutical benefits that have the brand RA-Morph (NZ) can be substituted for Ordine 5 in case of shortage.

Note Consider consultation with a multidisciplinary pain service prior to, or after commencement of this medication.

Note Real time online applications for increased maximum quantities/repeats may be made using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/organisations/health-professionals/services/medicare/hpos/services/request-authority-using-online-pbs-authorities-hpos).

Phone applications for increased maximum quantities/repeats may be made by calling 1800 888 333.

Written authority applications for increased maximum quantities/repeats can be uploaded online through HPOS form upload or mailed to:

Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme
Reply Paid 9857
[Your capital city]

Restricted benefit

Severe pain

Treatment Phase: Initial PBS treatment after 1 June 2020 where patient has been treated with opioids for less than 12 months

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have had or would have inadequate pain management with maximum tolerated doses of non-opioid and other opioid analgesics; OR
- Patient must be unable to use non-opioid and other opioid analgesics due to contraindications or intolerance.

Authorities for increased maximum quantities and/or repeats under this restriction must only be considered for severe disabling pain associated with malignant neoplasia or chronic severe disabling pain where the total duration of non-PBS and PBS opioid analgesic treatment is less than 12 months.

Authority requests extending treatment duration up to 1 month may be requested through the Online PBS Authorities system or by calling Services Australia.

Authority requests extending treatment duration beyond 1 month may be requested through the Online PBS Authorities system or in writing and must not provide a treatment duration exceeding 3 months (quantity sufficient for up to 1 month treatment and sufficient repeats).

Restricted benefit

Severe pain

Treatment Phase: Initial PBS treatment after 1 June 2020 where patient has been treated with opioids for more than 12 months

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have had or would have inadequate pain management with maximum tolerated doses of non-opioid and other opioid analgesics; OR
- Patient must be unable to use non-opioid and other opioid analgesics due to contraindications or intolerance.

Authorities for increased maximum quantities and/or repeats must only be considered for:

- severe disabling pain associated with proven malignant neoplasia; or
- palliative care patients with chronic severe disabling pain where the total duration of non-PBS and PBS opioid analgesic treatment exceeds 12 months and the patient is unable to have annual pain management review due to their clinical condition; or
- chronic severe disabling pain where the total duration of non-PBS and PBS opioid analgesic treatment exceeds 12 months and the patient's clinical need for continuing opioid treatment has been confirmed through consultation with the patient by another medical practitioner or a palliative care nurse practitioner in the past 12 months; or
- chronic severe disabling pain where the total duration of non-PBS and PBS opioid analgesic treatment has exceeded 12 months prior to 1 June 2020 and the patient's clinical need for continuing opioid treatment has not been confirmed through consultation with the patient by another medical practitioner or a palliative care nurse practitioner in the past 12 months, but is planned in the next 3 months.

Palliative care nurses may conduct annual review under this item for the treatment of palliative care patients only.

Authority requests extending treatment duration up to 1 month may be requested through the Online PBS Authorities system or by calling Services Australia.

Authority requests extending treatment duration beyond 1 month may be requested through the Online PBS Authorities system or in writing and must not provide a treatment duration exceeding 3 months (quantity sufficient for up to 1 month treatment and sufficient repeats).

Restricted benefit

Severe pain

Treatment Phase: Continuing PBS treatment after 1 June 2020

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have previously received PBS-subsidised treatment with this form of this drug for this condition after 1 June 2020.

Authorities for increased maximum quantities and/or repeats must only be considered where the patient has received initial authority approval for:


- (i) severe disabling pain associated with malignant neoplasia; or
- (ii) chronic severe disabling pain where the total duration of non-PBS and PBS opioid analgesic treatment is less than 12 months; or
- (iii) palliative care patients with chronic severe disabling pain where the total duration of non-PBS and PBS opioid analgesic treatment exceeds 12 months and the patient is unable to have annual pain management review due to their clinical condition; or
- (iv) chronic severe disabling pain where the total duration of non-PBS and PBS opioid analgesic treatment exceeds 12 months and the patient's clinical need for continuing opioid treatment has been confirmed through consultation with the patient by another medical practitioner or a palliative care nurse practitioner in the past 12 months; or
- (v) chronic severe disabling pain where the total duration of non-PBS and PBS opioid analgesic treatment has exceeded 12 months prior to 1 June 2020 and the patient's clinical need for continuing opioid treatment has not been confirmed through consultation with the patient by another medical practitioner or a palliative care nurse practitioner in the past 12 months, but is planned in the next 3 months.

Palliative care nurses may conduct annual review under this item for the treatment of palliative care patients only.


Authority requests extending treatment duration up to 1 month may be requested through the Online PBS Authorities system or by calling Services Australia.

Authority requests extending treatment duration beyond 1 month may be requested through the Online PBS Authorities system or in writing and must not provide a treatment duration exceeding 3 months (quantity sufficient for up to 1 month treatment and sufficient repeats).

morphine hydrochloride trihydrate 5 mg/mL oral liquid, 200 mL

14220K	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	..	..	104.85	31.60	^a RA-Morph (NZ) [WZ]

morphine hydrochloride trihydrate 5 mg/mL oral liquid, 200 mL

2123R	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	..	..	33.26	31.60	^a Ordine 5 [XT]

▪ **NIRAPARIB**

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 888 333.

Note Pharmaceutical benefits that have the form niraparib 100 mg capsule and niraparib 100 mg tablet are equivalent for the purposes of substitution, where the pack size is the same.

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

High grade stage III/IV epithelial ovarian, fallopian tube or primary peritoneal cancer

Treatment Phase: Continuation of first-line maintenance therapy (genomic instability without BRCA1/2 gene mutation) in a patient requiring a daily dose of 3 tablets

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have received previous PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug as first line maintenance therapy for this condition, **AND**
- Patient must not have developed disease progression while receiving treatment with this drug for this condition, **AND**
- The treatment must not exceed a total of 36 months of combined non-PBS-subsidised/PBS-subsidised treatment for patients who are in complete response.

niraparib 100 mg tablet, 84

14173Y	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	5	..	9874.86	31.60	^a Zejula [GK]

▪ **NIRAPARIB**

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 888 333.

Note Pharmaceutical benefits that have the form niraparib 100 mg capsule and niraparib 100 mg tablet are equivalent for the purposes of substitution, where the pack size is the same.

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

High grade stage III/IV epithelial ovarian, fallopian tube or primary peritoneal cancer

Treatment Phase: Continuation of first-line maintenance therapy (BRCA1/2 gene mutation) in a patient requiring a daily dose of 3 tablets

Clinical criteria:

- The treatment must be continuing existing PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug initiated through the Treatment Phase: Initial first-line maintenance therapy (**BRCA1/2** gene mutation), **AND**
- Patient must not have developed disease progression while receiving treatment with this drug for this condition, **AND**
- The treatment must not exceed a total of 36 months of combined non-PBS-subsidised/PBS-subsidised treatment for patients who are in complete response.

niraparib 100 mg tablet, 84

14190W	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	5	..	9874.86	31.60	^a Zejula [GK]

▪ **NIRAPARIB**

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 888 333.

Note Pharmaceutical benefits that have the form niraparib 100 mg capsule and niraparib 100 mg tablet are equivalent for the purposes of substitution, where the pack size is the same.

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

High grade stage III/IV epithelial ovarian, fallopian tube or primary peritoneal cancer

Treatment Phase: Continuation of first-line maintenance therapy (genomic instability without BRCA1/2 gene mutation) in a patient requiring a daily dose of up to 2 tablets

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have received previous PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug as first line maintenance therapy for this condition, **AND**
- Patient must not have developed disease progression while receiving treatment with this drug for this condition, **AND**
- The treatment must not exceed a total of 36 months of combined non-PBS-subsidised/PBS-subsidised treatment for patients who are in complete response.

niraparib 100 mg tablet, 56

14196E	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	5	..	6637.44	31.60	^a Zejula [GK]

▪ **NIRAPARIB**

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 888 333.

Note Pharmaceutical benefits that have the form niraparib 100 mg capsule and niraparib 100 mg tablet are equivalent for the purposes of substitution, where the pack size is the same.

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

High grade stage III/IV epithelial ovarian, fallopian tube or primary peritoneal cancer

Treatment Phase: Continuation of first-line maintenance therapy (BRCA1/2 gene mutation) in a patient requiring a daily dose of up to 2 tablets

Clinical criteria:

- The treatment must be continuing existing PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug initiated through the Treatment Phase: Initial first-line maintenance therapy (**BRCA1/2** gene mutation), **AND**
- Patient must not have developed disease progression while receiving treatment with this drug for this condition, **AND**
- The treatment must not exceed a total of 36 months of combined non-PBS-subsidised/PBS-subsidised treatment for patients who are in complete response.

niraparib 100 mg tablet, 56

14206Q	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	5	..	6637.44	31.60	^a Zejula [GK]

▪ **NIRAPARIB**

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 888 333.

Note Pharmaceutical benefits that have the form niraparib 100 mg capsule and niraparib 100 mg tablet are equivalent for the purposes of substitution, where the pack size is the same.

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

High grade stage III/IV epithelial ovarian, fallopian tube or primary peritoneal cancer

Treatment Phase: Continuation of first-line maintenance therapy (BRCA1/2 gene mutation) in a patient requiring a daily dose of 3 capsules

Clinical criteria:

- The treatment must be continuing existing PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug initiated through the Treatment Phase: Initial first-line maintenance therapy (**BRCA1/2** gene mutation), **AND**

- Patient must not have developed disease progression while receiving treatment with this drug for this condition, **AND**
- The treatment must not exceed a total of 36 months of combined non-PBS-subsidised/PBS-subsidised treatment for patients who are in complete response.

niraparib 100 mg capsule, 84

13079J	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	5	..	9874.86	31.60	^a Zejula [GK]

▪ NIRAPARIB

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 888 333.

Note Pharmaceutical benefits that have the form niraparib 100 mg capsule and niraparib 100 mg tablet are equivalent for the purposes of substitution, where the pack size is the same.

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

High grade stage III/IV epithelial ovarian, fallopian tube or primary peritoneal cancer

Treatment Phase: Continuation of first-line maintenance therapy (BRCA1/2 gene mutation) in a patient requiring a daily dose of up to 2 capsules

Clinical criteria:

- The treatment must be continuing existing PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug initiated through the Treatment Phase: Initial first-line maintenance therapy (**BRCA1/2** gene mutation), **AND**
- Patient must not have developed disease progression while receiving treatment with this drug for this condition, **AND**
- The treatment must not exceed a total of 36 months of combined non-PBS-subsidised/PBS-subsidised treatment for patients who are in complete response.

niraparib 100 mg capsule, 56

13112D	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	5	..	6637.44	31.60	^a Zejula [GK]

▪ NIRAPARIB

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 888 333.

Note Pharmaceutical benefits that have the form niraparib 100 mg capsule and niraparib 100 mg tablet are equivalent for the purposes of substitution, where the pack size is the same.

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

High grade stage III/IV epithelial ovarian, fallopian tube or primary peritoneal cancer

Treatment Phase: Continuation of first-line maintenance therapy (genomic instability without BRCA1/2 gene mutation) in a patient requiring a daily dose of up to 2 capsules

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have received previous PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug as first line maintenance therapy for this condition, **AND**
- Patient must not have developed disease progression while receiving treatment with this drug for this condition, **AND**
- The treatment must not exceed a total of 36 months of combined non-PBS-subsidised/PBS-subsidised treatment for patients who are in complete response.

niraparib 100 mg capsule, 56

14094T	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	5	..	6637.44	31.60	^a Zejula [GK]

▪ NIRAPARIB

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 888 333.

Note Pharmaceutical benefits that have the form niraparib 100 mg capsule and niraparib 100 mg tablet are equivalent for the purposes of substitution, where the pack size is the same.

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

High grade stage III/IV epithelial ovarian, fallopian tube or primary peritoneal cancer

Treatment Phase: Continuation of first-line maintenance therapy (genomic instability without BRCA1/2 gene mutation) in a patient requiring a daily dose of 3 capsules

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have received previous PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug as first line maintenance therapy for this condition, **AND**
- Patient must not have developed disease progression while receiving treatment with this drug for this condition, **AND**
- The treatment must not exceed a total of 36 months of combined non-PBS-subsidised/PBS-subsidised treatment for patients who are in complete response.

niraparib 100 mg capsule, 84

14098B	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	5	..	9874.86	31.60	^a Zejula [GK]

■ NIRAPARIB

Note This drug belongs to the poly (ADP-ribose) polymerase (PARP) inhibitor drug class. The restriction refers to the following PARP inhibitors: olaparib, niraparib

Note Definitions:

Class 5 - Pathogenic

Class 4 - Likely pathogenic

Tier I - variants of strong clinical significance

Tier II - variants of potential clinical significance

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 888 333.

Note Pharmaceutical benefits that have the form niraparib 100 mg capsule and niraparib 100 mg tablet are equivalent for the purposes of substitution, where the pack size is the same.

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

High grade stage III/IV epithelial ovarian, fallopian tube or primary peritoneal cancer

Treatment Phase: Initial first-line maintenance therapy (genomic instability without BRCA1/2 gene mutation) in a patient requiring a daily dose of up to 2 tablets

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be associated with homologous recombination deficiency (HRD) positive status defined by genomic instability, which has been confirmed by a validated test, **AND**
- The condition must not be associated with pathogenic variants (germline mutation class 4/class 5; somatic mutation classification tier I/tier II) of the **BRCA1/2** genes - this has been confirmed by a validated test, **AND**
- Patient must be in partial or complete response to the immediately preceding platinum-based chemotherapy regimen prior to commencing treatment with this drug for this condition; OR
- The condition must have both: (i) been in a partial/complete response to the immediately preceding platinum-based chemotherapy regimen prior to having commenced non-PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition, (ii) not progressed since the commencement of non-PBS-subsidised supply of this drug, **AND**
- Patient must not have previously received PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition.

Treatment criteria:

- Patient must be undergoing treatment with this drug class for the first time; OR
 - Patient must be undergoing treatment with this drug class on a subsequent occasion, but only because there was an intolerance/contraindication to another drug in the same class that required permanent treatment withdrawal.
- A response (complete or partial) to the platinum-based chemotherapy regimen is to be assessed using either Gynaecologic Cancer InterGroup (GCIG) or Response Evaluation Criteria in Solid Tumours (RECIST) guidelines.
- Evidence of homologous recombination deficiency (genomic instability) must be derived through a test that has been validated against the Myriad MyChoice HRD assay, which uses a score of 42 or greater as the threshold for HRD (genomic instability) positivity.
- Evidence that BRCA1/2 gene mutations are absent must also be derived through a validated test as described above.

niraparib 100 mg tablet, 56

14172X	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	2	..	6637.44	31.60	^a Zejula [GK]

■ NIRAPARIB

Note This drug belongs to the poly (ADP-ribose) polymerase (PARP) inhibitor drug class. The restriction refers to the following PARP inhibitors: olaparib, niraparib

Note Definitions:

Class 5 - Pathogenic

Class 4 - Likely pathogenic

Tier I - variants of strong clinical significance

Tier II - variants of potential clinical significance

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 888 333.

Note Pharmaceutical benefits that have the form niraparib 100 mg capsule and niraparib 100 mg tablet are equivalent for the purposes of substitution, where the pack size is the same.

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

High grade stage III/IV epithelial ovarian, fallopian tube or primary peritoneal cancer

Treatment Phase: Initial first-line maintenance therapy (BRCA1/2 gene mutation) in a patient requiring a daily dose of up to 2 tablets

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be associated with a pathogenic variant (germline mutation class 4/class 5; somatic mutation classification tier I/tier II) of the **BRCA1/2** gene(s) - this has been confirmed by a validated test, **AND**

- Patient must be in partial or complete response to the immediately preceding platinum-based chemotherapy regimen prior to commencing treatment with this drug for this condition, **AND**
- Patient must not have previously received PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition.

Treatment criteria:

- Patient must be undergoing treatment with this drug class for the first time; OR
- Patient must be undergoing treatment with this drug class on a subsequent occasion, but only because there was an intolerance/contraindication to another drug in the same class that required permanent treatment withdrawal.

A response (complete or partial) to the platinum-based chemotherapy regimen is to be assessed using either Gynaecologic Cancer InterGroup (GCIG) or Response Evaluation Criteria in Solid Tumours (RECIST) guidelines.

Evidence of a BRCA1 or BRCA2 gene mutation must be derived through germline or somatic mutation testing.

niraparib 100 mg tablet, 56

14179G	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	2	..	6637.44	31.60	^a Zejula [GK]

■ **NIRAPARIB**

Note This drug belongs to the poly (ADP-ribose) polymerase (PARP) inhibitor drug class. The restriction refers to the following PARP inhibitors: olaparib, niraparib

Note Definitions:

- Class 5 - Pathogenic
- Class 4 - Likely pathogenic
- Tier I - variants of strong clinical significance
- Tier II - variants of potential clinical significance

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 888 333.

Note Pharmaceutical benefits that have the form niraparib 100 mg capsule and niraparib 100 mg tablet are equivalent for the purposes of substitution, where the pack size is the same.

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

High grade stage III/IV epithelial ovarian, fallopian tube or primary peritoneal cancer

Treatment Phase: Initial first-line maintenance therapy (BRCA1/2 gene mutation) in a patient requiring a daily dose of 3 tablets

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be associated with a pathogenic variant (germline mutation class 4/class 5; somatic mutation classification tier I/tier II) of the **BRCA1/2** gene(s) - this has been confirmed by a validated test, **AND**
- Patient must be in partial or complete response to the immediately preceding platinum-based chemotherapy regimen prior to commencing treatment with this drug for this condition, **AND**
- Patient must not have previously received PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition.

Treatment criteria:

- Patient must be undergoing treatment with this drug class for the first time; OR
 - Patient must be undergoing treatment with this drug class on a subsequent occasion, but only because there was an intolerance/contraindication to another drug in the same class that required permanent treatment withdrawal.
- A response (complete or partial) to the platinum-based chemotherapy regimen is to be assessed using either Gynaecologic Cancer InterGroup (GCIG) or Response Evaluation Criteria in Solid Tumours (RECIST) guidelines.
- Evidence of a BRCA1 or BRCA2 gene mutation must be derived through germline or somatic mutation testing.

niraparib 100 mg tablet, 84

14207R	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	2	..	9874.86	31.60	^a Zejula [GK]

■ **NIRAPARIB**

Note This drug belongs to the poly (ADP-ribose) polymerase (PARP) inhibitor drug class. The restriction refers to the following PARP inhibitors: olaparib, niraparib

Note Definitions:

- Class 5 - Pathogenic
- Class 4 - Likely pathogenic
- Tier I - variants of strong clinical significance
- Tier II - variants of potential clinical significance

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 888 333.

Note Pharmaceutical benefits that have the form niraparib 100 mg capsule and niraparib 100 mg tablet are equivalent for the purposes of substitution, where the pack size is the same.

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

High grade stage III/IV epithelial ovarian, fallopian tube or primary peritoneal cancer

Treatment Phase: Initial first-line maintenance therapy (genomic instability without BRCA1/2 gene mutation) in a patient requiring a daily dose of 3 tablets

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be associated with homologous recombination deficiency (HRD) positive status defined by genomic instability, which has been confirmed by a validated test, **AND**
- The condition must not be associated with pathogenic variants (germline mutation class 4/class 5; somatic mutation classification tier I/tier II) of the **BRCA1/2** genes - this has been confirmed by a validated test, **AND**
- Patient must be in partial or complete response to the immediately preceding platinum-based chemotherapy regimen prior to commencing treatment with this drug for this condition; OR
- The condition must have both: (i) been in a partial/complete response to the immediately preceding platinum-based chemotherapy regimen prior to having commenced non-PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition, (ii) not progressed since the commencement of non-PBS-subsidised supply of this drug, **AND**
- Patient must not have previously received PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition.

Treatment criteria:

- Patient must be undergoing treatment with this drug class for the first time; OR
- Patient must be undergoing treatment with this drug class on a subsequent occasion, but only because there was an intolerance/contraindication to another drug in the same class that required permanent treatment withdrawal.

A response (complete or partial) to the platinum-based chemotherapy regimen is to be assessed using either Gynaecologic Cancer InterGroup (GCIG) or Response Evaluation Criteria in Solid Tumours (RECIST) guidelines.

Evidence of homologous recombination deficiency (genomic instability) must be derived through a test that has been validated against the Myriad MyChoice HRD assay, which uses a score of 42 or greater as the threshold for HRD (genomic instability) positivity.

Evidence that BRCA1/2 gene mutations are absent must also be derived through a validated test as described above.

niraparib 100 mg tablet, 84

14212B	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	2	..	9874.86	31.60	^a Zejula [GK]

▪ **NIRAPARIB**

Note This drug belongs to the poly (ADP-ribose) polymerase (PARP) inhibitor drug class. The restriction refers to the following PARP inhibitors: olaparib, niraparib

Note Definitions:

- Class 5 - Pathogenic
- Class 4 - Likely pathogenic
- Tier I - variants of strong clinical significance
- Tier II - variants of potential clinical significance

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 888 333.

Note Pharmaceutical benefits that have the form niraparib 100 mg capsule and niraparib 100 mg tablet are equivalent for the purposes of substitution, where the pack size is the same.

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

High grade stage III/IV epithelial ovarian, fallopian tube or primary peritoneal cancer

Treatment Phase: Initial first-line maintenance therapy (BRCA1/2 gene mutation) in a patient requiring a daily dose of up to 2 capsules

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be associated with a pathogenic variant (germline mutation class 4/class 5; somatic mutation classification tier I/tier II) of the **BRCA1/2** gene(s) - this has been confirmed by a validated test, **AND**
- Patient must be in partial or complete response to the immediately preceding platinum-based chemotherapy regimen prior to commencing treatment with this drug for this condition, **AND**
- Patient must not have previously received PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition.

Treatment criteria:

- Patient must be undergoing treatment with this drug class for the first time; OR
- Patient must be undergoing treatment with this drug class on a subsequent occasion, but only because there was an intolerance/contraindication to another drug in the same class that required permanent treatment withdrawal.

A response (complete or partial) to the platinum-based chemotherapy regimen is to be assessed using either Gynaecologic Cancer InterGroup (GCIG) or Response Evaluation Criteria in Solid Tumours (RECIST) guidelines.

Evidence of a BRCA1 or BRCA2 gene mutation must be derived through germline or somatic mutation testing.

niraparib 100 mg capsule, 56

13089X	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	2	..	6637.44	31.60	^a Zejula [GK]

▪ **NIRAPARIB**

Note This drug belongs to the poly (ADP-ribose) polymerase (PARP) inhibitor drug class. The restriction refers to the following PARP inhibitors: olaparib, niraparib

Note Definitions:

- Class 5 - Pathogenic
- Class 4 - Likely pathogenic
- Tier I - variants of strong clinical significance
- Tier II - variants of potential clinical significance

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 888 333.

Note Pharmaceutical benefits that have the form niraparib 100 mg capsule and niraparib 100 mg tablet are equivalent for the purposes of substitution, where the pack size is the same.

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

High grade stage III/IV epithelial ovarian, fallopian tube or primary peritoneal cancer

Treatment Phase: Initial first-line maintenance therapy (BRCA1/2 gene mutation) in a patient requiring a daily dose of 3 capsules

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be associated with a pathogenic variant (germline mutation class 4/class 5; somatic mutation classification tier I/tier II) of the **BRCA1/2** gene(s) - this has been confirmed by a validated test, **AND**
- Patient must be in partial or complete response to the immediately preceding platinum-based chemotherapy regimen prior to commencing treatment with this drug for this condition, **AND**
- Patient must not have previously received PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition.

Treatment criteria:

- Patient must be undergoing treatment with this drug class for the first time; OR
- Patient must be undergoing treatment with this drug class on a subsequent occasion, but only because there was an intolerance/contraindication to another drug in the same class that required permanent treatment withdrawal.

A response (complete or partial) to the platinum-based chemotherapy regimen is to be assessed using either Gynaecologic Cancer InterGroup (GCIG) or Response Evaluation Criteria in Solid Tumours (RECIST) guidelines.

Evidence of a BRCA1 or BRCA2 gene mutation must be derived through germline or somatic mutation testing.

niraparib 100 mg capsule, 84

	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
13092C	1	2	..	9874.86	31.60	^a Zejula [GK]

▪ **NIRAPARIB**

Note This drug belongs to the poly (ADP-ribose) polymerase (PARP) inhibitor drug class. The restriction refers to the following PARP inhibitors: olaparib, niraparib

Note Definitions:

Class 5 - Pathogenic

Class 4 - Likely pathogenic

Tier I - variants of strong clinical significance

Tier II - variants of potential clinical significance

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 888 333.

Note Pharmaceutical benefits that have the form niraparib 100 mg capsule and niraparib 100 mg tablet are equivalent for the purposes of substitution, where the pack size is the same.

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

High grade stage III/IV epithelial ovarian, fallopian tube or primary peritoneal cancer

Treatment Phase: Initial first-line maintenance therapy (genomic instability without BRCA1/2 gene mutation) in a patient requiring a daily dose of up to 2 capsules

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be associated with homologous recombination deficiency (HRD) positive status defined by genomic instability, which has been confirmed by a validated test, **AND**
- The condition must not be associated with pathogenic variants (germline mutation class 4/class 5; somatic mutation classification tier I/tier II) of the **BRCA1/2** genes - this has been confirmed by a validated test, **AND**
- Patient must be in partial or complete response to the immediately preceding platinum-based chemotherapy regimen prior to commencing treatment with this drug for this condition; OR
- The condition must have both: (i) been in a partial/complete response to the immediately preceding platinum-based chemotherapy regimen prior to having commenced non-PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition, (ii) not progressed since the commencement of non-PBS-subsidised supply of this drug, **AND**
- Patient must not have previously received PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition.

Treatment criteria:

- Patient must be undergoing treatment with this drug class for the first time; OR
- Patient must be undergoing treatment with this drug class on a subsequent occasion, but only because there was an intolerance/contraindication to another drug in the same class that required permanent treatment withdrawal.

A response (complete or partial) to the platinum-based chemotherapy regimen is to be assessed using either Gynaecologic Cancer InterGroup (GCIG) or Response Evaluation Criteria in Solid Tumours (RECIST) guidelines.

Evidence of homologous recombination deficiency (genomic instability) must be derived through a test that has been validated against the Myriad MyChoice HRD assay, which uses a score of 42 or greater as the threshold for HRD (genomic instability) positivity.

Evidence that BRCA1/2 gene mutations are absent must also be derived through a validated test as described above.

niraparib 100 mg capsule, 56

	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
14088L	1	2	..	6637.44	31.60	^a Zejula [GK]

■ NIRAPARIB

Note This drug belongs to the poly (ADP-ribose) polymerase (PARP) inhibitor drug class. The restriction refers to the following PARP inhibitors: olaparib, niraparib

Note Definitions:

Class 5 - Pathogenic

Class 4 - Likely pathogenic

Tier I - variants of strong clinical significance

Tier II - variants of potential clinical significance

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 888 333.

Note Pharmaceutical benefits that have the form niraparib 100 mg capsule and niraparib 100 mg tablet are equivalent for the purposes of substitution, where the pack size is the same.

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

High grade stage III/IV epithelial ovarian, fallopian tube or primary peritoneal cancer

Treatment Phase: Initial first-line maintenance therapy (genomic instability without BRCA1/2 gene mutation) in a patient requiring a daily dose of 3 capsules

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be associated with homologous recombination deficiency (HRD) positive status defined by genomic instability, which has been confirmed by a validated test, **AND**
- The condition must not be associated with pathogenic variants (germline mutation class 4/class 5; somatic mutation classification tier I/tier II) of the **BRCA1/2** genes - this has been confirmed by a validated test, **AND**
- Patient must be in partial or complete response to the immediately preceding platinum-based chemotherapy regimen prior to commencing treatment with this drug for this condition; OR
- The condition must have both: (i) been in a partial/complete response to the immediately preceding platinum-based chemotherapy regimen prior to having commenced non-PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition, (ii) not progressed since the commencement of non-PBS-subsidised supply of this drug, **AND**
- Patient must not have previously received PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition.

Treatment criteria:

- Patient must be undergoing treatment with this drug class for the first time; OR
- Patient must be undergoing treatment with this drug class on a subsequent occasion, but only because there was an intolerance/contraindication to another drug in the same class that required permanent treatment withdrawal.

A response (complete or partial) to the platinum-based chemotherapy regimen is to be assessed using either Gynaecologic Cancer InterGroup (GCGI) or Response Evaluation Criteria in Solid Tumours (RECIST) guidelines.

Evidence of homologous recombination deficiency (genomic instability) must be derived through a test that has been validated against the Myriad MyChoice HRD assay, which uses a score of 42 or greater as the threshold for HRD (genomic instability) positivity.

Evidence that BRCA1/2 gene mutations are absent must also be derived through a validated test as described above.

niraparib 100 mg capsule, 84

14104H	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	2	..	9874.86	31.60	^a Zejula [GK]

■ OLAPARIB

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 888 333.

Note No increase in the maximum quantity or number of units may be authorised.

Note No increase in the maximum number of repeats may be authorised.

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

Early breast cancer

Treatment Phase: Continuing treatment

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have received PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug as adjuvant therapy for this condition, **AND**
- Patient must not have developed disease recurrence while receiving treatment with this drug for this condition, **AND**
- The treatment must not be a PBS-subsidised benefit beyond a total of 52 weeks of treatment (including any non-PBS-subsidised supply), **AND**
- The treatment must not be in combination with any of the following: (i) abemaciclib, (ii) pembrolizumab.

olaparib 100 mg tablet, 56

14216F	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	2	6	..	*6632.11	31.60	Lynparza [AP]

olaparib 150 mg tablet, 56

14215E	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	2	6	..	*6632.11	31.60	Lynparza [AP]

■ OLAPARIB

Note Patients may qualify for PBS-subsidised treatment under this restriction once only.

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 888 333.

Note No increase in the maximum quantity or number of units may be authorised.

Note No increase in the maximum number of repeats may be authorised.

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

Early breast cancer

Treatment Phase: Initial treatment

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be human epidermal growth factor receptor 2 (HER2) negative, **AND**
- Patient must have received neoadjuvant or adjuvant chemotherapy, **AND**
- The treatment must be adjuvant to surgical resection, **AND**
- The condition must be associated with a class 4 or 5 BRCA1 or BRCA2 gene mutation, **AND**
- Patient must have received neoadjuvant chemotherapy, and residual invasive cancer is confirmed in the breast and/or resected lymph nodes (pathological complete response was not achieved); OR
- Patient must have received adjuvant chemotherapy for triple negative breast cancer, and has either: (a) node positive disease is present, (b) a primary tumour greater than 20 mm; OR
- Patient must have received adjuvant chemotherapy for hormone receptor positive breast cancer, and has at least 4 positive lymph nodes, **AND**
- The treatment must not be a PBS-subsidised benefit beyond the following, whichever comes first: (i) a total of 52 weeks of treatment (including any non-PBS-subsidised supply), (ii) disease recurrence. Mark any remaining repeat prescriptions with the word 'cancelled' where (i)/(ii) has occurred, **AND**
- The treatment must be commenced within 12 weeks of completing other therapy noting that other therapy can be any of the following therapy: (i) surgery, (ii) radiotherapy, (iii) chemotherapy, **AND**
- The treatment must not be in combination with any of the following: (i) abemaciclib, (ii) pembrolizumab.

Retain all pathology imaging and investigative test results in the patient's medical records.

olaparib 100 mg tablet, 56

14181J	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	2	5	..	*6632.11	31.60	Lynparza [AP]

olaparib 150 mg tablet, 56

14208T	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	2	5	..	*6632.11	31.60	Lynparza [AP]

■ TAFAMIDIS

Note No increase in the maximum quantity or number of units may be authorised.

Note No increase in the maximum number of repeats may be authorised.

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

Transthyretin amyloid cardiomyopathy

Treatment Phase: First PBS-subsidised prescription for this drug

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must have documented evidence of transthyretin precursor protein present, **AND**
- Patient must have experienced at least one episode of hospitalisation that was a direct result of heart failure; OR
- Patient must have clinical evidence of heart failure without hospitalisation that required treatment with a diuretic for improvement, **AND**
- Patient must have/have had New York Heart Association class I heart failure at the time of commencing this drug; OR
- Patient must have/have had New York Heart Association class II heart failure at the time of commencing this drug, **AND**
- Patient must have an end-diastolic interventricular septal wall thickness of at least 12 mm on imaging, **AND**
- Patient must have an estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR) greater than 25 mL/minute/1.73 m².

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a medical practitioner who is any of the following: (i) a cardiologist, (ii) a consultant physician with experience in the management of amyloid disorders; this authority application must be sought by the same medical practitioner providing treatment.

Applications for authorisation of initial treatment must be made via the Online PBS Authorities System (real time assessment) or in writing via HPOS form upload or mail.

If the application is submitted through HPOS form upload or mail, it must include:

(a) a completed authority prescription form; and

(b) a completed authority application form relevant to the indication and treatment phase (the latest version is located on the website specified in the Administrative Advice).

Evidence of clinical findings to establish the diagnosis:

In this authority application, confirm that there is documented evidence of transthyretin precursor protein through either (1) alone, or, both (2) and (3), from the list below:

Confirm the following has been completed:

- (1) amyloid expert centre histology findings derived via immunohistochemistry or mass spectrometry; OR
- (2) bone scintigraphy with grade 2-3 finding AND
- (3) Confirm that there are negative results for monoclonal protein on each of the following three tests:
 - (a) serum immunofixation (also known as protein electrophoresis)
 - (b) urine immunofixation
 - (c) serum free light chains blood test

State which of (1) to (3) above has been completed, as well as the:

- (i) date of the finding,
- (ii) imaging/pathology report number/code that links the finding to the patient,
- (iii) name of the amyloid expert centre in this authority application (if applicable).

For end-diastolic interventricular septal wall thickness (at least 12 mm), confirm that:

- (i) imaging (echocardiogram or magnetic resonance imaging) has been undertaken; and
- (ii) that the imaging report is stored in the patient's medical records.

State the date that the imaging was performed and the thickness (in mm) in this authority application.

Where this authority application is to transition a patient from non-PBS-subsidised to PBS-subsidised supply (i.e. a 'grandfathered' patient), confirm the following:

- (i) the patient's heart failure has not worsened to persistent New York Heart Association Class III/IV heart failure while taking this drug.

Note Any queries concerning the arrangements to prescribe may be directed to Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

Prescribing information (including Authority Application forms and other relevant documentation as applicable) is available on the Services Australia website at www.servicesaustralia.gov.au

Applications for authorisation under this restriction should be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/hpos)

Alternatively, applications for authority to prescribe can be submitted online using the form upload facility in Health Professional Online Services (HPOS) at www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/hpos

Or mailed to:

Services Australia
Complex Drugs
Reply Paid 9826
HOBART TAS 7001

Note The Australian Amyloid Network provides a list of clinic centres that manage amyloidosis. It also provides a list of Australian anatomical pathology laboratories to be contacted for tissue review and immunohistochemistry for amyloid typing. For the purposes of this restriction, these providers are considered to be amyloid expert centres.

Authority required

Transthyretin amyloid cardiomyopathy

Treatment Phase: Second and subsequent PBS-subsidised prescriptions for this drug

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have previously received PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition, **AND**
- Patient must have an estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR) greater than 25 mL/minute/1.73 m², **AND**
- The treatment must be ceased where the patient's heart failure has worsened to persistent New York Heart Association (NYHA) Class III/IV heart failure, **AND**
- The treatment must be ceased where the patient has received any of: (i) a heart transplant, (ii) a liver transplant, (iii) an implanted ventricular assist device.

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a medical practitioner who is any of the following: (i) a cardiologist, (ii) a consultant physician with experience in the management of amyloid disorders; this authority application must be sought by the same medical practitioner providing treatment.

Confirm whether heart failure has worsened to NYHA Class III/IV since the last authority application (yes/no).

If 'no', continued PBS subsidy is available.

If 'yes', continued PBS subsidy is available, but the prescriber must undertake a review of the patient within 3 months to determine whether the worsening heart failure was transient or persistent.

Where this subsequent clinical review finds that the heart failure persists as NYHA Class III/IV heart failure despite active treatment with this drug, then PBS subsidy is not available.

If heart failure has worsened to NYHA Class III/IV since the last authority application, no more than 2 repeat prescriptions must be prescribed.

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

tafamidis 61 mg capsule, 30

14100D	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	5	..	10022.60	31.60	Vyndamax [PF]

Palliative Care

▪ METHADONE

Caution The risk of drug dependence is high.

Note This treatment is not suitable for 'as-required' pain relief.

Note This treatment is not recommended for use in ambulant patients.

Note Shared Care Model:

For prescribing by nurse practitioners where care of a patient is shared between a nurse practitioner and medical practitioner in a formalised arrangement with an agreed management plan. Further information can be found in the Explanatory Notes for Nurse Practitioners.

Note Real time online applications for increased maximum quantities/repeats may be made using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/organisations/health-professionals/services/medicare/hpos/services/request-authority-using-online-pbs-authorities-hpos).

Written authority applications for increased maximum quantities/repeats can be uploaded online through HPOS form upload or mailed to:

Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme
Reply Paid 9857
[Your capital city]

Note Pharmaceutical benefits that have the form methadone hydrochloride 10 mg/mL injection, 5 x 1 mL ampoules and pharmaceutical benefits that have the form methadone hydrochloride 10 mg/mL injection, 5 x 1 mL vials are equivalent for the purposes of substitution.

Authority required

Severe disabling pain

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must not be opioid naive, **AND**
- Patient must have had or would have inadequate pain management with maximum tolerated doses of non-opioid and other opioid analgesics; OR
- Patient must be unable to use non-opioid and other opioid analgesics due to contraindications or intolerance.


Treatment criteria:

- Patient must be undergoing palliative care.

Authority requests for treatment duration up to 1 month may be requested through the Online PBS Authorities system or by calling Services Australia.

Authority requests extending treatment duration beyond 1 month may be requested through the Online PBS Authorities system or in writing and must not provide a treatment duration exceeding 3 months (quantity sufficient for up to 1 month treatment and sufficient repeats).

methadone hydrochloride 10 mg/mL injection, 5 x 1 mL vials

14193B	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	24	..	..	*906.84	31.60	Physeptone [AS]

▪ MORPHINE

Caution The risk of drug dependence is high.

Note Pharmaceutical benefits that have the brand RA-Morph (NZ) can be substituted for Ordine 5 in case of shortage.

Note Real time online applications for increased maximum quantities/repeats may be made using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/organisations/health-professionals/services/medicare/hpos/services/request-authority-using-online-pbs-authorities-hpos).

Phone applications for increased maximum quantities/repeats may be made by calling 1800 888 333.

Written authority applications for increased maximum quantities/repeats can be uploaded online through HPOS form upload or mailed to:

Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme
Reply Paid 9857
[Your capital city]

Authority required (STREAMLINED)

11697

Severe pain

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have had or would have inadequate pain management with maximum tolerated doses of non-opioid and other opioid analgesics; OR
- Patient must be unable to use non-opioid and other opioid analgesics due to contraindications or intolerance.

Treatment criteria:

- Patient must be undergoing palliative care.

Authority requests extending treatment duration up to 1 month may be requested through the Online PBS Authorities system or by calling Services Australia.

Authority requests extending treatment duration beyond 1 month may be requested through the Online PBS Authorities system or in writing and must not provide a treatment duration exceeding 3 months (quantity sufficient for up to 1 month treatment and sufficient repeats).

morphine hydrochloride trihydrate 5 mg/mL oral liquid, 200 mL

14186P	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
NP	2	1	..	*194.48	31.60	^a RA-Morph (NZ) [WZ]

morphine hydrochloride trihydrate 5 mg/mL oral liquid, 200 mL

12549L	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
NP	2	1	..	*47.70	31.60	^a Ordine 5 [XT]

▪ **MORPHINE**

Caution The risk of drug dependence is high.

Note Pharmaceutical benefits that have the brand Morphini HCl Streuli or the brand RA-Morph (NZ) can be substituted for pharmaceutical benefits that have the brand Ordine 10 in case of a shortage.

Note Real time online applications for increased maximum quantities/repeats may be made using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/organisations/health-professionals/services/medicare/hpos/services/request-authority-using-online-pbs-authorities-hpos).

Phone applications for increased maximum quantities/repeats may be made by calling 1800 888 333.

Written authority applications for increased maximum quantities/repeats can be uploaded online through HPOS form upload or mailed to:

Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme
Reply Paid 9857
[Your capital city]

Authority required (STREAMLINED)

11697

Severe pain

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have had or would have inadequate pain management with maximum tolerated doses of non-opioid and other opioid analgesics; OR
- Patient must be unable to use non-opioid and other opioid analgesics due to contraindications or intolerance.

Treatment criteria:

- Patient must be undergoing palliative care.

Authority requests extending treatment duration up to 1 month may be requested through the Online PBS Authorities system or by calling Services Australia.

Authority requests extending treatment duration beyond 1 month may be requested through the Online PBS Authorities system or in writing and must not provide a treatment duration exceeding 3 months (quantity sufficient for up to 1 month treatment and sufficient repeats).

morphine hydrochloride trihydrate 10 mg/mL oral liquid, 20 mL

14081D	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
NP	20	1	..	*1119.04	31.60	^a Morphini HCl Streuli [DZ]

morphine hydrochloride trihydrate 10 mg/mL oral liquid, 200 mL

14187Q	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
NP	2	1	..	*296.08	31.60	^a RA-Morph (NZ) [WZ]

morphine hydrochloride trihydrate 10 mg/mL oral liquid, 200 mL

12472K	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
NP	2	1	..	*52.80	31.60	^a Ordine 10 [XT]

Highly Specialised Drugs Program (Private Hospital)

▪ ANIFROLUMAB

Note No increase in the maximum quantity or number of units may be authorised.

Note No increase in the maximum number of repeats may be authorised.

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Note SLEDAI-2K can be accessed via Gladman 2002 J. Rheumatol. 29 (2) 288-291 or from AstraZeneca Medical Information on 1800 805 342.

Authority required

Systemic lupus erythematosus

Treatment Phase: Initial treatment

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have a confirmed and documented diagnosis of systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) according to the American College of Rheumatology (ACR)/European League Against Rheumatism (EULAR) SLE Classification Criteria 2019, **AND**
- Patient must have persistent disease activity as supported by a SLE Disease Activity Index 2000 (SLEDAI-2K) score of at least 10 points, **AND**
- Patient must be currently receiving hydroxychloroquine, with treatment received for at least 12 weeks, unless contraindicated/intolerant necessitating treatment withdrawal, **AND**
- Patient must be currently receiving immunosuppressant medication, with treatment received for at least 12 weeks, with either: (i) minimum dose of methotrexate 20 mg per week, (ii) azathioprine 100 mg per day, (iii) mycophenolate 1,000 mg per day unless contraindicated/intolerant necessitating treatment withdrawal, **AND**
- Patient must be currently receiving prednisolone or equivalent of at least 7.5 mg per day, with treatment received for at least 4 weeks, unless contraindicated/intolerant necessitating treatment withdrawal, **AND**
- Patient must not have either: (i) severe active lupus nephritis, (ii) severe active central nervous system systemic lupus erythematosus.

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a specialist physician experienced in the management of this condition.

If prednisolone or equivalent is contraindicated according to the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA)-approved Product Information or cannot be tolerated at least 7.5 mg per day, the patient must have received at least 12 weeks of continuous treatment with each of at least 2 of the following: (i) hydroxychloroquine; (ii) methotrexate at a dose of at least 20 mg per week; (iii) azathioprine at a dose of at least 100 mg per day; (iv) mycophenolate at a dose of at least 1,000 mg per day.

Where two of: (i) hydroxychloroquine; (ii) methotrexate at a dose of at least 20 mg per week; or (iii) azathioprine at a dose of at least 100 mg per day; (iv) mycophenolate at a dose of at least 1,000 mg per day, are either contraindicated according to the relevant TGA-approved Product Information or cannot be tolerated at the doses specified above in addition to having a contraindication or intolerance to prednisolone or equivalent: at least one of the remaining tolerated therapies must be trialled at a minimum dose as mentioned above.

If the patient has a contraindication/severe intolerance to each of: (i) prednisolone or equivalent of at least 7.5 mg per day; (ii) hydroxychloroquine; (iii) methotrexate at a dose of at least 20 mg per week; (iv) azathioprine at a dose of at least 100 mg per day; (v) mycophenolate at a dose of at least 1,000 mg per day; in such cases, provide details for each of the contraindications/severe intolerances claimed in the authority application.

The authority application must be made in writing via HPOS form upload or mail and must include:

- (a) details of the ACR/EULAR SLE Classification Criteria 2019 confirming diagnosis of SLE;
- (b) details (date and score) of the completed SLEDAI-2K score sheet;
- (c) details of current systemic therapy used (dosage, date of commencement and duration of therapy including prior anifrolumab use);
- (d) details of contraindication/intolerances to prior therapies (drug name, the degree of toxicity and dose).

All the reports must be documented in the patient's medical records.

If the application is submitted through HPOS form upload or mail, it must include:

- (i) A completed authority prescription form; and
- (ii) A completed authority application form relevant to the indication and treatment phase (the latest version is located on the website specified in the Administrative Advice).

Note Any queries concerning the arrangements to prescribe may be directed to Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

Prescribing information (including Authority Application forms and other relevant documentation as applicable) is available

on the Services Australia website at www.servicesaustralia.gov.au
Applications for authority to prescribe should be submitted online using the form upload facility in Health Professional Online Services (HPOS) at www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/hpos
Or mailed to:
Services Australia
Complex Drugs
Reply Paid 9826
HOBART TAS 7001

Authority required

Systemic lupus erythematosus

Treatment Phase: Transitioning from non-PBS to PBS-subsidised supply - Grandfather arrangements

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have received non-PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this PBS indication prior to 1 July 2024, **AND**
- Patient must have had a confirmed and documented diagnosis of systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) according to the American College of Rheumatology (ACR)/European League Against Rheumatism (EULAR) SLE Classification Criteria 2019 prior to commencing therapy with this drug for this condition, **AND**
- Patient must have had persistent disease activity as supported by a SLE Disease Activity Index 2000 (SLEDAI-2K) score of at least 10 points prior to commencing therapy with this drug for this condition, **AND**
- Patient must have been receiving hydroxychloroquine for at least 12 weeks prior to commencing therapy with this drug for this condition, **AND**
- Patient must have been receiving immunosuppressant medication for at least 12 weeks with either (i) minimum dose of methotrexate 20 mg per week (ii) azathioprine 100 mg per day (iii) mycophenolate 1,000 mg per day, prior to commencing therapy with this drug for this condition unless contraindicated/intolerant necessitating treatment withdrawal, **AND**
- Patient must have been receiving prednisolone or equivalent of at least 7.5 mg per day for at least 4 weeks prior to commencing therapy with this drug for this condition unless contraindicated/intolerant necessitating treatment withdrawal, **AND**
- Patient must not have either: (i) severe active lupus nephritis, (ii) severe active central nervous system systemic lupus erythematosus.

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a specialist physician experienced in the management of this condition.

If prednisolone or equivalent is contraindicated according to the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA)-approved Product Information or cannot be tolerated at at least 7.5 mg per day, the patient must have received at least 12 weeks of continuous treatment with each of at least 2 of the following: (i) hydroxychloroquine; (ii) methotrexate at a dose of at least 20 mg per week; (iii) azathioprine at a dose of at least 100 mg per day; (iv) mycophenolate at a dose of at least 1,000 mg per day.

Where two of: (i) hydroxychloroquine; (ii) methotrexate at a dose of at least 20 mg per week; or (iii) azathioprine at a dose of at least 100 mg per day; (iv) mycophenolate at a dose of at least 1,000 mg per day, are either contraindicated according to the relevant TGA-approved Product Information or cannot be tolerated at the doses specified above in addition to having a contraindication or intolerance to prednisolone or equivalent: at least one of the remaining tolerated therapies must be trialled at a minimum dose as mentioned above.

If the patient has a contraindication/severe intolerance to each of: (i) prednisolone or equivalent of at least 7.5 mg per day; (ii) hydroxychloroquine; (iii) methotrexate at a dose of at least 20 mg per week; (iv) azathioprine at a dose of at least 100 mg per day; (v) mycophenolate at a dose of at least 1,000 mg per day; in such cases, provide details for each of the contraindications/severe intolerances claimed in the authority application.

The authority application must be made in writing via HPOS form upload or mail and must include:

- (a) details of the ACR/EULAR SLE Classification Criteria 2019 confirming diagnosis of SLE;
- (b) details (date and score) of the completed SLEDAI-2K score sheet;
- (c) details of current systemic therapy used (dosage, date of commencement and duration of therapy including prior anifrolumab use);
- (d) details of contraindication/intolerances to prior therapies (drug name, the degree of toxicity and dose).

All the reports must be documented in the patient's medical records.

If the application is submitted through HPOS form upload or mail, it must include:

- (i) A completed authority prescription form; and
- (ii) A completed authority application form relevant to the indication and treatment phase (the latest version is located on the website specified in the Administrative Advice).

For continuing PBS-subsidised treatment, a Grandfathered patient must qualify under the Continuing treatment criteria.

Note This grandfather restriction will cease to operate from 12 months after the date specified in the clinical criteria.

Note Any queries concerning the arrangements to prescribe may be directed to Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

Prescribing information (including Authority Application forms and other relevant documentation as applicable) is available on the Services Australia website at www.servicesaustralia.gov.au

Applications for authority to prescribe should be submitted online using the form upload facility in Health Professional Online Services (HPOS) at www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/hpos

Or mailed to:
Services Australia
Complex Drugs
Reply Paid 9826
HOBART TAS 7001

Authority required

Systemic lupus erythematosus

Treatment Phase: Continuing or recommencement of treatment (within 12 months of a treatment break)

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have previously been issued with an authority prescription for this drug for this condition, **AND**
- Patient must be responding to treatment if they have received less than 12 months of treatment with this drug for this condition; OR
- Patient must have attained a Lupus Low Disease Activity State (LLDAS) and maintained this state while on treatment.

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a specialist physician experienced in the management of this condition.

Lupus Low Disease Activity State (LLDAS) is defined as:

(a) Total SLEDAI-2K of not greater than 4, with no major activity in major organ systems (renal, central nervous system (CNS), cardiopulmonary, vasculitis, fever); and

(b) No new features of lupus disease activity compared with the previous assessment, and

(c) Physician Global Assessment (PGA) of not greater than 1, and

(d) Current prednisolone (or equivalent) dose of not greater than 7.5 mg daily, and

(e) Well tolerated standard maintenance doses of anti-malarial and immunosuppressive drugs are allowed.

Where retreatment with anifrolumab after a break in PBS-subsidised treatment with anifrolumab is being sought, the date of cessation of the previous treatment course with anifrolumab must be included in the application. Recommencement of treatment with anifrolumab for severe SLE is within 12 months from the date that treatment was ceased.

Note PGA can be accessed via Petri 2005 N Engl J Med 353: 2550-8.

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

anifrolumab 300 mg/2 mL injection, 2 mL vial

14189T	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	5	..	1496.67	Saphnelo [AP]

▪ **AVATROMBOPAG**

Note No increase in the maximum number of repeats may be authorised.

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

Severe thrombocytopenia

Treatment Phase: Initial treatment - New patient

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be severe chronic immune (idiopathic) thrombocytopenic purpura (ITP), **AND**
- Patient must have failed to achieve an adequate response to, or be intolerant to, corticosteroid therapy, **AND**
- Patient must have failed to achieve an adequate response to, or be intolerant to, immunoglobulin therapy, **AND**
- The treatment must be the sole PBS-subsidised thrombopoietin receptor agonist (TRA) for this condition.

The following criteria indicate failure to achieve an adequate response to corticosteroid and/or immunoglobulin therapy and must be demonstrated at the time of initial application;

(a) a platelet count of less than or equal to 20,000 million per L; OR

(b) a platelet count of 20,000 million to 30,000 million per L, where the patient is experiencing significant bleeding or has a history of significant bleeding in this platelet range.

The authority application must be made via the online PBS Authorities System (real time assessment), or in writing via HPOS form upload or mail and must include:

(a) details of a platelet count supporting the diagnosis of ITP.

All reports must be documented in the patient's medical records.

If the application is submitted through HPOS form upload or mail, it must include:

(i) A completed authority prescription form; and

(ii) A completed authority application form relevant to the indication and treatment phase (the latest version is located on the website specified in the Administrative Advice).

The platelet count must be no more than 4 weeks old at the time of application and must be documented in the patient's medical records.

A maximum of 24 weeks of treatment with this drug will be authorised under this criterion.

Note Any queries concerning the arrangements to prescribe may be directed to Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

Prescribing information (including Authority Application forms and other relevant documentation as applicable) is available on the Services Australia website at www.servicesaustralia.gov.au

Applications for authorisation under this restriction should be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/hpos)

Alternatively, applications for authority to prescribe can be submitted online using the form upload facility in Health Professional Online Services (HPOS) at www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/hpos

Or mailed to:

Services Australia
Complex Drugs
Reply Paid 9826
HOBART TAS 7001

Authority required

Severe thrombocytopenia

Treatment Phase: First Continuing treatment or Re-initiation of interrupted continuing treatment

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be severe chronic immune (idiopathic) thrombocytopenic purpura (ITP), **AND**
- Patient must have demonstrated a sustained platelet response to PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition under the Initial treatment restriction if the patient has not had a treatment break, confirmed through a pathology report from an Approved Pathology Authority; OR
- Patient must have changed treatment from either romiplostim or eltrombopag to this drug under the Balance of Supply/Change of Therapy restriction and demonstrated a sustained response; OR
- Patient must have demonstrated a sustained platelet response to the most recent PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition prior to interrupted treatment, confirmed through a pathology report from an Approved Pathology Authority, **AND**
- The treatment must be the sole PBS-subsidised thrombopoietin receptor agonist (TRA) for this condition.

For the purposes of this restriction, a sustained response is defined as the patient having the ability to maintain a platelet count sufficient to prevent clinically significant bleeding based on clinical assessment.

The platelet count must be conducted no later than 4 weeks from the date of completion of the most recent PBS-subsidised course of treatment with this drug and must be documented in the patient's medical records.

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

Authority required

Severe thrombocytopenia

Treatment Phase: Second or Subsequent Continuing treatment

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be severe chronic immune (idiopathic) thrombocytopenic purpura (ITP), **AND**
- Patient must have previously received PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition under first continuing or re-initiation of interrupted continuing treatment restriction, **AND**
- Patient must have demonstrated a continuing response to PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug, **AND**
- The treatment must be the sole PBS-subsidised thrombopoietin receptor agonist (TRA) for this condition.

The platelet count must be no more than 4 weeks old at the time of application and must be documented in the patient's medical records.

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

Authority required

Severe thrombocytopenia

Treatment Phase: Balance of supply or change of therapy

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be severe chronic immune (idiopathic) thrombocytopenic purpura (ITP), **AND**
- The treatment must be the sole PBS-subsidised thrombopoietin receptor agonist (TRA) for this condition, **AND**
- Patient must have received insufficient therapy with this drug for this condition under the Initial treatment restriction; OR
- Patient must have received insufficient therapy with this drug for this condition under the First Continuing treatment or Re-initiation of interrupted continuing treatment restriction; OR
- Patient must have received insufficient therapy with this drug for this condition under the Second or Subsequent Continuing treatment restriction; OR
- Patient must be changing therapy from romiplostim or eltrombopag to this drug for this condition, **AND**
- The treatment must provide no more than the balance of up to 24 weeks treatment under this restriction.

Patients receiving treatment with romiplostim or eltrombopag may change to avatrombopag under this restriction.

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

avatrombopag 20 mg tablet, 30

13317X	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	5	..	2649.73	Doptelet [ZO]

▪ **BENRALIZUMAB**

Note TREATMENT OF ADULT AND ADOLESCENT PATIENTS WITH UNCONTROLLED SEVERE ASTHMA

The following information applies to the prescribing under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) of the biological medicines for uncontrolled severe asthma. Where the term biological medicine appears in the following notes and restrictions it refers to all PBS benefits with the specific PBS indication of 'uncontrolled severe asthma'.

A patient is eligible for PBS-subsidised treatment with only 1 biological medicine for uncontrolled severe asthma at any one time.

A patient receiving PBS-subsidised treatment for uncontrolled severe asthma is able to commence a treatment cycle where they may trial a biological medicine without having to experience a disease flare when swapping to an alternate biological medicine within the same treatment cycle.

Under these arrangements, within a treatment cycle, a patient may receive long-term treatment with a biological medicine as long as they sustain a response to therapy.

A patient currently receiving PBS-subsidised treatment as of 1 April 2021 is considered to have started a cycle of treatment. Within the same treatment cycle, a patient cannot trial and fail, or cease to respond to, the same PBS-subsidised biological medicine more than once.

Therefore, once a patient fails to meet the response criteria for a PBS-subsidised biological medicine, they must change to an alternate biological medicine if they wish to continue PBS-subsidised biological treatment.

Once a patient has either failed to achieve or sustain a response to treatment 4 times, they are deemed to have completed a single treatment cycle. They must have at least a 12-month break in PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy before they are eligible to recommence another new treatment cycle [further details are under 'Recommencement of treatment after a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy' below].

The length of the break in therapy is measured from the date the most recent treatment with a PBS-subsidised biological medicine is ceased until the date of the first application for recommencement of treatment with a biological medicine under the new treatment cycle.

There is no limit to the number of treatment cycles that a patient may undertake in their lifetime.

How to prescribe PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment for uncontrolled severe asthma.

(1) Initial treatment:

Applications for initial treatment should be made where:

(i) a patient has not received prior PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment and wishes to commence such therapy (Initial 1 restriction); or

(ii) a patient has received prior PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine and wishes to recommence a new treatment cycle with this biological medicine following a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy (Initial 1 restriction); or

(iii) a patient has received prior PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy and wishes to trial an alternate biological medicine within the same treatment cycle (Initial 2 restriction) - [further details are under 'Swapping therapy' below].

All applications for initial treatment will be limited to provide for a maximum of up to 32 weeks of therapy of a biological medicine. It is recommended that a patient be reviewed in the month prior to completing their course of initial treatment to ensure uninterrupted biological medicine supply.

(2) Continuing treatment:

Following the completion of an initial treatment course with a specific biological medicine, a patient may qualify to receive up to 24 weeks of continuing treatment with that biological medicine providing they have demonstrated an adequate response to treatment. The patient remains eligible to receive continuing biological medicine treatment with the same drug in courses of up to 24 weeks providing they continue to sustain the response. It is recommended that a patient be reviewed the month prior to completing their current course of treatment to ensure uninterrupted biological medicine supply.

(3) Baseline measurements to determine response:

Baseline measurements of the Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ; 5 item version) or oral corticosteroid dose submitted with the Initial authority application for a biological medicine must be used to determine whether an adequate response to treatment has been achieved or sustained.

For patients transitioned from the paediatric to the adolescent/adult restriction, the exacerbation history may also be used to determine response.

However, prescribers may provide new baseline measurements when a new Initial treatment authority application is submitted and these new baseline measurements may be used to assess response.

(4) Swapping therapy within the same treatment cycle.

Once initial treatment with the first PBS-subsidised biological medicine is approved, a patient may swap to an alternate biological medicine at any time by qualifying under an Initial 2 restriction.

However, they cannot swap to a particular biological medicine if they have failed to respond to prior treatment with that drug within the same treatment cycle.

Within the same treatment cycle a patient may alternate between therapy with any biological medicine of their choice (1 at a time) providing:

(i) they have not received PBS-subsidised treatment with that particular biological medicine previously; or

(ii) they have demonstrated an adequate response to that particular biological medicine if they have previously trialled it on the PBS; and

(iii) they have not previously failed to respond to treatment with all 4 biological medicines in this treatment cycle.

(5) Re-commencement of a new treatment cycle after a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy:

A patient who wishes to trial a second or subsequent new treatment cycle, following a break in PBS-subsidised therapy of at least 12 months (in patients who have failed to achieve or ceased to sustain a response to treatment 4 times within a treatment cycle), must re-qualify through an Initial 1 restriction.

(6) Monitoring of patients:

Omalizumab only:

Anaphylaxis and anaphylactoid reactions have been reported following first or subsequent administration of omalizumab (see Product Information). Patients should be monitored post-injection, and medications for the treatment of anaphylactic reactions should be available for immediate use following administration of omalizumab. Patients should be informed that such reactions are possible and prompt medical attention should be sought if allergic reactions occur.

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

Uncontrolled severe asthma

Treatment Phase: Balance of supply

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a medical practitioner who is either a: (i) respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma.

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have received insufficient therapy with this drug under the Initial 1 (new patients or recommencement of treatment in a new treatment cycle) restriction to complete 32 weeks treatment; OR

- Patient must have received insufficient therapy with this drug under the Initial 2 (change of treatment) restriction to complete 32 weeks treatment; OR
- Patient must have received insufficient therapy with this drug under the Continuing treatment restriction to complete 24 weeks treatment, **AND**
- The treatment must not provide more than the balance of up to 32 weeks of treatment if the most recent authority approval was made under an Initial treatment restriction; OR
- The treatment must not provide more than the balance of up to 24 weeks of treatment if the most recent authority approval was made under the Continuing treatment restriction.

benralizumab 30 mg/mL injection, 1 mL pen device

11999M	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	..	..	3194.12	Fasenra Pen [AP]

▪ BENRALIZUMAB

Note TREATMENT OF ADULT AND ADOLESCENT PATIENTS WITH UNCONTROLLED SEVERE ASTHMA

The following information applies to the prescribing under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) of the biological medicines for uncontrolled severe asthma. Where the term biological medicine appears in the following notes and restrictions it refers to all PBS benefits with the specific PBS indication of 'uncontrolled severe asthma'.

A patient is eligible for PBS-subsidised treatment with only 1 biological medicine for uncontrolled severe asthma at any one time.

A patient receiving PBS-subsidised treatment for uncontrolled severe asthma is able to commence a treatment cycle where they may trial a biological medicine without having to experience a disease flare when swapping to an alternate biological medicine within the same treatment cycle.

Under these arrangements, within a treatment cycle, a patient may receive long-term treatment with a biological medicine as long as they sustain a response to therapy.

A patient currently receiving PBS-subsidised treatment as of 1 April 2021 is considered to have started a cycle of treatment. Within the same treatment cycle, a patient cannot trial and fail, or cease to respond to, the same PBS-subsidised biological medicine more than once.

Therefore, once a patient fails to meet the response criteria for a PBS-subsidised biological medicine, they must change to an alternate biological medicine if they wish to continue PBS-subsidised biological treatment.

Once a patient has either failed to achieve or sustain a response to treatment 4 times, they are deemed to have completed a single treatment cycle. They must have at least a 12-month break in PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy before they are eligible to recommence another new treatment cycle [further details are under 'Recommencement of treatment after a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy' below].

The length of the break in therapy is measured from the date the most recent treatment with a PBS-subsidised biological medicine is ceased until the date of the first application for recommencement of treatment with a biological medicine under the new treatment cycle.

There is no limit to the number of treatment cycles that a patient may undertake in their lifetime.

How to prescribe PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment for uncontrolled severe asthma.

(1) Initial treatment:

Applications for initial treatment should be made where:

(i) a patient has not received prior PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment and wishes to commence such therapy (Initial 1 restriction); or

(ii) a patient has received prior PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine and wishes to recommence a new treatment cycle with this biological medicine following a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy (Initial 1 restriction); or (iii) a patient has received prior PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy and wishes to trial an alternate biological medicine within the same treatment cycle (Initial 2 restriction) - [further details are under 'Swapping therapy' below].

All applications for initial treatment will be limited to provide for a maximum of up to 32 weeks of therapy of a biological medicine. It is recommended that a patient be reviewed in the month prior to completing their course of initial treatment to ensure uninterrupted biological medicine supply.

(2) Continuing treatment:

Following the completion of an initial treatment course with a specific biological medicine, a patient may qualify to receive up to 24 weeks of continuing treatment with that biological medicine providing they have demonstrated an adequate response to treatment. The patient remains eligible to receive continuing biological medicine treatment with the same drug in courses of up to 24 weeks providing they continue to sustain the response. It is recommended that a patient be reviewed the month prior to completing their current course of treatment to ensure uninterrupted biological medicine supply.

(3) Baseline measurements to determine response:

Baseline measurements of the Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ; 5 item version) or oral corticosteroid dose submitted with the Initial authority application for a biological medicine must be used to determine whether an adequate response to treatment has been achieved or sustained.

For patients transitioned from the paediatric to the adolescent/adult restriction, the exacerbation history may also be used to determine response.

However, prescribers may provide new baseline measurements when a new Initial treatment authority application is submitted and these new baseline measurements may be used to assess response.

(4) Swapping therapy within the same treatment cycle.

Once initial treatment with the first PBS-subsidised biological medicine is approved, a patient may swap to an alternate biological medicine at any time by qualifying under an Initial 2 restriction.

However, they cannot swap to a particular biological medicine if they have failed to respond to prior treatment with that drug within the same treatment cycle.

Within the same treatment cycle a patient may alternate between therapy with any biological medicine of their choice (1 at a time) providing:

(i) they have not received PBS-subsidised treatment with that particular biological medicine previously; or

(ii) they have demonstrated an adequate response to that particular biological medicine if they have previously trialled it on

the PBS; and

(iii) they have not previously failed to respond to treatment with all 4 biological medicines in this treatment cycle.

(5) Re-commencement of a new treatment cycle after a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy:

A patient who wishes to trial a second or subsequent new treatment cycle, following a break in PBS-subsidised therapy of at least 12 months (in patients who have failed to achieve or ceased to sustain a response to treatment 4 times within a treatment cycle), must re-qualify through an Initial 1 restriction.

(6) Monitoring of patients:

Omalizumab only:

Anaphylaxis and anaphylactoid reactions have been reported following first or subsequent administration of omalizumab (see Product Information). Patients should be monitored post-injection, and medications for the treatment of anaphylactic reactions should be available for immediate use following administration of omalizumab. Patients should be informed that such reactions are possible and prompt medical attention should be sought if allergic reactions occur.

Note For copies of the ACQ, please contact AstraZeneca Medical Information on 1800 805 342.

Note Formal assessment and correction of inhaler technique should be performed in accordance with the National Asthma Council (NAC) Information Paper for Health Professionals on Inhaler Technique (available at www.nationalasthma.org.au); the assessment and adherence to correct technique should be documented in the patient's medical records. Patients can obtain support with inhaler technique through their local Asthma Foundation (1800 645 130).

Note Any queries concerning the arrangements to prescribe may be directed to Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

Prescribing information (including Authority Application forms and other relevant documentation as applicable) is available on the Services Australia website at www.servicesaustralia.gov.au

Applications for authority to prescribe should be submitted online using the form upload facility in Health Professional Online Services (HPOS) at www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/hpos

Or mailed to:

Services Australia

Complex Drugs

Reply Paid 9826

HOBART TAS 7001

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

Uncontrolled severe asthma

Treatment Phase: Continuing treatment

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a medical practitioner who is either a: (i) respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma.

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have received this drug as their most recent course of PBS-subsidised biological agent treatment for this condition in this treatment cycle, **AND**
- Patient must have demonstrated or sustained an adequate response to PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition, **AND**
- The treatment must not be used in combination with and within 4 weeks of another PBS-subsidised biological medicine prescribed for severe asthma, **AND**
- Patient must not receive more than 24 weeks of treatment under this restriction.

Population criteria:

- Patient must be aged 12 years or older.

An adequate response to this biological medicine is defined as:

(a) a reduction in the Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) score of at least 0.5 from baseline,

OR

(b) maintenance oral corticosteroid dose reduced by at least 25% from baseline, and no deterioration in ACQ-5 score from baseline or an increase in ACQ-5 score from baseline less than or equal to 0.5.

All applications for second and subsequent continuing treatments with this drug must include a measurement of response to the prior course of therapy. The Asthma Control Questionnaire (5 item version) assessment of the patient's response to the prior course of treatment or the assessment of oral corticosteroid dose, should be made from 20 weeks after the first dose of PBS-subsidised dose of this drug under this restriction so that there is adequate time for a response to be demonstrated and for the application for continuing therapy to be processed.

The assessment should, where possible, be completed by the same physician who initiated treatment with this drug. This assessment, which will be used to determine eligibility for the first continuing treatment, should be conducted within 4 weeks of the last dose of biological medicine. To avoid an interruption of supply for the first continuing treatment, the assessment should be provided no later than 2 weeks prior to the patient completing their current treatment course, unless the patient is currently on a treatment break. Where a response assessment is not undertaken and provided, the patient will be deemed to have failed to respond to treatment with this drug.

Where treatment was ceased for clinical reasons despite the patient experiencing improvement, an assessment of the patient's response to treatment made at the time of treatment cessation or retrospectively will be considered to determine whether the patient demonstrated or sustained an adequate response to treatment.

A patient who fails to respond to treatment with this biological medicine for uncontrolled severe asthma will not be eligible to receive further PBS-subsidised treatment with this biological medicine for severe asthma within the current treatment cycle.

At the time of the authority application, medical practitioners should request the appropriate number of repeats to provide for a continuing course of this drug sufficient for up to 24 weeks of therapy.

The authority application must be made in writing and must include:

- (1) a completed authority prescription form; and

(2) a completed authority application form relevant to the indication and treatment phase (the latest version is located on the website specified in the Administrative Advice).

The following information must be provided at the time of application and must be documented in the patient's medical records:

- (a) if applicable, details of maintenance oral corticosteroid dose; and
- (b) a completed Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) score.

benralizumab 30 mg/mL injection, 1 mL pen device

11996J	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	2	..	3194.12	Fasenra Pen [AP]

■ BENRALIZUMAB

Note TREATMENT OF ADULT AND ADOLESCENT PATIENTS WITH UNCONTROLLED SEVERE ASTHMA

The following information applies to the prescribing under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) of the biological medicines for uncontrolled severe asthma. Where the term biological medicine appears in the following notes and restrictions it refers to all PBS benefits with the specific PBS indication of 'uncontrolled severe asthma'.

A patient is eligible for PBS-subsidised treatment with only 1 biological medicine for uncontrolled severe asthma at any one time.

A patient receiving PBS-subsidised treatment for uncontrolled severe asthma is able to commence a treatment cycle where they may trial a biological medicine without having to experience a disease flare when swapping to an alternate biological medicine within the same treatment cycle.

Under these arrangements, within a treatment cycle, a patient may receive long-term treatment with a biological medicine as long as they sustain a response to therapy.

A patient currently receiving PBS-subsidised treatment as of 1 April 2021 is considered to have started a cycle of treatment. Within the same treatment cycle, a patient cannot trial and fail, or cease to respond to, the same PBS-subsidised biological medicine more than once.

Therefore, once a patient fails to meet the response criteria for a PBS-subsidised biological medicine, they must change to an alternate biological medicine if they wish to continue PBS-subsidised biological treatment.

Once a patient has either failed to achieve or sustain a response to treatment 4 times, they are deemed to have completed a single treatment cycle. They must have at least a 12-month break in PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy before they are eligible to recommence another new treatment cycle [further details are under 'Recommencement of treatment after a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy' below].

The length of the break in therapy is measured from the date the most recent treatment with a PBS-subsidised biological medicine is ceased until the date of the first application for recommencement of treatment with a biological medicine under the new treatment cycle.

There is no limit to the number of treatment cycles that a patient may undertake in their lifetime.

How to prescribe PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment for uncontrolled severe asthma.

(1) Initial treatment:

Applications for initial treatment should be made where:

(i) a patient has not received prior PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment and wishes to commence such therapy (Initial 1 restriction); or

(ii) a patient has received prior PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine and wishes to recommence a new treatment cycle with this biological medicine following a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy (Initial 1 restriction); or

(iii) a patient has received prior PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy and wishes to trial an alternate biological medicine within the same treatment cycle (Initial 2 restriction) - [further details are under 'Swapping therapy' below].

All applications for initial treatment will be limited to provide for a maximum of up to 32 weeks of therapy of a biological medicine. It is recommended that a patient be reviewed in the month prior to completing their course of initial treatment to ensure uninterrupted biological medicine supply.

(2) Continuing treatment:

Following the completion of an initial treatment course with a specific biological medicine, a patient may qualify to receive up to 24 weeks of continuing treatment with that biological medicine providing they have demonstrated an adequate response to treatment. The patient remains eligible to receive continuing biological medicine treatment with the same drug in courses of up to 24 weeks providing they continue to sustain the response. It is recommended that a patient be reviewed the month prior to completing their current course of treatment to ensure uninterrupted biological medicine supply.

(3) Baseline measurements to determine response:

Baseline measurements of the Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ; 5 item version) or oral corticosteroid dose submitted with the Initial authority application for a biological medicine must be used to determine whether an adequate response to treatment has been achieved or sustained.

For patients transitioned from the paediatric to the adolescent/adult restriction, the exacerbation history may also be used to determine response.

However, prescribers may provide new baseline measurements when a new Initial treatment authority application is submitted and these new baseline measurements may be used to assess response.

(4) Swapping therapy within the same treatment cycle.

Once initial treatment with the first PBS-subsidised biological medicine is approved, a patient may swap to an alternate biological medicine at any time by qualifying under an Initial 2 restriction.

However, they cannot swap to a particular biological medicine if they have failed to respond to prior treatment with that drug within the same treatment cycle.

Within the same treatment cycle a patient may alternate between therapy with any biological medicine of their choice (1 at a time) providing:

(i) they have not received PBS-subsidised treatment with that particular biological medicine previously; or

(ii) they have demonstrated an adequate response to that particular biological medicine if they have previously trialed it on the PBS; and

(iii) they have not previously failed to respond to treatment with all 4 biological medicines in this treatment cycle.

(5) Re-commencement of a new treatment cycle after a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy:
A patient who wishes to trial a second or subsequent new treatment cycle, following a break in PBS-subsidised therapy of at least 12 months (in patients who have failed to achieve or ceased to sustain a response to treatment 4 times within a treatment cycle), must re-qualify through an Initial 1 restriction.

(6) Monitoring of patients:

Omaliuzumab only:

Anaphylaxis and anaphylactoid reactions have been reported following first or subsequent administration of omalizumab (see Product Information). Patients should be monitored post-injection, and medications for the treatment of anaphylactic reactions should be available for immediate use following administration of omalizumab. Patients should be informed that such reactions are possible and prompt medical attention should be sought if allergic reactions occur.

Note For copies of the ACQ, please contact AstraZeneca Medical Information on 1800 805 342.

Note Any queries concerning the arrangements to prescribe may be directed to Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

Prescribing information (including Authority Application forms and other relevant documentation as applicable) is available on the Services Australia website at www.servicesaustralia.gov.au

Applications for authority to prescribe should be submitted online using the form upload facility in Health Professional Online Services (HPOS) at www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/hpos

Or mailed to:

Services Australia

Complex Drugs

Reply Paid 9826

HOBART TAS 7001

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

Uncontrolled severe asthma

Treatment Phase: Initial treatment - Initial 1 (New patients; or Re commencement of treatment in a new treatment cycle following a break in PBS subsidised biological medicine therapy)

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a medical practitioner who is either a: (i) respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma.

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must be under the care of the same physician for at least 6 months; OR
- Patient must have been diagnosed by a multidisciplinary severe asthma clinic team, **AND**
- Patient must not have received PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine for severe asthma; OR
- Patient must have had a break in treatment of at least 12 months from the most recently approved PBS-subsidised biological medicine for severe asthma, **AND**
- Patient must have a diagnosis of asthma confirmed and documented in the patient's medical records by either a: (i) respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma, defined by at least one of the following standard clinical features: (a) forced expiratory volume (FEV1) reversibility greater than or equal to 12% and greater than or equal to 200 mL at baseline within 30 minutes after administration of salbutamol (200 to 400 micrograms), (b) airway hyperresponsiveness defined as a greater than 20% decline in FEV1 during a direct bronchial provocation test or greater than 15% decline during an indirect bronchial provocation test, (c) peak expiratory flow (PEF) variability of greater than 15% between the two highest and two lowest peak expiratory flow rates during 14 days; OR
- Patient must have a diagnosis of asthma from at least two physicians experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma with the details documented in the patient's medical records, **AND**
- Patient must have a duration of asthma of at least 1 year, **AND**
- Patient must have a blood eosinophil count of at least 300 cells per microlitre in the last 12 months; OR
- Patient must have blood eosinophil count of at least 150 cells per microlitre while receiving treatment with oral corticosteroids in the last 12 months, **AND**
- Patient must have failed to achieve adequate control with optimised asthma therapy, despite formal assessment of and adherence to correct inhaler technique, which has been documented in the patient's medical records, **AND**
- Patient must not receive more than 32 weeks of treatment under this restriction, **AND**
- The treatment must not be used in combination with and within 4 weeks of another PBS-subsidised biological medicine prescribed for severe asthma.

Population criteria:

- Patient must be aged 12 years or older.

Optimised asthma therapy includes:

(i) Adherence to maximal inhaled therapy, including high dose inhaled corticosteroid (ICS) plus long-acting beta-2 agonist (LABA) therapy for at least 12 months, unless contraindicated or not tolerated; **AND**

(ii) treatment with oral corticosteroids, either daily oral corticosteroids for at least 6 weeks, OR a cumulative dose of oral corticosteroids of at least 500 mg prednisolone equivalent in the previous 12 months, unless contraindicated or not tolerated.

If the requirement for treatment with optimised asthma therapy cannot be met because of contraindications according to the relevant TGA-approved Product Information and/or intolerances of a severity necessitating permanent treatment withdrawal, details of the contraindication and/or intolerance must be provided in the Authority application.

The following initiation criteria indicate failure to achieve adequate control and must be demonstrated in all patients at the time of the application:

- (a) an Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) score of at least 2.0, as assessed in the previous month, **AND**

(b) while receiving optimised asthma therapy in the past 12 months, experienced at least 1 admission to hospital for a severe asthma exacerbation, OR 1 severe asthma exacerbation, requiring documented use of systemic corticosteroids (oral corticosteroids initiated or increased for at least 3 days, or parenteral corticosteroids) prescribed/supervised by a physician.

The Asthma Control Questionnaire (5 item version) assessment of the patient's response to this initial course of treatment, and the assessment of oral corticosteroid dose, should be made at around 28 weeks after the first PBS-subsidised dose of this drug under this restriction so that there is adequate time for a response to be demonstrated and for the application for the first continuing therapy to be processed.

This assessment, which will be used to determine eligibility for the first continuing treatment, should be conducted within 4 weeks of the last dose of biological medicine. To avoid an interruption of supply for the first continuing treatment, the assessment should be provided no later than 2 weeks prior to the patient completing their current treatment course, unless the patient is currently on a treatment break. Where a response assessment is not undertaken and provided, the patient will be deemed to have failed to respond to treatment with this drug.

If a patient fails to demonstrate a response to treatment with this drug they will not be eligible to receive further PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition within the same treatment cycle.

A treatment break in PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy of at least 12 months must be observed in a patient who has either failed to achieve or sustain a response to treatment with 4 biological medicines within the same treatment cycle.

The length of the break in therapy is measured from the date the most recent treatment with a PBS-subsidised biological medicine was administered until the date of the first application for recommencement of treatment with a biological medicine under the new treatment cycle.

There is no limit to the number of treatment cycles that a patient may undertake in their lifetime.

A multidisciplinary severe asthma clinic team comprises of:

- (i) A respiratory physician; and
- (ii) A pharmacist, nurse or asthma educator.

At the time of the authority application, medical practitioners should request up to 4 repeats to provide for an initial course of benralizumab sufficient for up to 32 weeks of therapy, at a dose of 30 mg every 4 weeks for the first three doses (weeks 0, 4, and 8) then 30 mg every eight weeks thereafter.

The authority application must be made in writing and must include:

- (1) a completed authority prescription form; and
- (2) a completed authority application form relevant to the indication and treatment phase (the latest version is located on the website specified in the Administrative Advice).

The following must be provided at the time of application and documented in the patient's medical records:

- (a) details (treatment, date of commencement, duration of therapy) of prior optimised asthma drug therapy; and
- (b) if applicable, details of contraindications and/or intolerances of a severity necessitating permanent treatment withdrawal to standard therapy according to the relevant TGA-approved Product Information; and
- (c) details of severe exacerbation/s experienced in the past 12 months while receiving optimised asthma therapy (date and treatment); and
- (d) the eosinophil count and date; and
- (e) Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) score.

Note The Services Australia website (www.servicesaustralia.gov.au) has details of the accepted toxicities, including severity, which will be accepted for the purposes of exempting a patient from the requirement of treatment with optimised asthma therapy.

Note Formal assessment and correction of inhaler technique should be performed in accordance with the National Asthma Council (NAC) Information Paper for Health Professionals on Inhaler Technique (available at www.nationalasthma.org.au); the assessment and adherence to correct technique should be documented in the patient's medical records. Patients can obtain support with inhaler technique through their local Asthma Foundation (1800 645 130).

Authority required

Uncontrolled severe asthma

Treatment Phase: Initial treatment - Initial 2 (Change of treatment)

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a medical practitioner who is either a: (i) respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma.

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must be under the care of the same physician for at least 6 months; OR
- Patient must have been diagnosed by a multidisciplinary severe asthma clinic team, **AND**
- Patient must have received prior PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine for severe asthma in this treatment cycle, **AND**
- Patient must not have failed, or ceased to respond to, PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for severe asthma during the current treatment cycle, **AND**
- Patient must have had a blood eosinophil count of at least 300 cells per microlitre and that is no older than 12 months immediately prior to commencing PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment for severe asthma; OR
- Patient must have had a blood eosinophil count of at least 150 cells per microlitre while receiving treatment with oral corticosteroids and that is no older than 12 months immediately prior to commencing PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment for severe asthma, **AND**
- Patient must not receive more than 32 weeks of treatment under this restriction, **AND**
- The treatment must not be used in combination with and within 4 weeks of another PBS-subsidised biological medicine prescribed for severe asthma.

Population criteria:

- Patient must be aged 12 years or older.

An application for a patient who has received PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment for severe asthma who wishes to change therapy to this biological medicine, must be accompanied by the results of an ACQ-5 assessment of the patient's most recent course of PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment. The assessment must have been made not more than 4 weeks after the last dose of biological medicine. Where a response assessment was not undertaken, the patient will be deemed to have failed to respond to treatment with that previous biological medicine.

An ACQ-5 assessment of the patient may be made at the time of application for treatment (to establish a new baseline score), but should be made again around 28 weeks after the first PBS-subsidised dose of this biological medicine under this restriction so that there is adequate time for a response to be demonstrated and for the application for the first continuing therapy to be processed.

This assessment, which will be used to determine eligibility for the first continuing treatment, should be conducted within 4 weeks of the last dose of biological medicine. To avoid an interruption of supply for the first continuing treatment, the assessment should be provided no later than 2 weeks prior to the patient completing their current treatment course, unless the patient is currently on a treatment break. Where a response assessment is not undertaken and provided, the patient will be deemed to have failed to respond to treatment with this drug.

At the time of the authority application, medical practitioners should request up to 4 repeats to provide for an initial course sufficient for up to 32 weeks of therapy, based on a dose of 30 mg every 4 weeks for the first three doses (weeks 0, 4, and 8) then 30 mg every eight weeks thereafter (refer to the TGA-approved Product Information).

A multidisciplinary severe asthma clinic team comprises of:

- (i) A respiratory physician; and
- (ii) A pharmacist, nurse or asthma educator.

The authority application must be made in writing and must include:

- (1) a completed authority prescription form; and
- (2) a completed authority application form relevant to the indication and treatment phase (the latest version is located on the website specified in the Administrative Advice).

The following must be provided at the time of application and documented in the patient's medical records:

- (a) Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5 item version) score (where a new baseline is being submitted or where the patient has responded to prior treatment); and
- (b) details (date and duration of treatment) of prior biological medicine treatment; and
- (c) eosinophil count and date; and
- (d) if applicable, the dose of the maintenance oral corticosteroid (where the response criteria or baseline is based on corticosteroid dose); and
- (e) the reason for switching therapy (e.g. failure of prior therapy, partial response to prior therapy, adverse event to prior therapy).

benralizumab 30 mg/mL injection, 1 mL pen device

11997K	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	4	..	3194.12	Fasenra Pen [AP]

■ CICLOSPORIN

Caution Careful monitoring of patients is mandatory.

Authority required (STREAMLINED)

9764

Management of transplant rejection

Treatment Phase: Management (initiation, stabilisation and review of therapy)

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have had an organ or tissue transplantation, **AND**
- The treatment must be under the supervision and direction of a transplant unit.

Authority required (STREAMLINED)

9695

Severe atopic dermatitis

Treatment Phase: Management (initiation, stabilisation and review of therapy)

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a dermatologist; OR
- Must be treated by a clinical immunologist.

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be ineffective to other systemic therapies; OR
- The condition must be inappropriate for other systemic therapies.

Authority required (STREAMLINED)

15361

Severe psoriasis

Treatment Phase: Management (initiation, stabilisation and review of therapy)

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be ineffective to other systemic therapies; OR
- The condition must be inappropriate for other systemic therapies, **AND**
- The condition must have caused significant interference with quality of life.

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a medical practitioner who is either: (i) a dermatologist, (ii) a rheumatologist, (iii) general physician; OR

- Must be treated by a medical practitioner in consultation with one of the above specialist types who is either an accredited: (i) dermatology registrar, (ii) rheumatology registrar.

For patients who do not demonstrate an adequate response to ciclosporin, a Psoriasis Area and Severity Index (PASI) assessment must be completed, preferably while on treatment, but no longer than 4 weeks following the cessation of treatment. This assessment will be required for patients who transition to 'biological medicines' for the treatment of 'severe chronic plaque psoriasis'.

This assessment must be documented in the patient's medical records.

Authority required (STREAMLINED)

9694

Nephrotic syndrome

Treatment Phase: Management (initiation, stabilisation and review of therapy)

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have failed prior treatment with steroids and cytostatic drugs; OR
- Patient must be intolerant to treatment with steroids and cytostatic drugs; OR
- The condition must be considered inappropriate for treatment with steroids and cytostatic drugs, **AND**
- Patient must not have renal impairment.

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a nephrologist.

Authority required (STREAMLINED)

9742

Severe active rheumatoid arthritis

Treatment Phase: Management (initiation, stabilisation and review of therapy)

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must have been ineffective to prior treatment with classical slow-acting anti-rheumatic agents (including methotrexate); OR
- The condition must be considered inappropriate for treatment with slow-acting anti-rheumatic agents (including methotrexate).

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a rheumatologist; OR
- Must be treated by a clinical immunologist.

ciclosporin 10 mg capsule, 60

6232B	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	2	5	..	*87.07	Neoral 10 [NV]

ciclosporin 100 mg capsule, 30

6354K	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	4	5	..	*397.43	^a APO-Ciclosporin [TX] ^a Neoral 100 [NV]	^a Cyclosporin Sandoz [NM]

ciclosporin 25 mg capsule, 30

6352H	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	4	5	..	*100.83	^a APO-Ciclosporin [TX] ^a Neoral 25 [NV]	^a Cyclosporin Sandoz [NM]

ciclosporin 50 mg capsule, 30

6353J	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	4	5	..	*199.47	^a APO-Ciclosporin [TX] ^a Neoral 50 [NV]	^a Cyclosporin Sandoz [NM]

ciclosporin 100 mg/mL oral liquid, 50 mL

6125J	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	4	5	..	*1311.83	Neoral [NV]

▪ DAUNORUBICIN + CYTARABINE

Caution Liposomal daunorubicin and cytarabine (Vyxeos) must not be substituted or interchanged with other daunorubicin and/or cytarabine containing products. Due to substantial differences in the pharmacokinetic parameters, the dose and schedule recommendations for Vyxeos are different from other medications that contain daunorubicin and/or cytarabine in other forms.

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

Note No increase in the maximum quantity or number of units may be authorised.

Note No increase in the maximum number of repeats may be authorised.

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

Acute Myeloid Leukaemia

Treatment Phase: Consolidation therapy

Clinical criteria:

- The treatment must be for consolidation treatment following induction treatment with this product, **AND**

- The condition must be either: (i) newly diagnosed therapy-related acute myeloid leukaemia (AML), (ii) newly diagnosed AML with myelodysplasia-related changes (MRC) (prior myelodysplastic syndromes (MDS) or MDS-related cytogenetic or molecular abnormality), **AND**

- The treatment must not exceed two cycles of consolidation therapy under this restriction.

This drug is not PBS-subsidised if it is administered to an in-patient in a public hospital setting.

The TGA-approved Product Information recommended dosing schedule for consolidation is daunorubicin 29 mg/m² and cytarabine 65 mg/m² on days 1 and 3.

With each authority application, state the body surface area (m²) of the patient.

Based on this prescribe up to:

1 vial where the body surface area is between 1 m² to 1.53 m²

2 vials where the body surface area is above 1.53 m² or up to and including 3.07 m²

daunorubicin hydrochloride 44 mg + cytarabine 100 mg injection, 1 vial

14214D	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	2	3	..	*16478.67	Vyxeos [JA]

▪ DAUNORUBICIN + CYTARABINE

Caution Liposomal daunorubicin and cytarabine (Vyxeos) must not be substituted or interchanged with other daunorubicin and/or cytarabine containing products. Due to substantial differences in the pharmacokinetic parameters, the dose and schedule recommendations for Vyxeos are different from other medications that contain daunorubicin and/or cytarabine in other forms.

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

Note No increase in the maximum quantity or number of units may be authorised.

Note No increase in the maximum number of repeats may be authorised.

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

Acute Myeloid Leukaemia

Treatment Phase: Induction therapy

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must not have received prior chemotherapy as induction therapy for this condition, **AND**
- The condition must be either: (i) newly diagnosed therapy-related acute myeloid leukaemia (AML), (ii) newly diagnosed AML with myelodysplasia-related changes (MRC) (prior myelodysplastic syndromes (MDS) or MDS-related cytogenetic or molecular abnormality), **AND**
- The condition must not be either: (i) internal tandem duplication (ITD); (ii) tyrosine kinase domain (TKD) FMS tyrosine kinase 3 (FLT3), mutation positive, **AND**
- Patient must not have favourable cytogenetic risk acute myeloid leukaemia (AML), **AND**
- Patient must have a World Health Organisation (WHO) Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group (ECOG) performance status score of 2 or less, **AND**
- The treatment must not exceed two cycles of induction therapy under this restriction.

This drug is not PBS-subsidised if it is administered to an in-patient in a public hospital setting.

The prescriber must confirm whether the patient has newly diagnosed therapy-related AML or AML-MRC. The test result and date of testing must be provided at the time of application and documented in the patient's file.

The TGA-approved Product Information recommended dosing schedule is as follows:

(i) First Induction: daunorubicin 44 mg/m² and cytarabine 100 mg/m² on days 1, 3 and 5

(ii) Second Induction: daunorubicin 44 mg/m² and cytarabine 100 mg/m² on days 1 and 3

With each authority application, state the body surface area (m²) of the patient.

Based on (i) to (ii), prescribe up to:

1 vial where the body surface area is up to and including 1 m²;

2 vials where the body surface area is above 1 m² or up to and including 2 m²;

3 vials where the body surface area is above 2 m² or up to and including 3 m².

daunorubicin hydrochloride 44 mg + cytarabine 100 mg injection, 1 vial

14170T	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	3	4	..	*24693.66	Vyxeos [JA]

▪ DUPILUMAB

Note TREATMENT OF ADULT AND ADOLESCENT PATIENTS WITH UNCONTROLLED SEVERE ASTHMA

The following information applies to the prescribing under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) of the biological medicines for uncontrolled severe asthma. Where the term biological medicine appears in the following notes and restrictions it refers to all PBS benefits with the specific PBS indication of 'uncontrolled severe asthma'.

A patient is eligible for PBS-subsidised treatment with only 1 biological medicine for uncontrolled severe asthma at any one time.

A patient receiving PBS-subsidised treatment for uncontrolled severe asthma is able to commence a treatment cycle where they may trial a biological medicine without having to experience a disease flare when swapping to an alternate biological medicine within the same treatment cycle.

Under these arrangements, within a treatment cycle, a patient may receive long-term treatment with a biological medicine as long as they sustain a response to therapy.

A patient currently receiving PBS-subsidised treatment as of 1 April 2021 is considered to have started a cycle of treatment.

Within the same treatment cycle, a patient cannot trial and fail, or cease to respond to, the same PBS-subsidised biological medicine more than once.

Therefore, once a patient fails to meet the response criteria for a PBS-subsidised biological medicine, they must change to an alternate biological medicine if they wish to continue PBS-subsidised biological treatment.

Once a patient has either failed to achieve or sustain a response to treatment 4 times, they are deemed to have completed a single treatment cycle. They must have at least a 12-month break in PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy before they are eligible to recommence another new treatment cycle [further details are under 'Recommencement of treatment after a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy' below].

The length of the break in therapy is measured from the date the most recent treatment with a PBS-subsidised biological medicine is ceased until the date of the first application for recommencement of treatment with a biological medicine under the new treatment cycle.

There is no limit to the number of treatment cycles that a patient may undertake in their lifetime.

How to prescribe PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment for uncontrolled severe asthma.

(1) Initial treatment:

Applications for initial treatment should be made where:

(i) a patient has not received prior PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment and wishes to commence such therapy (Initial 1 restriction); or

(ii) a patient has received prior PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine and wishes to recommence a new treatment cycle with this biological medicine following a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy (Initial 1 restriction); or

(iii) a patient has received prior PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy and wishes to trial an alternate biological medicine within the same treatment cycle (Initial 2 restriction) - [further details are under 'Swapping therapy' below].

All applications for initial treatment will be limited to provide for a maximum of up to 32 weeks of therapy of a biological medicine. It is recommended that a patient be reviewed in the month prior to completing their course of initial treatment to ensure uninterrupted biological medicine supply.

(2) Continuing treatment:

Following the completion of an initial treatment course with a specific biological medicine, a patient may qualify to receive up to 24 weeks of continuing treatment with that biological medicine providing they have demonstrated an adequate response to treatment. The patient remains eligible to receive continuing biological medicine treatment with the same drug in courses of up to 24 weeks providing they continue to sustain the response. It is recommended that a patient be reviewed the month prior to completing their current course of treatment to ensure uninterrupted biological medicine supply.

(3) Baseline measurements to determine response:

Baseline measurements of the Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ; 5 item version) or oral corticosteroid dose submitted with the Initial authority application for a biological medicine must be used to determine whether an adequate response to treatment has been achieved or sustained.

For patients transitioned from the paediatric to the adolescent/adult restriction, the exacerbation history may also be used to determine response.

However, prescribers may provide new baseline measurements when a new Initial treatment authority application is submitted and these new baseline measurements may be used to assess response.

(4) Swapping therapy within the same treatment cycle.

Once initial treatment with the first PBS-subsidised biological medicine is approved, a patient may swap to an alternate biological medicine at any time by qualifying under an Initial 2 restriction.

However, they cannot swap to a particular biological medicine if they have failed to respond to prior treatment with that drug within the same treatment cycle.

Within the same treatment cycle a patient may alternate between therapy with any biological medicine of their choice (1 at a time) providing:

(i) they have not received PBS-subsidised treatment with that particular biological medicine previously; or

(ii) they have demonstrated an adequate response to that particular biological medicine if they have previously trialed it on the PBS; and

(iii) they have not previously failed to respond to treatment with all 4 biological medicines in this treatment cycle.

(5) Re-commencement of a new treatment cycle after a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy:

A patient who wishes to trial a second or subsequent new treatment cycle, following a break in PBS-subsidised therapy of at least 12 months (in patients who have failed to achieve or ceased to sustain a response to treatment 4 times within a treatment cycle), must re-qualify through an Initial 1 restriction.

(6) Monitoring of patients:

Omalizumab only:

Anaphylaxis and anaphylactoid reactions have been reported following first or subsequent administration of omalizumab (see Product Information). Patients should be monitored post-injection, and medications for the treatment of anaphylactic reactions should be available for immediate use following administration of omalizumab. Patients should be informed that such reactions are possible and prompt medical attention should be sought if allergic reactions occur.

Note For copies of the ACQ and the calculation sheets please contact Sanofi Medical Information on 1800 818 806 or MedInfo.Australia@sanofi.com

Note Formal assessment and correction of inhaler technique should be performed in accordance with the National Asthma Council (NAC) Information Paper for Health Professionals on Inhaler Technique (available at www.nationalasthma.org.au); the assessment and adherence to correct technique should be documented in the patient's medical records. Patients can obtain support with inhaler technique through their local Asthma Foundation (1800 645 130).

Note Any queries concerning the arrangements to prescribe may be directed to Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

Prescribing information (including Authority Application forms and other relevant documentation as applicable) is available on the Services Australia website at www.servicesaustralia.gov.au

Applications for authority to prescribe should be submitted online using the form upload facility in Health Professional Online Services (HPOS) at www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/hpos

Or mailed to:

Services Australia

Complex Drugs

Reply Paid 9826
HOBART TAS 7001

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

Uncontrolled severe asthma

Treatment Phase: Continuing treatment

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a medical practitioner who is either a: (i) respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma.

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have received this drug as their most recent course of PBS-subsidised biological agent treatment for this condition in this treatment cycle, **AND**
- Patient must have demonstrated or sustained an adequate response to PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition, **AND**
- The treatment must not be used in combination with and within 4 weeks of another PBS-subsidised biological medicine prescribed for severe asthma, **AND**
- Patient must not receive more than 24 weeks of treatment under this restriction.

Population criteria:

- Patient must be aged 12 years or older.

An adequate response to this biological medicine is defined as:

(a) a reduction in the Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) score of at least 0.5 from baseline,

OR

(b) maintenance oral corticosteroid dose reduced by at least 25% from baseline, and no deterioration in ACQ-5 score from baseline or an increase in ACQ-5 score from baseline less than or equal to 0.5.

All applications for second and subsequent continuing treatments with this drug must include a measurement of response to the prior course of therapy. The Asthma Control Questionnaire (5 item version) assessment of the patient's response to the prior course of treatment or the assessment of oral corticosteroid dose, should be made from 20 weeks after the first dose of PBS-subsidised dose of this drug under this restriction so that there is adequate time for a response to be demonstrated and, for the application for continuing therapy to be processed.

The assessment should, where possible, be completed by the same physician who initiated treatment with this drug. This assessment, which will be used to determine eligibility for continuing treatment, should be conducted within 4 weeks of the last dose of biological medicine. To avoid an interruption of supply for the first continuing treatment, the assessment should be provided no later than 2 weeks prior to the patient completing their current treatment course, unless the patient is currently on a treatment break. Where a response assessment is not undertaken and provided, the patient will be deemed to have failed to respond to treatment with this drug.

Where treatment was ceased for clinical reasons despite the patient experiencing improvement, an assessment of the patient's response to treatment made at the time of treatment cessation or retrospectively will be considered to determine whether the patient demonstrated or sustained an adequate response to treatment.

A patient who fails to respond to treatment with this biological medicine for uncontrolled severe asthma will not be eligible to receive further PBS-subsidised treatment with this biological medicine for severe asthma within the current treatment cycle.

A swapping between 200 mg and 300 mg strengths is not permitted as the respective strengths are PBS approved for different patient cohorts.

At the time of the authority application, medical practitioners should request the appropriate number of repeats to provide for a continuing course of this drug sufficient for up to 24 weeks of therapy.

The authority application must be made in writing and must include:

- (1) a completed authority prescription form; and
- (2) a completed authority application form relevant to the indication and treatment phase (the latest version is located on the website specified in the Administrative Advice).

The following information must be provided at the time of application and must be documented in the patient's medical records:

- (a) if applicable, details of maintenance oral corticosteroid dose; and
- (b) a completed Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) score.

dupilumab 300 mg/2 mL injection, 2 x 2 mL syringes

12294C	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	5	..	1658.53	Dupixent [SW]

dupilumab 200 mg/1.14 mL injection, 2 x 1.14 mL syringes

12316F	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	5	..	1658.53	Dupixent [SW]

■ DUPILUMAB

Note TREATMENT OF ADULT AND ADOLESCENT PATIENTS WITH UNCONTROLLED SEVERE ASTHMA

The following information applies to the prescribing under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) of the biological medicines for uncontrolled severe asthma. Where the term biological medicine appears in the following notes and restrictions it refers to all PBS benefits with the specific PBS indication of 'uncontrolled severe asthma'.

A patient is eligible for PBS-subsidised treatment with only 1 biological medicine for uncontrolled severe asthma at any one time.

A patient receiving PBS-subsidised treatment for uncontrolled severe asthma is able to commence a treatment cycle where

they may trial a biological medicine without having to experience a disease flare when swapping to an alternate biological medicine within the same treatment cycle.

Under these arrangements, within a treatment cycle, a patient may receive long-term treatment with a biological medicine as long as they sustain a response to therapy.

A patient currently receiving PBS-subsidised treatment as of 1 April 2021 is considered to have started a cycle of treatment. Within the same treatment cycle, a patient cannot trial and fail, or cease to respond to, the same PBS-subsidised biological medicine more than once.

Therefore, once a patient fails to meet the response criteria for a PBS-subsidised biological medicine, they must change to an alternate biological medicine if they wish to continue PBS-subsidised biological treatment.

Once a patient has either failed to achieve or sustain a response to treatment 4 times, they are deemed to have completed a single treatment cycle. They must have at least a 12-month break in PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy before they are eligible to recommence another new treatment cycle [further details are under 'Recommencement of treatment after a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy' below].

The length of the break in therapy is measured from the date the most recent treatment with a PBS-subsidised biological medicine is ceased until the date of the first application for recommencement of treatment with a biological medicine under the new treatment cycle.

There is no limit to the number of treatment cycles that a patient may undertake in their lifetime.

How to prescribe PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment for uncontrolled severe asthma.

(1) Initial treatment:

Applications for initial treatment should be made where:

(i) a patient has not received prior PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment and wishes to commence such therapy (Initial 1 restriction); or

(ii) a patient has received prior PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine and wishes to recommence a new treatment cycle with this biological medicine following a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy (Initial 1 restriction); or

(iii) a patient has received prior PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy and wishes to trial an alternate biological medicine within the same treatment cycle (Initial 2 restriction) - [further details are under 'Swapping therapy' below].

All applications for initial treatment will be limited to provide for a maximum of up to 32 weeks of therapy of a biological medicine. It is recommended that a patient be reviewed in the month prior to completing their course of initial treatment to ensure uninterrupted biological medicine supply.

(2) Continuing treatment:

Following the completion of an initial treatment course with a specific biological medicine, a patient may qualify to receive up to 24 weeks of continuing treatment with that biological medicine providing they have demonstrated an adequate response to treatment. The patient remains eligible to receive continuing biological medicine treatment with the same drug in courses of up to 24 weeks providing they continue to sustain the response. It is recommended that a patient be reviewed the month prior to completing their current course of treatment to ensure uninterrupted biological medicine supply.

(3) Baseline measurements to determine response:

Baseline measurements of the Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ; 5 item version) or oral corticosteroid dose submitted with the Initial authority application for a biological medicine must be used to determine whether an adequate response to treatment has been achieved or sustained.

For patients transitioned from the paediatric to the adolescent/adult restriction, the exacerbation history may also be used to determine response.

However, prescribers may provide new baseline measurements when a new Initial treatment authority application is submitted and these new baseline measurements may be used to assess response.

(4) Swapping therapy within the same treatment cycle.

Once initial treatment with the first PBS-subsidised biological medicine is approved, a patient may swap to an alternate biological medicine at any time by qualifying under an Initial 2 restriction.

However, they cannot swap to a particular biological medicine if they have failed to respond to prior treatment with that drug within the same treatment cycle.

Within the same treatment cycle a patient may alternate between therapy with any biological medicine of their choice (1 at a time) providing:

(i) they have not received PBS-subsidised treatment with that particular biological medicine previously; or

(ii) they have demonstrated an adequate response to that particular biological medicine if they have previously trialed it on the PBS; and

(iii) they have not previously failed to respond to treatment with all 4 biological medicines in this treatment cycle.

(5) Re-commencement of a new treatment cycle after a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy:

A patient who wishes to trial a second or subsequent new treatment cycle, following a break in PBS-subsidised therapy of at least 12 months (in patients who have failed to achieve or ceased to sustain a response to treatment 4 times within a treatment cycle), must re-qualify through an Initial 1 restriction.

(6) Monitoring of patients:

Omalizumab only:

Anaphylaxis and anaphylactoid reactions have been reported following first or subsequent administration of omalizumab (see Product Information). Patients should be monitored post-injection, and medications for the treatment of anaphylactic reactions should be available for immediate use following administration of omalizumab. Patients should be informed that such reactions are possible and prompt medical attention should be sought if allergic reactions occur.

Note For copies of the ACQ and the calculation sheets please contact Sanofi Medical Information on 1800 818 806 or MedInfo.Australia@sanofi.com

Note Any queries concerning the arrangements to prescribe may be directed to Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

Prescribing information (including Authority Application forms and other relevant documentation as applicable) is available on the Services Australia website at www.servicesaustralia.gov.au

Applications for authority to prescribe should be submitted online using the form upload facility in Health Professional Online Services (HPOS) at www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/hpos

Or mailed to:

Services Australia

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

Uncontrolled severe asthma

Treatment Phase: Initial treatment 1 - (New patient; or Recommencement of treatment in a new treatment cycle following a break in PBS subsidised biological medicine therapy)

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a medical practitioner who is either a: (i) respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma.

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must be under the care of the same physician for at least 6 months; OR
- Patient must have been diagnosed by a multidisciplinary severe asthma clinic team, **AND**
- Patient must not have received PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine for severe asthma; OR
- Patient must have had a break in treatment of at least 12 months from the most recently approved PBS-subsidised biological medicine for severe asthma, **AND**
- Patient must have a diagnosis of asthma confirmed and documented in the patient's medical records by either a: (i) respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma, defined by at least one of the following standard clinical features: (a) forced expiratory volume (FEV1) reversibility greater than or equal to 12% and greater than or equal to 200 mL at baseline within 30 minutes after administration of salbutamol (200 to 400 micrograms), (b) airway hyperresponsiveness defined as a greater than 20% decline in FEV1 during a direct bronchial provocation test or greater than 15% decline during an indirect bronchial provocation test, (c) peak expiratory flow (PEF) variability of greater than 15% between the two highest and two lowest peak expiratory flow rates during 14 days; OR
- Patient must have a diagnosis of asthma from at least two physicians experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma with the details documented in the patient's medical records, **AND**
- Patient must have a duration of asthma of at least 1 year, **AND**
- Patient must have been receiving regular maintenance oral corticosteroids (OCS) in the last 6 months with a stable daily OCS dose of 5 to 35 mg/day of prednisolone or equivalent over the 4 weeks prior to treatment initiation, **AND**
- Patient must have blood eosinophil count of at least 150 cells per microlitre while receiving treatment with oral corticosteroids in the last 12 months; OR
- Patient must have total serum human immunoglobulin E of at least 30 IU/mL, measured in the last 12 months that has past or current evidence of atopy, documented by either: (i) skin prick testing; (ii) an in vitro measure of specific IgE, **AND**
- Patient must have failed to achieve adequate control with optimised asthma therapy, despite formal assessment of and adherence to correct inhaler technique, which has been documented in the patient's medical records, **AND**
- Patient must not receive more than 32 weeks of treatment under this restriction, **AND**
- The treatment must not be used in combination with and within 4 weeks of another PBS-subsidised biological medicine prescribed for severe asthma.

Population criteria:

- Patient must be aged 12 years or older.

Optimised asthma therapy includes:

- (i) Adherence to maximal inhaled therapy, including high dose inhaled corticosteroid (ICS) plus long-acting beta-2 agonist (LABA) therapy for at least 12 months, unless contraindicated or not tolerated; AND
- (ii) treatment with oral corticosteroids as outlined in the clinical criteria.

If the requirement for treatment with optimised asthma therapy cannot be met because of contraindications according to the relevant TGA-approved Product Information and/or intolerances of a severity necessitating permanent treatment withdrawal, details of the contraindication and/or intolerance must be provided in the Authority application.

The following initiation criteria indicate failure to achieve adequate control and must be demonstrated in all patients at the time of the application:

- (a) an Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) score of at least 2.0, as assessed in the previous month, AND
- (b) while receiving optimised asthma therapy in the past 12 months, experienced at least 1 admission to hospital for a severe asthma exacerbation, OR 1 severe asthma exacerbation, requiring documented use of systemic corticosteroids (oral corticosteroids initiated or increased for at least 3 days, or parenteral corticosteroids) prescribed/supervised by a physician.

The Asthma Control Questionnaire (5 item version) assessment of the patient's response to this initial course of treatment, and the assessment of oral corticosteroid dose, should be made at around 28 weeks after the first PBS-subsidised dose of this drug under this restriction so that there is adequate time for a response to be demonstrated and for the application for the first continuing therapy to be processed.

This assessment, which will be used to determine eligibility for the first continuing treatment, should be conducted within 4 weeks of the last dose of biological medicine. To avoid an interruption of supply for the first continuing treatment, the assessment should be provided no later than 2 weeks prior to the patient completing their current treatment course, unless the patient is currently on a treatment break.

If a patient fails to demonstrate a response to treatment with this drug they will not be eligible to receive further PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition within the same treatment cycle.

A treatment break in PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy of at least 12 months must be observed in a patient who has either failed to achieve or sustain a response to treatment with 4 biological medicines within the same treatment cycle.

The length of the break in therapy is measured from the date the most recent treatment with a PBS-subsidised biological medicine was administered until the date of the first application for recommencement of treatment with a biological medicine under the new treatment cycle.

There is no limit to the number of treatment cycles that a patient may undertake in their lifetime.

A multidisciplinary severe asthma clinic team comprises of:

- (i) A respiratory physician; and
- (ii) A pharmacist, nurse or asthma educator.

At the time of the authority application, medical practitioners should request up to 8 repeats to provide for an initial course of dupilumab sufficient for up to 32 weeks of therapy, at a dose of 600 mg as an initial dose, followed by 300 mg every 2 weeks thereafter.

A swapping between 200 mg and 300 mg strengths is not permitted as the respective strengths are PBS approved for different patient cohorts.

The authority application must be made in writing and must include:

- (1) a completed authority prescription form; and
- (2) a completed authority application form relevant to the indication and treatment phase (the latest version is located on the website specified in the Administrative Advice).

The following must be provided at the time of application and documented in the patient's medical records:

- (a) details (treatment, date of commencement, duration of therapy) of prior optimised asthma drug therapy; and
- (b) If applicable, details of contraindications and/or intolerances of a severity necessitating permanent treatment withdrawal to standard therapy according to the relevant TGA-approved Product Information; and
- (c) details of severe exacerbation/s experienced in the past 12 months while receiving optimised asthma therapy (date and treatment); and
- (d) Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) score; and
- (e) if applicable, the eosinophil count and date; and
- (f) if applicable, the IgE result and date.

Note The Services Australia website (www.servicessaustralia.gov.au) has details of the accepted toxicities, including severity, which will be accepted for the purposes of exempting a patient from the requirement of treatment with optimised asthma therapy.

Note Formal assessment and correction of inhaler technique should be performed in accordance with the National Asthma Council (NAC) Information Paper for Health Professionals on Inhaler Technique (available at www.nationalasthma.org.au); the assessment and adherence to correct technique should be documented in the patient's medical records. Patients can obtain support with inhaler technique through their local Asthma Foundation (1800 645 130).

Authority required

Uncontrolled severe asthma

Treatment Phase: Initial treatment - Initial 2 (Change of treatment)

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a medical practitioner who is either a: (i) respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma.

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must be under the care of the same physician for at least 6 months; OR
- Patient must have been diagnosed by a multidisciplinary severe asthma clinic team, **AND**
- Patient must have received prior PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine for severe asthma in this treatment cycle, **AND**
- Patient must not have failed, or ceased to respond to, PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for severe asthma during the current treatment cycle, **AND**
- Patient must have had a blood eosinophil count of at least 150 cells per microlitre while receiving treatment with oral corticosteroids and that is no older than 12 months immediately prior to commencing PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment for severe asthma; OR
- Patient must have each of: (i) total serum human immunoglobulin E of at least 30 IU/mL measured no more than 12 months prior to initiating PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine for severe asthma, (ii) past or current evidence of atopy, documented by skin prick testing or an in vitro measure of specific IgE in the past 12 months or in the 12 months prior to initiating PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine for severe asthma, **AND**
- Patient must have received regular maintenance oral corticosteroids (OCS) in the last 6 months with a stable daily OCS dose of 5 to 35 mg/day of prednisolone or equivalent over the 4 weeks prior to treatment initiation, **AND**
- Patient must not receive more than 32 weeks of treatment under this restriction, **AND**
- The treatment must not be used in combination with and within 4 weeks of another PBS-subsidised biological medicine prescribed for severe asthma.

Population criteria:

- Patient must be aged 12 years or older.

An application for a patient who has received PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment for severe asthma who wishes to change therapy to this biological medicine, must be accompanied by the results of an ACQ-5 assessment of the patient's most recent course of PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment. The assessment must have been made not more than 4 weeks after the last dose of biological medicine. Where a response assessment was not undertaken, the patient will be deemed to have failed to respond to treatment with that previous biological medicine.

An ACQ-5 assessment of the patient may be made at the time of application for treatment (to establish a new baseline score), but should be made again around 28 weeks after the first PBS-subsidised dose of this biological medicine under this restriction so that there is adequate time for a response to be demonstrated and for the application for the first continuing therapy to be processed.

This assessment at around 28 weeks, which will be used to determine eligibility for the first continuing treatment, should be conducted within 4 weeks of the last dose of biological medicine. To avoid an interruption of supply for the first continuing treatment, the assessment should be provided no later than 2 weeks prior to the patient completing their current treatment

course, unless the patient is currently on a treatment break. Where a response assessment is not undertaken and provided, the patient will be deemed to have failed to respond to treatment with this biological medicine.

At the time of the authority application, medical practitioners should request up to 8 repeats to provide for an initial course of dupilumab sufficient for up to 32 weeks of therapy at a dose of 600 mg as an initial dose, followed by 300 mg every 2 weeks thereafter.

A swapping between 200 mg and 300 mg strengths is not permitted as the respective strengths are PBS approved for different patient cohorts.

A multidisciplinary severe asthma clinic team comprises of:

- (i) A respiratory physician; and
- (ii) A pharmacist, nurse or asthma educator.

The authority application must be made in writing and must include:

- (1) a completed authority prescription form; and
- (2) a completed authority application form relevant to the indication and treatment phase (the latest version is located on the website specified in the Administrative Advice).

The following must be provided at the time of application and documented in the patient's medical records:

- (a) Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5 item version) score (where a new baseline is being submitted or where the patient has responded to prior treatment); and
- (b) details (treatment, date of commencement, duration of therapy) of prior biological medicine treatment; and
- (c) if applicable, the eosinophil count and date; and
- (d) if applicable, the dose of the maintenance oral corticosteroid (where the response criteria or baseline is based on corticosteroid dose); and
- (e) if applicable, the IgE result and date; and
- (f) the reason for switching therapy (e.g. failure of prior therapy, partial response to prior therapy, adverse event to prior therapy).

dupilumab 300 mg/2 mL injection, 2 x 2 mL syringes

12310X	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	8	..	1658.53	Dupixent [SW]

▪ DUPILUMAB

Note TREATMENT OF ADULT AND ADOLESCENT PATIENTS WITH UNCONTROLLED SEVERE ASTHMA

The following information applies to the prescribing under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) of the biological medicines for uncontrolled severe asthma. Where the term biological medicine appears in the following notes and restrictions it refers to all PBS benefits with the specific PBS indication of 'uncontrolled severe asthma'.

A patient is eligible for PBS-subsidised treatment with only 1 biological medicine for uncontrolled severe asthma at any one time.

A patient receiving PBS-subsidised treatment for uncontrolled severe asthma is able to commence a treatment cycle where they may trial a biological medicine without having to experience a disease flare when swapping to an alternate biological medicine within the same treatment cycle.

Under these arrangements, within a treatment cycle, a patient may receive long-term treatment with a biological medicine as long as they sustain a response to therapy.

A patient currently receiving PBS-subsidised treatment as of 1 April 2021 is considered to have started a cycle of treatment. Within the same treatment cycle, a patient cannot trial and fail, or cease to respond to, the same PBS-subsidised biological medicine more than once.

Therefore, once a patient fails to meet the response criteria for a PBS-subsidised biological medicine, they must change to an alternate biological medicine if they wish to continue PBS-subsidised biological treatment.

Once a patient has either failed to achieve or sustain a response to treatment 4 times, they are deemed to have completed a single treatment cycle. They must have at least a 12-month break in PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy before they are eligible to recommence another new treatment cycle [further details are under 'Recommencement of treatment after a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy' below].

The length of the break in therapy is measured from the date the most recent treatment with a PBS-subsidised biological medicine is ceased until the date of the first application for recommencement of treatment with a biological medicine under the new treatment cycle.

There is no limit to the number of treatment cycles that a patient may undertake in their lifetime.

How to prescribe PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment for uncontrolled severe asthma.

(1) Initial treatment:

Applications for initial treatment should be made where:

- (i) a patient has not received prior PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment and wishes to commence such therapy (Initial 1 restriction); or
- (ii) a patient has received prior PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine and wishes to recommence a new treatment cycle with this biological medicine following a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy (Initial 1 restriction); or
- (iii) a patient has received prior PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy and wishes to trial an alternate biological medicine within the same treatment cycle (Initial 2 restriction) - [further details are under 'Swapping therapy' below].

All applications for initial treatment will be limited to provide for a maximum of up to 32 weeks of therapy of a biological medicine. It is recommended that a patient be reviewed in the month prior to completing their course of initial treatment to ensure uninterrupted biological medicine supply.

(2) Continuing treatment:

Following the completion of an initial treatment course with a specific biological medicine, a patient may qualify to receive up to 24 weeks of continuing treatment with that biological medicine providing they have demonstrated an adequate response to treatment. The patient remains eligible to receive continuing biological medicine treatment with the same drug in courses of up to 24 weeks providing they continue to sustain the response. It is recommended that a patient be reviewed the month prior to completing their current course of treatment to ensure uninterrupted biological medicine supply.

(3) Baseline measurements to determine response:

Baseline measurements of the Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ; 5 item version) or oral corticosteroid dose submitted with the Initial authority application for a biological medicine must be used to determine whether an adequate response to treatment has been achieved or sustained.

For patients transitioned from the paediatric to the adolescent/adult restriction, the exacerbation history may also be used to determine response.

However, prescribers may provide new baseline measurements when a new Initial treatment authority application is submitted and these new baseline measurements may be used to assess response.

(4) Swapping therapy within the same treatment cycle.

Once initial treatment with the first PBS-subsidised biological medicine is approved, a patient may swap to an alternate biological medicine at any time by qualifying under an Initial 2 restriction.

However, they cannot swap to a particular biological medicine if they have failed to respond to prior treatment with that drug within the same treatment cycle.

Within the same treatment cycle a patient may alternate between therapy with any biological medicine of their choice (1 at a time) providing:

(i) they have not received PBS-subsidised treatment with that particular biological medicine previously; or

(ii) they have demonstrated an adequate response to that particular biological medicine if they have previously trialed it on the PBS; and

(iii) they have not previously failed to respond to treatment with all 4 biological medicines in this treatment cycle.

(5) Re-commencement of a new treatment cycle after a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy:

A patient who wishes to trial a second or subsequent new treatment cycle, following a break in PBS-subsidised therapy of at least 12 months (in patients who have failed to achieve or ceased to sustain a response to treatment 4 times within a treatment cycle), must re-qualify through an Initial 1 restriction.

(6) Monitoring of patients:

Omalizumab only:

Anaphylaxis and anaphylactoid reactions have been reported following first or subsequent administration of omalizumab (see Product Information). Patients should be monitored post-injection, and medications for the treatment of anaphylactic reactions should be available for immediate use following administration of omalizumab. Patients should be informed that such reactions are possible and prompt medical attention should be sought if allergic reactions occur.

Note For copies of the ACQ and the calculation sheets please contact Sanofi Medical Information on 1800 818 806 or MedInfo.Australia@sanofi.com

Note Any queries concerning the arrangements to prescribe may be directed to Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

Prescribing information (including Authority Application forms and other relevant documentation as applicable) is available on the Services Australia website at www.servicesaustralia.gov.au

Applications for authority to prescribe should be submitted online using the form upload facility in Health Professional Online Services (HPOS) at www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/hpos

Or mailed to:

Services Australia
Complex Drugs
Reply Paid 9826
HOBART TAS 7001

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

Uncontrolled severe asthma

Treatment Phase: Initial treatment 1 - (New patient; or Recommencement of treatment in a new treatment cycle following a break in PBS subsidised biological medicine therapy)

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a medical practitioner who is either a: (i) respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma.

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must be under the care of the same physician for at least 6 months; OR
- Patient must have been diagnosed by a multidisciplinary severe asthma clinic team, **AND**
- Patient must not have received PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine for severe asthma; OR
- Patient must have had a break in treatment of at least 12 months from the most recently approved PBS-subsidised biological medicine for severe asthma, **AND**
- Patient must have a diagnosis of asthma confirmed and documented in the patient's medical records by either a: (i) respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma, defined by at least one of the following standard clinical features: (a) forced expiratory volume (FEV1) reversibility greater than or equal to 12% and greater than or equal to 200 mL at baseline within 30 minutes after administration of salbutamol (200 to 400 micrograms), (b) airway hyperresponsiveness defined as a greater than 20% decline in FEV1 during a direct bronchial provocation test or greater than 15% decline during an indirect bronchial provocation test, (c) peak expiratory flow (PEF) variability of greater than 15% between the two highest and two lowest peak expiratory flow rates during 14 days; OR
- Patient must have a diagnosis of asthma from at least two physicians experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma with the details documented in the patient's medical records, **AND**
- Patient must have a duration of asthma of at least 1 year, **AND**
- Patient must have a blood eosinophil count of at least 300 cells per microlitre in the last 12 months; OR
- Patient must have blood eosinophil count of at least 150 cells per microlitre while receiving treatment with oral corticosteroids in the last 12 months; OR

- Patient must have total serum human immunoglobulin E of at least 30 IU/mL, measured in the last 12 months that has past or current evidence of atopy, documented by either: (i) skin prick testing; (ii) an in vitro measure of specific IgE, **AND**
- Patient must have failed to achieve adequate control with optimised asthma therapy, despite formal assessment of and adherence to correct inhaler technique, which has been documented in the patient's medical records, **AND**
- Patient must not receive more than 32 weeks of treatment under this restriction, **AND**
- The treatment must not be used in combination with and within 4 weeks of another PBS-subsidised biological medicine prescribed for severe asthma.

Population criteria:

- Patient must be aged 12 years or older.

Optimised asthma therapy includes:

- (i) Adherence to maximal inhaled therapy, including high dose inhaled corticosteroid (ICS) plus long-acting beta-2 agonist (LABA) therapy for at least 12 months, unless contraindicated or not tolerated; **AND**
- (ii) treatment with oral corticosteroids, either daily oral corticosteroids for at least 6 weeks, **OR** a cumulative dose of oral corticosteroids of at least 500 mg prednisolone equivalent in the previous 12 months, unless contraindicated or not tolerated.

If the requirement for treatment with optimised asthma therapy cannot be met because of contraindications according to the relevant TGA-approved Product Information and/or intolerances of a severity necessitating permanent treatment withdrawal, details of the contraindication and/or intolerance must be provided in the Authority application.

The following initiation criteria indicate failure to achieve adequate control and must be demonstrated in all patients at the time of the application:

- (a) an Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) score of at least 2.0, as assessed in the previous month, **AND**
- (b) while receiving optimised asthma therapy in the past 12 months, experienced at least 1 admission to hospital for a severe asthma exacerbation, **OR** 1 severe asthma exacerbation, requiring documented use of systemic corticosteroids (oral corticosteroids initiated or increased for at least 3 days, or parenteral corticosteroids) prescribed/supervised by a physician. The Asthma Control Questionnaire (5 item version) assessment of the patient's response to this initial course of treatment, and the assessment of oral corticosteroid dose, should be made at around 28 weeks after the first PBS-subsidised dose of this drug under this restriction so that there is adequate time for a response to be demonstrated and for the application for the first continuing therapy to be processed.

This assessment, which will be used to determine eligibility for the first continuing treatment, should be conducted within 4 weeks of the last dose of biological medicine. To avoid an interruption of supply for the first continuing treatment, the assessment should be provided no later than 2 weeks prior to the patient completing their current treatment course, unless the patient is currently on a treatment break.

If a patient fails to demonstrate a response to treatment with this drug they will not be eligible to receive further PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition within the same treatment cycle.

A treatment break in PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy of at least 12 months must be observed in a patient who has either failed to achieve or sustain a response to treatment with 4 biological medicines within the same treatment cycle.

The length of the break in therapy is measured from the date the most recent treatment with a PBS-subsidised biological medicine was administered until the date of the first application for recommencement of treatment with a biological medicine under the new treatment cycle.

There is no limit to the number of treatment cycles that a patient may undertake in their lifetime.

A multidisciplinary severe asthma clinic team comprises of:

- (i) A respiratory physician; and
- (ii) A pharmacist, nurse or asthma educator.

At the time of the authority application, medical practitioners should request up to 8 repeats to provide for an initial course of dupilumab sufficient for up to 32 weeks of therapy, at a dose of 400 mg as an initial dose, followed by 200 mg every 2 weeks thereafter.

A swapping between 200 mg and 300 mg strengths is not permitted as the respective strengths are PBS approved for different patient cohorts.

The authority application must be made in writing and must include:

- (1) a completed authority prescription form; and
- (2) a completed authority application form relevant to the indication and treatment phase (the latest version is located on the website specified in the Administrative Advice).

The following must be provided at the time of application and documented in the patient's medical records:

- (a) details (treatment, date of commencement, duration of therapy) of prior optimised asthma drug therapy; and
- (b) If applicable, details of contraindications and/or intolerances of a severity necessitating permanent treatment withdrawal to standard therapy according to the relevant TGA-approved Product Information; and
- (c) details of severe exacerbation/s experienced in the past 12 months while receiving optimised asthma therapy (date and treatment); and
- (d) Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) score; and
- (e) if applicable, the eosinophil count and date; and
- (f) if applicable, the IgE result and date.

Note The Services Australia website (www.servicesaustralia.gov.au) has details of the accepted toxicities, including severity, which will be accepted for the purposes of exempting a patient from the requirement of treatment with optimised asthma therapy.

Note Formal assessment and correction of inhaler technique should be performed in accordance with the National Asthma Council (NAC) Information Paper for Health Professionals on Inhaler Technique (available at www.nationalasthma.org.au); the assessment and adherence to correct technique should be documented in the patient's medical records. Patients can obtain support with inhaler technique through their local Asthma Foundation (1800 645 130).

Authority required

Uncontrolled severe asthma

Treatment Phase: Initial treatment - Initial 2 (Change of treatment)

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a medical practitioner who is either a: (i) respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma.

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must be under the care of the same physician for at least 6 months; OR
- Patient must have been diagnosed by a multidisciplinary severe asthma clinic team, **AND**
- Patient must have received prior PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine for severe asthma in this treatment cycle, **AND**
- Patient must not have failed, or ceased to respond to, PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for severe asthma during the current treatment cycle, **AND**
- Patient must have had a blood eosinophil count of at least 300 cells per microlitre and that is no older than 12 months immediately prior to commencing PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment for severe asthma; OR
- Patient must have had a blood eosinophil count of at least 150 cells per microlitre while receiving treatment with oral corticosteroids and that is no older than 12 months immediately prior to commencing PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment for severe asthma; OR
- Patient must have had a total serum human immunoglobulin E of at least 30 IU/mL, measured no more than 12 months prior to initiating PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine for severe asthma, that has past or current evidence of atopy, documented by either: (i) skin prick testing; (ii) an in vitro measure of specific IgE, **AND**
- Patient must not receive more than 32 weeks of treatment under this restriction, **AND**
- The treatment must not be used in combination with and within 4 weeks of another PBS-subsidised biological medicine prescribed for severe asthma.

Population criteria:

- Patient must be aged 12 years or older.

An application for a patient who has received PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment for severe asthma who wishes to change therapy to this biological medicine, must be accompanied by the results of an ACQ-5 assessment of the patient's most recent course of PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment. The assessment must have been made not more than 4 weeks after the last dose of biological medicine. Where a response assessment was not undertaken, the patient will be deemed to have failed to respond to treatment with that previous biological medicine.

An ACQ-5 assessment of the patient may be made at the time of application for treatment (to establish a new baseline score), but should be made again around 28 weeks after the first PBS-subsidised dose of this biological medicine under this restriction so that there is adequate time for a response to be demonstrated and for the application for the first continuing therapy to be processed.

This assessment at around 28 weeks, which will be used to determine eligibility for the first continuing treatment, should be conducted within 4 weeks of the last dose of biological medicine. To avoid an interruption of supply for the first continuing treatment, the assessment should be provided no later than 2 weeks prior to the patient completing their current treatment course, unless the patient is currently on a treatment break. Where a response assessment is not undertaken and provided, the patient will be deemed to have failed to respond to treatment with this biological medicine.

At the time of the authority application, medical practitioners should request up to 8 repeats to provide for an initial course of dupilumab sufficient for up to 32 weeks of therapy, at a dose of 400 mg as an initial dose, followed by 200 mg every 2 weeks thereafter.

A swapping between 200 mg and 300 mg strengths is not permitted as the respective strengths are PBS approved for different patient cohorts.

A multidisciplinary severe asthma clinic team comprises of:

- (i) A respiratory physician; and
- (ii) A pharmacist, nurse or asthma educator.

The authority application must be made in writing and must include:

- (1) a completed authority prescription form; and
- (2) a completed authority application form relevant to the indication and treatment phase (the latest version is located on the website specified in the Administrative Advice).

The following must be provided at the time of application and documented in the patient's medical records:

- (a) Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5 item version) score (where a new baseline is being submitted or where the patient has responded to prior treatment); and
- (b) details (treatment, date of commencement, duration of therapy) of prior biological medicine treatment; and
- (c) if applicable, the eosinophil count and date; and
- (d) if applicable, the dose of the maintenance oral corticosteroid (where the response criteria or baseline is based on corticosteroid dose); and
- (e) if applicable, the IgE result and date; and
- (f) the reason for switching therapy (e.g. failure of prior therapy, partial response to prior therapy, adverse event to prior therapy).

dupilumab 200 mg/1.14 mL injection, 2 x 1.14 mL syringes

12313C	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	8	..	1658.53	Dupilent [SW]

▪ **MEPOLIZUMAB**

Note TREATMENT OF ADULT AND ADOLESCENT PATIENTS WITH UNCONTROLLED SEVERE ASTHMA

The following information applies to the prescribing under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) of the biological

medicines for uncontrolled severe asthma. Where the term biological medicine appears in the following notes and restrictions it refers to all PBS benefits with the specific PBS indication of 'uncontrolled severe asthma'.

A patient is eligible for PBS-subsidised treatment with only 1 biological medicine for uncontrolled severe asthma at any one time.

A patient receiving PBS-subsidised treatment for uncontrolled severe asthma is able to commence a treatment cycle where they may trial a biological medicine without having to experience a disease flare when swapping to an alternate biological medicine within the same treatment cycle.

Under these arrangements, within a treatment cycle, a patient may receive long-term treatment with a biological medicine as long as they sustain a response to therapy.

A patient currently receiving PBS-subsidised treatment as of 1 April 2021 is considered to have started a cycle of treatment. Within the same treatment cycle, a patient cannot trial and fail, or cease to respond to, the same PBS-subsidised biological medicine more than once.

Therefore, once a patient fails to meet the response criteria for a PBS-subsidised biological medicine, they must change to an alternate biological medicine if they wish to continue PBS-subsidised biological treatment.

Once a patient has either failed to achieve or sustain a response to treatment 4 times, they are deemed to have completed a single treatment cycle. They must have at least a 12-month break in PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy before they are eligible to recommence another new treatment cycle [further details are under 'Recommencement of treatment after a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy' below].

The length of the break in therapy is measured from the date the most recent treatment with a PBS-subsidised biological medicine is ceased until the date of the first application for recommencement of treatment with a biological medicine under the new treatment cycle.

There is no limit to the number of treatment cycles that a patient may undertake in their lifetime.

How to prescribe PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment for uncontrolled severe asthma.

(1) Initial treatment:

Applications for initial treatment should be made where:

(i) a patient has not received prior PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment and wishes to commence such therapy (Initial 1 restriction); or

(ii) a patient has received prior PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine and wishes to recommence a new treatment cycle with this biological medicine following a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy (Initial 1 restriction); or

(iii) a patient has received prior PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy and wishes to trial an alternate biological medicine within the same treatment cycle (Initial 2 restriction) - [further details are under 'Swapping therapy' below].

All applications for initial treatment will be limited to provide for a maximum of up to 32 weeks of therapy of a biological medicine. It is recommended that a patient be reviewed in the month prior to completing their course of initial treatment to ensure uninterrupted biological medicine supply.

(2) Continuing treatment:

Following the completion of an initial treatment course with a specific biological medicine, a patient may qualify to receive up to 24 weeks of continuing treatment with that biological medicine providing they have demonstrated an adequate response to treatment. The patient remains eligible to receive continuing biological medicine treatment with the same drug in courses of up to 24 weeks providing they continue to sustain the response. It is recommended that a patient be reviewed the month prior to completing their current course of treatment to ensure uninterrupted biological medicine supply.

(3) Baseline measurements to determine response:

Baseline measurements of the Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ; 5 item version) or oral corticosteroid dose submitted with the Initial authority application for a biological medicine must be used to determine whether an adequate response to treatment has been achieved or sustained.

For patients transitioned from the paediatric to the adolescent/adult restriction, the exacerbation history may also be used to determine response.

However, prescribers may provide new baseline measurements when a new Initial treatment authority application is submitted and these new baseline measurements may be used to assess response.

(4) Swapping therapy within the same treatment cycle.

Once initial treatment with the first PBS-subsidised biological medicine is approved, a patient may swap to an alternate biological medicine at any time by qualifying under an Initial 2 restriction.

However, they cannot swap to a particular biological medicine if they have failed to respond to prior treatment with that drug within the same treatment cycle.

Within the same treatment cycle a patient may alternate between therapy with any biological medicine of their choice (1 at a time) providing:

(i) they have not received PBS-subsidised treatment with that particular biological medicine previously; or

(ii) they have demonstrated an adequate response to that particular biological medicine if they have previously trialed it on the PBS; and

(iii) they have not previously failed to respond to treatment with all 4 biological medicines in this treatment cycle.

(5) Re-commencement of a new treatment cycle after a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy:

A patient who wishes to trial a second or subsequent new treatment cycle, following a break in PBS-subsidised therapy of at least 12 months (in patients who have failed to achieve or ceased to sustain a response to treatment 4 times within a treatment cycle), must re-qualify through an Initial 1 restriction.

(6) Monitoring of patients:

Omalizumab only:

Anaphylaxis and anaphylactoid reactions have been reported following first or subsequent administration of omalizumab (see Product Information). Patients should be monitored post-injection, and medications for the treatment of anaphylactic reactions should be available for immediate use following administration of omalizumab. Patients should be informed that such reactions are possible and prompt medical attention should be sought if allergic reactions occur.

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

Uncontrolled severe asthma

Treatment Phase: Balance of supply

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a medical practitioner who is either a: (i) respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma.

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have received insufficient therapy with this drug under the Initial 1 (new patients or recommencement of treatment in a new treatment cycle) restriction to complete 32 weeks treatment; OR
- Patient must have received insufficient therapy with this drug under the Initial 2 (change of treatment) restriction to complete 32 weeks treatment; OR
- Patient must have received insufficient therapy with this drug under the Continuing treatment restriction to complete 24 weeks treatment, **AND**
- The treatment must not provide more than the balance of up to 32 weeks of treatment if the most recent authority approval was made under an Initial treatment restriction; OR
- The treatment must not provide more than the balance of up to 24 weeks of treatment if the most recent authority approval was made under the Continuing treatment restriction.

mepolizumab 100 mg injection, 1 vial

11829N	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	..	..	1604.77	Nucala [GK]

mepolizumab 100 mg/mL injection, 1 mL pen device

12043W	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	..	..	1604.77	Nucala [GK]

MEPOLIZUMAB

Note TREATMENT OF ADULT AND ADOLESCENT PATIENTS WITH UNCONTROLLED SEVERE ASTHMA

The following information applies to the prescribing under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) of the biological medicines for uncontrolled severe asthma. Where the term biological medicine appears in the following notes and restrictions it refers to all PBS benefits with the specific PBS indication of 'uncontrolled severe asthma'.

A patient is eligible for PBS-subsidised treatment with only 1 biological medicine for uncontrolled severe asthma at any one time.

A patient receiving PBS-subsidised treatment for uncontrolled severe asthma is able to commence a treatment cycle where they may trial a biological medicine without having to experience a disease flare when swapping to an alternate biological medicine within the same treatment cycle.

Under these arrangements, within a treatment cycle, a patient may receive long-term treatment with a biological medicine as long as they sustain a response to therapy.

A patient currently receiving PBS-subsidised treatment as of 1 April 2021 is considered to have started a cycle of treatment. Within the same treatment cycle, a patient cannot trial and fail, or cease to respond to, the same PBS-subsidised biological medicine more than once.

Therefore, once a patient fails to meet the response criteria for a PBS-subsidised biological medicine, they must change to an alternate biological medicine if they wish to continue PBS-subsidised biological treatment.

Once a patient has either failed to achieve or sustain a response to treatment 4 times, they are deemed to have completed a single treatment cycle. They must have at least a 12-month break in PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy before they are eligible to recommence another new treatment cycle [further details are under 'Recommencement of treatment after a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy' below].

The length of the break in therapy is measured from the date the most recent treatment with a PBS-subsidised biological medicine is ceased until the date of the first application for recommencement of treatment with a biological medicine under the new treatment cycle.

There is no limit to the number of treatment cycles that a patient may undertake in their lifetime.

How to prescribe PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment for uncontrolled severe asthma.

(1) Initial treatment:

Applications for initial treatment should be made where:

- (i) a patient has not received prior PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment and wishes to commence such therapy (Initial 1 restriction); or
- (ii) a patient has received prior PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine and wishes to recommence a new treatment cycle with this biological medicine following a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy (Initial 1 restriction); or
- (iii) a patient has received prior PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy and wishes to trial an alternate biological medicine within the same treatment cycle (Initial 2 restriction) - [further details are under 'Swapping therapy' below].

All applications for initial treatment will be limited to provide for a maximum of up to 32 weeks of therapy of a biological medicine. It is recommended that a patient be reviewed in the month prior to completing their course of initial treatment to ensure uninterrupted biological medicine supply.

(2) Continuing treatment:

Following the completion of an initial treatment course with a specific biological medicine, a patient may qualify to receive up to 24 weeks of continuing treatment with that biological medicine providing they have demonstrated an adequate response to treatment. The patient remains eligible to receive continuing biological medicine treatment with the same drug in courses of up to 24 weeks providing they continue to sustain the response. It is recommended that a patient be reviewed the month prior to completing their current course of treatment to ensure uninterrupted biological medicine supply.

(3) Baseline measurements to determine response:

Baseline measurements of the Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ; 5 item version) or oral corticosteroid dose submitted with the Initial authority application for a biological medicine must be used to determine whether an adequate response to

treatment has been achieved or sustained.

For patients transitioned from the paediatric to the adolescent/adult restriction, the exacerbation history may also be used to determine response.

However, prescribers may provide new baseline measurements when a new Initial treatment authority application is submitted and these new baseline measurements may be used to assess response.

(4) Swapping therapy within the same treatment cycle.

Once initial treatment with the first PBS-subsidised biological medicine is approved, a patient may swap to an alternate biological medicine at any time by qualifying under an Initial 2 restriction.

However, they cannot swap to a particular biological medicine if they have failed to respond to prior treatment with that drug within the same treatment cycle.

Within the same treatment cycle a patient may alternate between therapy with any biological medicine of their choice (1 at a time) providing:

(i) they have not received PBS-subsidised treatment with that particular biological medicine previously; or

(ii) they have demonstrated an adequate response to that particular biological medicine if they have previously trialed it on the PBS; and

(iii) they have not previously failed to respond to treatment with all 4 biological medicines in this treatment cycle.

(5) Re-commencement of a new treatment cycle after a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy:

A patient who wishes to trial a second or subsequent new treatment cycle, following a break in PBS-subsidised therapy of at least 12 months (in patients who have failed to achieve or ceased to sustain a response to treatment 4 times within a treatment cycle), must re-qualify through an Initial 1 restriction.

(6) Monitoring of patients:

Omalizumab only:

Anaphylaxis and anaphylactoid reactions have been reported following first or subsequent administration of omalizumab (see Product Information). Patients should be monitored post-injection, and medications for the treatment of anaphylactic reactions should be available for immediate use following administration of omalizumab. Patients should be informed that such reactions are possible and prompt medical attention should be sought if allergic reactions occur.

Note For copies of the ACQ, please contact GlaxoSmithKline Medical Information on 1800 033 109.

Note Formal assessment and correction of inhaler technique should be performed in accordance with the National Asthma Council (NAC) Information Paper for Health Professionals on Inhaler Technique (available at www.nationalasthma.org.au); the assessment and adherence to correct technique should be documented in the patient's medical records. Patients can obtain support with inhaler technique through their local Asthma Foundation (1800 645 130).

Note Any queries concerning the arrangements to prescribe may be directed to Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

Prescribing information (including Authority Application forms and other relevant documentation as applicable) is available on the Services Australia website at www.servicesaustralia.gov.au

Applications for authority to prescribe should be submitted online using the form upload facility in Health Professional Online Services (HPOS) at www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/hpos

Or mailed to:

Services Australia
Complex Drugs
Reply Paid 9826
HOBART TAS 7001

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

Uncontrolled severe asthma

Treatment Phase: Continuing treatment

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a medical practitioner who is either a: (i) respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma.

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have received this drug as their most recent course of PBS-subsidised biological agent treatment for this condition in this treatment cycle, **AND**
- Patient must have demonstrated or sustained an adequate response to PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition, **AND**
- The treatment must not be used in combination with and within 4 weeks of another PBS-subsidised biological medicine prescribed for severe asthma, **AND**
- Patient must not receive more than 24 weeks of treatment under this restriction.

Population criteria:

- Patient must be aged 12 years or older.

An adequate response to this biological medicine is defined as:

(a) a reduction in the Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) score of at least 0.5 from baseline,

OR

(b) maintenance oral corticosteroid dose reduced by at least 25% from baseline, and no deterioration in ACQ-5 score from baseline or an increase in ACQ-5 score from baseline less than or equal to 0.5.

All applications for second and subsequent continuing treatments with this drug must include a measurement of response to the prior course of therapy. The Asthma Control Questionnaire (5 item version) assessment of the patient's response to the prior course of treatment or the assessment of oral corticosteroid dose, should be made from 20 weeks after the first dose of PBS-subsidised dose of this drug under this restriction so that there is adequate time for a response to be demonstrated and for the application for continuing therapy to be processed.

The assessment should, where possible, be completed by the same physician who initiated treatment with this drug. This assessment, which will be used to determine eligibility for the first continuing treatment, should be conducted within 4 weeks

of the last dose of biological medicine. To avoid an interruption of supply for the first continuing treatment, the assessment should be provided no later than 2 weeks prior to the patient completing their current treatment course, unless the patient is currently on a treatment break. Where a response assessment is not undertaken and provided, the patient will be deemed to have failed to respond to treatment with this drug.

Where treatment was ceased for clinical reasons despite the patient experiencing improvement, an assessment of the patient's response to treatment made at the time of treatment cessation or retrospectively will be considered to determine whether the patient demonstrated or sustained an adequate response to treatment.

A patient who fails to respond to treatment with this biological medicine for uncontrolled severe asthma will not be eligible to receive further PBS-subsidised treatment with this biological medicine for severe asthma within the current treatment cycle.

At the time of the authority application, medical practitioners should request the appropriate number of repeats to provide for a continuing course of this drug sufficient for up to 24 weeks of therapy.

The authority application must be made in writing and must include:

- (1) a completed authority prescription form; and
- (2) a completed authority application form relevant to the indication and treatment phase (the latest version is located on the website specified in the Administrative Advice).

The following information must be provided at the time of application and must be documented in the patient's medical records:

- (a) if applicable, details of maintenance oral corticosteroid dose; and
- (b) a completed Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) score.

mepolizumab 100 mg injection, 1 vial

11014Q	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	5	..	1604.77	Nucala [GK]

mepolizumab 100 mg/mL injection, 1 mL pen device

12052H	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	5	..	1604.77	Nucala [GK]

■ MEPOLIZUMAB

Note TREATMENT OF ADULT AND ADOLESCENT PATIENTS WITH UNCONTROLLED SEVERE ASTHMA

The following information applies to the prescribing under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) of the biological medicines for uncontrolled severe asthma. Where the term biological medicine appears in the following notes and restrictions it refers to all PBS benefits with the specific PBS indication of 'uncontrolled severe asthma'.

A patient is eligible for PBS-subsidised treatment with only 1 biological medicine for uncontrolled severe asthma at any one time.

A patient receiving PBS-subsidised treatment for uncontrolled severe asthma is able to commence a treatment cycle where they may trial a biological medicine without having to experience a disease flare when swapping to an alternate biological medicine within the same treatment cycle.

Under these arrangements, within a treatment cycle, a patient may receive long-term treatment with a biological medicine as long as they sustain a response to therapy.

A patient currently receiving PBS-subsidised treatment as of 1 April 2021 is considered to have started a cycle of treatment. Within the same treatment cycle, a patient cannot trial and fail, or cease to respond to, the same PBS-subsidised biological medicine more than once.

Therefore, once a patient fails to meet the response criteria for a PBS-subsidised biological medicine, they must change to an alternate biological medicine if they wish to continue PBS-subsidised biological treatment.

Once a patient has either failed to achieve or sustain a response to treatment 4 times, they are deemed to have completed a single treatment cycle. They must have at least a 12-month break in PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy before they are eligible to recommence another new treatment cycle [further details are under 'Recommencement of treatment after a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy' below].

The length of the break in therapy is measured from the date the most recent treatment with a PBS-subsidised biological medicine is ceased until the date of the first application for recommencement of treatment with a biological medicine under the new treatment cycle.

There is no limit to the number of treatment cycles that a patient may undertake in their lifetime.

How to prescribe PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment for uncontrolled severe asthma.

(1) Initial treatment:

Applications for initial treatment should be made where:

- (i) a patient has not received prior PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment and wishes to commence such therapy (Initial 1 restriction); or
- (ii) a patient has received prior PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine and wishes to recommence a new treatment cycle with this biological medicine following a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy (Initial 1 restriction); or
- (iii) a patient has received prior PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy and wishes to trial an alternate biological medicine within the same treatment cycle (Initial 2 restriction) - [further details are under 'Swapping therapy' below].

All applications for initial treatment will be limited to provide for a maximum of up to 32 weeks of therapy of a biological medicine. It is recommended that a patient be reviewed in the month prior to completing their course of initial treatment to ensure uninterrupted biological medicine supply.

(2) Continuing treatment:

Following the completion of an initial treatment course with a specific biological medicine, a patient may qualify to receive up to 24 weeks of continuing treatment with that biological medicine providing they have demonstrated an adequate response to treatment. The patient remains eligible to receive continuing biological medicine treatment with the same drug in courses of up to 24 weeks providing they continue to sustain the response. It is recommended that a patient be reviewed the month prior to completing their current course of treatment to ensure uninterrupted biological medicine supply.

(3) Baseline measurements to determine response:

Baseline measurements of the Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ; 5 item version) or oral corticosteroid dose submitted with the Initial authority application for a biological medicine must be used to determine whether an adequate response to treatment has been achieved or sustained.

For patients transitioned from the paediatric to the adolescent/adult restriction, the exacerbation history may also be used to determine response.

However, prescribers may provide new baseline measurements when a new Initial treatment authority application is submitted and these new baseline measurements may be used to assess response.

(4) Swapping therapy within the same treatment cycle.

Once initial treatment with the first PBS-subsidised biological medicine is approved, a patient may swap to an alternate biological medicine at any time by qualifying under an Initial 2 restriction.

However, they cannot swap to a particular biological medicine if they have failed to respond to prior treatment with that drug within the same treatment cycle.

Within the same treatment cycle a patient may alternate between therapy with any biological medicine of their choice (1 at a time) providing:

(i) they have not received PBS-subsidised treatment with that particular biological medicine previously; or

(ii) they have demonstrated an adequate response to that particular biological medicine if they have previously trialled it on the PBS; and

(iii) they have not previously failed to respond to treatment with all 4 biological medicines in this treatment cycle.

(5) Re-commencement of a new treatment cycle after a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy:

A patient who wishes to trial a second or subsequent new treatment cycle, following a break in PBS-subsidised therapy of at least 12 months (in patients who have failed to achieve or ceased to sustain a response to treatment 4 times within a treatment cycle), must re-qualify through an Initial 1 restriction.

(6) Monitoring of patients:

Omalizumab only:

Anaphylaxis and anaphylactoid reactions have been reported following first or subsequent administration of omalizumab (see Product Information). Patients should be monitored post-injection, and medications for the treatment of anaphylactic reactions should be available for immediate use following administration of omalizumab. Patients should be informed that such reactions are possible and prompt medical attention should be sought if allergic reactions occur.

Note For copies of the ACQ, please contact GlaxoSmithKline Medical Information on 1800 033 109.

Note Any queries concerning the arrangements to prescribe may be directed to Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

Prescribing information (including Authority Application forms and other relevant documentation as applicable) is available on the Services Australia website at www.servicesaustralia.gov.au

Applications for authority to prescribe should be submitted online using the form upload facility in Health Professional Online Services (HPOS) at www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/hpos

Or mailed to:

Services Australia
Complex Drugs
Reply Paid 9826
HOBART TAS 7001

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

Uncontrolled severe asthma

Treatment Phase: Initial treatment - Initial 1 (New patients; or Recommencement of treatment in a new treatment cycle following a break in PBS subsidised biological medicine therapy)

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a medical practitioner who is either a: (i) respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma.

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must be under the care of the same physician for at least 6 months; OR
- Patient must have been diagnosed by a multidisciplinary severe asthma clinic team, **AND**
- Patient must not have received PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine for severe asthma; OR
- Patient must have had a break in treatment of at least 12 months from the most recently approved PBS-subsidised biological medicine for severe asthma, **AND**
- Patient must have a diagnosis of asthma confirmed and documented in the patient's medical records by either a: (i) respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma, defined by at least one of the following standard clinical features: (a) forced expiratory volume (FEV1) reversibility greater than or equal to 12% and greater than or equal to 200 mL at baseline within 30 minutes after administration of salbutamol (200 to 400 micrograms), (b) airway hyperresponsiveness defined as a greater than 20% decline in FEV1 during a direct bronchial provocation test or greater than 15% decline during an indirect bronchial provocation test, (c) peak expiratory flow (PEF) variability of greater than 15% between the two highest and two lowest peak expiratory flow rates during 14 days; OR
- Patient must have a diagnosis of asthma from at least two physicians experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma with the details documented in the patient's medical records, **AND**
- Patient must have a duration of asthma of at least 1 year, **AND**
- Patient must have a blood eosinophil count of at least 300 cells per microlitre in the last 12 months; OR
- Patient must have blood eosinophil count of at least 150 cells per microlitre while receiving treatment with oral corticosteroids in the last 12 months, **AND**
- Patient must have failed to achieve adequate control with optimised asthma therapy, despite formal assessment of and adherence to correct inhaler technique, which has been documented in the patient's medical records, **AND**
- Patient must not receive more than 32 weeks of treatment under this restriction, **AND**

- The treatment must not be used in combination with and within 4 weeks of another PBS-subsidised biological medicine prescribed for severe asthma.

Population criteria:

- Patient must be aged 12 years or older.

Optimised asthma therapy includes:

- (i) Adherence to maximal inhaled therapy, including high dose inhaled corticosteroid (ICS) plus long-acting beta-2 agonist (LABA) therapy for at least 12 months, unless contraindicated or not tolerated; AND
- (ii) treatment with oral corticosteroids, either daily oral corticosteroids for at least 6 weeks, OR a cumulative dose of oral corticosteroids of at least 500 mg prednisolone equivalent in the previous 12 months, unless contraindicated or not tolerated.

If the requirement for treatment with optimised asthma therapy cannot be met because of contraindications according to the relevant TGA-approved Product Information and/or intolerances of a severity necessitating permanent treatment withdrawal, details of the contraindication and/or intolerance must be provided in the Authority application.

The following initiation criteria indicate failure to achieve adequate control and must be demonstrated in all patients at the time of the application:

- (a) an Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) score of at least 2.0, as assessed in the previous month, AND
 - (b) while receiving optimised asthma therapy in the past 12 months, experienced at least 1 admission to hospital for a severe asthma exacerbation, OR 1 severe asthma exacerbation, requiring documented use of systemic corticosteroids (oral corticosteroids initiated or increased for at least 3 days, or parenteral corticosteroids) prescribed/supervised by a physician.
- The Asthma Control Questionnaire (5 item version) assessment of the patient's response to this initial course of treatment, and the assessment of oral corticosteroid dose, should be made at around 28 weeks after the first PBS-subsidised dose of this drug under this restriction so that there is adequate time for a response to be demonstrated and for the application for the first continuing therapy to be processed.

This assessment, which will be used to determine eligibility for the first continuing treatment, should be conducted within 4 weeks of the last dose of biological medicine. To avoid an interruption of supply for the first continuing treatment, the assessment should be provided no later than 2 weeks prior to the patient completing their current treatment course, unless the patient is currently on a treatment break. Where a response assessment is not undertaken and provided, the patient will be deemed to have failed to respond to treatment with this drug.

If a patient fails to demonstrate a response to treatment with this drug they will not be eligible to receive further PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition within the same treatment cycle.

A treatment break in PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy of at least 12 months must be observed in a patient who has either failed to achieve or sustain a response to treatment with 4 biological medicines within the same treatment cycle.

The length of the break in therapy is measured from the date the most recent treatment with a PBS-subsidised biological medicine was administered until the date of the first application for recommencement of treatment with a biological medicine under the new treatment cycle.

There is no limit to the number of treatment cycles that a patient may undertake in their lifetime.

At the time of the authority application, medical practitioners should request up to 7 repeats to provide for an initial course of mepolizumab sufficient for up to 32 weeks of therapy.

A multidisciplinary severe asthma clinic team comprises of:

- (i) A respiratory physician; and
- (ii) A pharmacist, nurse or asthma educator.

The authority application must be made in writing and must include:

- (1) a completed authority prescription form; and
- (2) a completed authority application form relevant to the indication and treatment phase (the latest version is located on the website specified in the Administrative Advice).

The following must be provided at the time of application and documented in the patient's medical records:

- (a) details (treatment, date of commencement, duration of therapy) of prior optimised asthma drug therapy; and
- (b) if applicable, details of contraindications and/or intolerances of a severity necessitating permanent treatment withdrawal to standard therapy according to the relevant TGA-approved Product Information; and
- (c) details of severe exacerbation/s experienced in the past 12 months while receiving optimised asthma therapy (date and treatment); and
- (d) the eosinophil count and date; and
- (e) Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) score.

Note The Services Australia website (www.servicesaustralia.gov.au) has details of the accepted toxicities, including severity, which will be accepted for the purposes of exempting a patient from the requirement of treatment with optimised asthma therapy.

Note Formal assessment and correction of inhaler technique should be performed in accordance with the National Asthma Council (NAC) Information Paper for Health Professionals on Inhaler Technique (available at www.nationalasthma.org.au); the assessment and adherence to correct technique should be documented in the patient's medical records. Patients can obtain support with inhaler technique through their local Asthma Foundation (1800 645 130).

Authority required

Uncontrolled severe asthma

Treatment Phase: Initial treatment - Initial 2 (Change of treatment)

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a medical practitioner who is either a: (i) respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma.

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must be under the care of the same physician for at least 6 months; OR
- Patient must have been diagnosed by a multidisciplinary severe asthma clinic team, **AND**

- Patient must have received prior PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine for severe asthma in this treatment cycle, **AND**
- Patient must not have failed, or ceased to respond to, PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for severe asthma during the current treatment cycle, **AND**
- Patient must have had a blood eosinophil count of at least 300 cells per microlitre and that is no older than 12 months immediately prior to commencing PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment for severe asthma; OR
- Patient must have had a blood eosinophil count of at least 150 cells per microlitre while receiving treatment with oral corticosteroids and that is no older than 12 months immediately prior to commencing PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment for severe asthma, **AND**
- Patient must not receive more than 32 weeks of treatment under this restriction, **AND**
- The treatment must not be used in combination with and within 4 weeks of another PBS-subsidised biological medicine prescribed for severe asthma.

Population criteria:

- Patient must be aged 12 years or older.

An application for a patient who has received PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment for severe asthma who wishes to change therapy to this biological medicine, must be accompanied by the results of an ACQ-5 assessment of the patient's most recent course of PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment. The assessment must have been made not more than 4 weeks after the last dose of biological medicine. Where a response assessment was not undertaken, the patient will be deemed to have failed to respond to treatment with that previous biological medicine.

An ACQ-5 assessment of the patient may be made at the time of application for treatment (to establish a new baseline score), but should be made again around 28 weeks after the first PBS-subsidised dose of this biological medicine under this restriction so that there is adequate time for a response to be demonstrated and for the application for the first continuing therapy to be processed.

This assessment, which will be used to determine eligibility for the first continuing treatment, should be conducted within 4 weeks of the last dose of biological medicine. To avoid an interruption of supply for the first continuing treatment, the assessment should be provided no later than 2 weeks prior to the patient completing their current treatment course, unless the patient is currently on a treatment break. Where a response assessment is not undertaken and provided, the patient will be deemed to have failed to respond to treatment with this drug.

At the time of the authority application, medical practitioners should request up to 7 repeats to provide for an initial course sufficient for up to 32 weeks of therapy.

A multidisciplinary severe asthma clinic team comprises of:

- A respiratory physician; and
- A pharmacist, nurse or asthma educator.

The authority application must be made in writing and must include:

- a completed authority prescription form; and
- a completed authority application form relevant to the indication and treatment phase (the latest version is located on the website specified in the Administrative Advice).

The following must be provided at the time of application and documented in the patient's medical records:

- Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5 item version) score (where a new baseline is being submitted or where the patient has responded to prior treatment); and
- details (date and duration of treatment) of prior biological medicine treatment; and
- eosinophil count and date; and
- if applicable, the dose of the maintenance oral corticosteroid (where the response criteria or baseline is based on corticosteroid dose); and
- the reason for switching therapy (e.g. failure of prior therapy, partial response to prior therapy, adverse event to prior therapy).

mepolizumab 100 mg injection, 1 vial

11003D	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	7	..	1604.77	Nucala [GK]

mepolizumab 100 mg/mL injection, 1 mL pen device

12051G	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	7	..	1604.77	Nucala [GK]

▪ **OCTREOTIDE**

Note Pharmaceutical benefits that have the form octreotide 100 microgram/mL 5 x 1 mL ampoules can be substituted for octreotide 100 microgram/mL 5 x 1 mL vials in the case of a shortage.

Authority required (STREAMLINED)

9233

Acromegaly

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be active, **AND**
- Patient must have persistent elevation of mean growth hormone levels of greater than 2.5 micrograms per litre, **AND**
- The treatment must be after failure of other therapy including dopamine agonists; OR
- The treatment must be as interim treatment while awaiting the effects of radiotherapy and where treatment with dopamine agonists has failed; OR
- The treatment must be in a patient who is unfit for or unwilling to undergo surgery and where radiotherapy is contraindicated, **AND**

- The treatment must cease in a patient treated with radiotherapy if there is biochemical evidence of remission (normal IGF1) after octreotide has been withdrawn for at least 4 weeks, **AND**
 - The treatment must cease if IGF1 is not lower after 3 months of treatment at a dose of 100 micrograms 3 time daily, **AND**
 - The treatment must not be given concomitantly with PBS-subsidised lanreotide or pegvisomant for this condition.
- In a patient treated with radiotherapy, octreotide should be withdrawn every 2 years in the 10 years after radiotherapy for assessment of remission

Authority required (STREAMLINED)

9289

Functional carcinoid tumour

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be causing intractable symptoms, **AND**
- Patient must have experienced on average over 1 week, 3 or more episodes per day of diarrhoea and/or flushing, which persisted despite the use of anti-histamines, anti-serotonin agents and anti-diarrhoea agents, **AND**
- Patient must be one in whom surgery or antineoplastic therapy has failed or is inappropriate, **AND**
- The treatment must cease if there is failure to produce a clinically significant reduction in the frequency and severity of symptoms after 2 months' therapy.

Dosage and tolerance to the drug should be assessed regularly and the dosage should be titrated slowly downwards to determine the minimum effective dose.

Authority required (STREAMLINED)

9232

Vasoactive intestinal peptide secreting tumour (VIPoma)

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be causing intractable symptoms, **AND**
- Patient must have experienced on average over 1 week, 3 or more episodes per day of diarrhoea and/or flushing, which persisted despite the use of anti-histamines, anti-serotonin agents and anti-diarrhoea agents, **AND**
- Patient must be one in whom surgery or antineoplastic therapy has failed or is inappropriate, **AND**
- The treatment must cease if there is failure to produce a clinically significant reduction in the frequency and severity of symptoms after 2 months' therapy.

Dosage and tolerance to the drug should be assessed regularly and the dosage should be titrated slowly downwards to determine the minimum effective dose.

octreotide 100 microgram/mL injection, 5 x 1 mL vials

14177E	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	18	11	..	*696.99	^a Octreotide Acetate Omega (Canada) [GQ]

octreotide 100 microgram/mL injection, 5 x 1 mL ampoules

6228T	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	18	11	..	*396.93	^a Octreotide GH [HQ] ^a Sandostatin 0.1 [NV]	^a Octreotide (SUN) [RA]

▪ **OCTREOTIDE**

Note Pharmaceutical benefits that have the form octreotide 500 microgram/mL 5 x 1 mL ampoules can be substituted for octreotide 500 microgram/mL 5 x 1 mL vials in the case of a shortage

Authority required (STREAMLINED)

9233

Acromegaly

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be active, **AND**
 - Patient must have persistent elevation of mean growth hormone levels of greater than 2.5 micrograms per litre, **AND**
 - The treatment must be after failure of other therapy including dopamine agonists; OR
 - The treatment must be as interim treatment while awaiting the effects of radiotherapy and where treatment with dopamine agonists has failed; OR
 - The treatment must be in a patient who is unfit for or unwilling to undergo surgery and where radiotherapy is contraindicated, **AND**
 - The treatment must cease in a patient treated with radiotherapy if there is biochemical evidence of remission (normal IGF1) after octreotide has been withdrawn for at least 4 weeks, **AND**
 - The treatment must cease if IGF1 is not lower after 3 months of treatment at a dose of 100 micrograms 3 time daily, **AND**
 - The treatment must not be given concomitantly with PBS-subsidised lanreotide or pegvisomant for this condition.
- In a patient treated with radiotherapy, octreotide should be withdrawn every 2 years in the 10 years after radiotherapy for assessment of remission

Authority required (STREAMLINED)

9289

Functional carcinoid tumour

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be causing intractable symptoms, **AND**
- Patient must have experienced on average over 1 week, 3 or more episodes per day of diarrhoea and/or flushing, which persisted despite the use of anti-histamines, anti-serotonin agents and anti-diarrhoea agents, **AND**

- Patient must be one in whom surgery or antineoplastic therapy has failed or is inappropriate, **AND**
- The treatment must cease if there is failure to produce a clinically significant reduction in the frequency and severity of symptoms after 2 months' therapy.

Dosage and tolerance to the drug should be assessed regularly and the dosage should be titrated slowly downwards to determine the minimum effective dose.

Authority required (STREAMLINED)

9232

Vasoactive intestinal peptide secreting tumour (VIPoma)

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be causing intractable symptoms, **AND**
- Patient must have experienced on average over 1 week, 3 or more episodes per day of diarrhoea and/or flushing, which persisted despite the use of anti-histamines, anti-serotonin agents and anti-diarrhoea agents, **AND**
- Patient must be one in whom surgery or antineoplastic therapy has failed or is inappropriate, **AND**
- The treatment must cease if there is failure to produce a clinically significant reduction in the frequency and severity of symptoms after 2 months' therapy.

Dosage and tolerance to the drug should be assessed regularly and the dosage should be titrated slowly downwards to determine the minimum effective dose.

octreotide 500 microgram/mL injection, 5 x 1 mL vials

14201K	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	18	11	..	*1919.01	^a Octreotide Acetate Omega (Canada) [GQ]

octreotide 500 microgram/mL injection, 5 x 1 mL ampoules

6229W	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	18	11	..	*1919.01	^a Octreotide GH [HQ]	^a Octreotide (SUN) [RA]
					^a Sandostatin 0.5 [NV]	

▪ **OCTREOTIDE**

Note Pharmaceutical benefits that have the form octreotide 50 microgram/mL 5 x 1 mL ampoules can be substituted for octreotide 50 microgram/mL 5 x 1 mL vials in the case of a shortage.

Authority required (STREAMLINED)

9233

Acromegaly

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be active, **AND**
- Patient must have persistent elevation of mean growth hormone levels of greater than 2.5 micrograms per litre, **AND**
- The treatment must be after failure of other therapy including dopamine agonists; OR
- The treatment must be as interim treatment while awaiting the effects of radiotherapy and where treatment with dopamine agonists has failed; OR
- The treatment must be in a patient who is unfit for or unwilling to undergo surgery and where radiotherapy is contraindicated, **AND**
- The treatment must cease in a patient treated with radiotherapy if there is biochemical evidence of remission (normal IGF1) after octreotide has been withdrawn for at least 4 weeks, **AND**
- The treatment must cease if IGF1 is not lower after 3 months of treatment at a dose of 100 micrograms 3 time daily, **AND**
- The treatment must not be given concomitantly with PBS-subsidised lanreotide or pegvisomant for this condition.

In a patient treated with radiotherapy, octreotide should be withdrawn every 2 years in the 10 years after radiotherapy for assessment of remission

Authority required (STREAMLINED)

9289

Functional carcinoid tumour

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be causing intractable symptoms, **AND**
- Patient must have experienced on average over 1 week, 3 or more episodes per day of diarrhoea and/or flushing, which persisted despite the use of anti-histamines, anti-serotonin agents and anti-diarrhoea agents, **AND**
- Patient must be one in whom surgery or antineoplastic therapy has failed or is inappropriate, **AND**
- The treatment must cease if there is failure to produce a clinically significant reduction in the frequency and severity of symptoms after 2 months' therapy.

Dosage and tolerance to the drug should be assessed regularly and the dosage should be titrated slowly downwards to determine the minimum effective dose.

Authority required (STREAMLINED)

9232

Vasoactive intestinal peptide secreting tumour (VIPoma)

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be causing intractable symptoms, **AND**
- Patient must have experienced on average over 1 week, 3 or more episodes per day of diarrhoea and/or flushing, which persisted despite the use of anti-histamines, anti-serotonin agents and anti-diarrhoea agents, **AND**
- Patient must be one in whom surgery or antineoplastic therapy has failed or is inappropriate, **AND**

- The treatment must cease if there is failure to produce a clinically significant reduction in the frequency and severity of symptoms after 2 months' therapy.

Dosage and tolerance to the drug should be assessed regularly and the dosage should be titrated slowly downwards to determine the minimum effective dose.

octreotide 50 microgram/mL injection, 5 x 1 mL vials

14213C	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	18	11	..	*691.05	^a Octreotide Acetate Omega (Canada) [GQ]

octreotide 50 microgram/mL injection, 5 x 1 mL ampoules

6227R	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	18	11	..	*203.07	^a Octreotide GH [HQ]	^a Octreotide (SUN) [RA]
					^a Sandostatin 0.05 [NV]	

■ OMALIZUMAB

Note TREATMENT OF ADULT AND ADOLESCENT PATIENTS WITH UNCONTROLLED SEVERE ASTHMA

The following information applies to the prescribing under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) of the biological medicines for uncontrolled severe asthma. Where the term biological medicine appears in the following notes and restrictions it refers to all PBS benefits with the specific PBS indication of 'uncontrolled severe asthma'.

A patient is eligible for PBS-subsidised treatment with only 1 biological medicine for uncontrolled severe asthma at any one time.

A patient receiving PBS-subsidised treatment for uncontrolled severe asthma is able to commence a treatment cycle where they may trial a biological medicine without having to experience a disease flare when swapping to an alternate biological medicine within the same treatment cycle.

Under these arrangements, within a treatment cycle, a patient may receive long-term treatment with a biological medicine as long as they sustain a response to therapy.

A patient currently receiving PBS-subsidised treatment as of 1 April 2021 is considered to have started a cycle of treatment. Within the same treatment cycle, a patient cannot trial and fail, or cease to respond to, the same PBS-subsidised biological medicine more than once.

Therefore, once a patient fails to meet the response criteria for a PBS-subsidised biological medicine, they must change to an alternate biological medicine if they wish to continue PBS-subsidised biological treatment.

Once a patient has either failed to achieve or sustain a response to treatment 4 times, they are deemed to have completed a single treatment cycle. They must have at least a 12-month break in PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy before they are eligible to recommence another new treatment cycle [further details are under 'Recommencement of treatment after a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy' below].

The length of the break in therapy is measured from the date the most recent treatment with a PBS-subsidised biological medicine is ceased until the date of the first application for recommencement of treatment with a biological medicine under the new treatment cycle.

There is no limit to the number of treatment cycles that a patient may undertake in their lifetime.

How to prescribe PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment for uncontrolled severe asthma.

(1) Initial treatment:

Applications for initial treatment should be made where:

(i) a patient has not received prior PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment and wishes to commence such therapy (Initial 1 restriction); or

(ii) a patient has received prior PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine and wishes to recommence a new treatment cycle with this biological medicine following a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy (Initial 1 restriction); or

(iii) a patient has received prior PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy and wishes to trial an alternate biological medicine within the same treatment cycle (Initial 2 restriction) - [further details are under 'Swapping therapy' below].

All applications for initial treatment will be limited to provide for a maximum of up to 32 weeks of therapy of a biological medicine. It is recommended that a patient be reviewed in the month prior to completing their course of initial treatment to ensure uninterrupted biological medicine supply.

(2) Continuing treatment:

Following the completion of an initial treatment course with a specific biological medicine, a patient may qualify to receive up to 24 weeks of continuing treatment with that biological medicine providing they have demonstrated an adequate response to treatment. The patient remains eligible to receive continuing biological medicine treatment with the same drug in courses of up to 24 weeks providing they continue to sustain the response. It is recommended that a patient be reviewed the month prior to completing their current course of treatment to ensure uninterrupted biological medicine supply.

(3) Baseline measurements to determine response:

Baseline measurements of the Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ; 5 item version) or oral corticosteroid dose submitted with the Initial authority application for a biological medicine must be used to determine whether an adequate response to treatment has been achieved or sustained.

For patients transitioned from the paediatric to the adolescent/adult restriction, the exacerbation history may also be used to determine response.

However, prescribers may provide new baseline measurements when a new Initial treatment authority application is submitted and these new baseline measurements may be used to assess response.

(4) Swapping therapy within the same treatment cycle.

Once initial treatment with the first PBS-subsidised biological medicine is approved, a patient may swap to an alternate biological medicine at any time by qualifying under an Initial 2 restriction.

However, they cannot swap to a particular biological medicine if they have failed to respond to prior treatment with that drug within the same treatment cycle.

Within the same treatment cycle a patient may alternate between therapy with any biological medicine of their choice (1 at a time) providing:

(i) they have not received PBS-subsidised treatment with that particular biological medicine previously; or

(ii) they have demonstrated an adequate response to that particular biological medicine if they have previously trialled it on the PBS; and

(iii) they have not previously failed to respond to treatment with all 4 biological medicines in this treatment cycle.

(5) Re-commencement of a new treatment cycle after a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy:

A patient who wishes to trial a second or subsequent new treatment cycle, following a break in PBS-subsidised therapy of at least 12 months (in patients who have failed to achieve or ceased to sustain a response to treatment 4 times within a treatment cycle), must re-qualify through an Initial 1 restriction.

(6) Monitoring of patients:

Omaliuzumab only:

Anaphylaxis and anaphylactoid reactions have been reported following first or subsequent administration of omaliuzumab (see Product Information). Patients should be monitored post-injection, and medications for the treatment of anaphylactic reactions should be available for immediate use following administration of omaliuzumab. Patients should be informed that such reactions are possible and prompt medical attention should be sought if allergic reactions occur.

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

Uncontrolled severe asthma

Treatment Phase: Balance of supply

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a medical practitioner who is either a: (i) respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma.

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have received insufficient therapy with this drug under the Initial 1 (new patients or recommencement of treatment in a new treatment cycle) restriction to complete 32 weeks treatment; OR
- Patient must have received insufficient therapy with this drug under the Initial 2 (change of treatment) restriction to complete 32 weeks treatment; OR
- Patient must have received insufficient therapy with this drug under the Continuing treatment restriction to complete 24 weeks treatment, **AND**
- The treatment must not provide more than the balance of up to 32 weeks of treatment if the most recent authority approval was made under an Initial treatment restriction; OR
- The treatment must not provide more than the balance of up to 24 weeks of treatment if the most recent authority approval was made under the Continuing treatment restriction.

omalizumab 75 mg/0.5 mL injection, 0.5 mL syringe

11826K	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	..	..	221.87	Xolair [NV]

▪ **OMALIZUMAB**

Note TREATMENT OF PAEDIATRIC PATIENTS WITH UNCONTROLLED SEVERE ALLERGIC ASTHMA

Patients are eligible to commence an 'omalizumab treatment cycle' (initial treatment course with or without continuing treatment course/s) if they satisfy the eligibility criteria as detailed under the initial treatment restriction.

Once a patient has either failed to achieve or maintain a response to omaliuzumab, they are deemed to have completed a treatment cycle and they must have, at a minimum, a 6 month break in PBS-subsidised omaliuzumab therapy before they are eligible to commence the next cycle. The length of a treatment break is measured from the date the most recent treatment with PBS-subsidised omaliuzumab treatment is stopped to the date of the first application for initial treatment with omaliuzumab under the new treatment cycle.

There is no limit to the number of treatment cycles a patient may undertake in their lifetime.

(1) How to prescribe PBS-subsidised omaliuzumab therapy.

(a) Initial treatment:

Applications for initial treatment should be made where a patient has received no prior PBS-subsidised omaliuzumab treatment in this treatment cycle and wishes to commence such therapy.

All applications for initial treatment will be limited to provide for a maximum of 28 weeks of therapy for omaliuzumab.

(b) Continuing treatment:

Following the completion of the initial treatment course with omaliuzumab, a patient may qualify to receive up to a further 24 weeks of continuing treatment with omaliuzumab providing they have demonstrated an adequate response to treatment. The patient remains eligible to receive continuing omaliuzumab treatment in courses of up to 24 weeks providing they continue to sustain the response.

(2) Baseline measurements to determine response:

Services Australia will determine whether a response to treatment has been demonstrated based on the baseline measurements of the Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ; 5 item version) or ACQ-IA, systemic corticosteroid dose and time-adjusted exacerbation rate, submitted with the Initial authority application for omaliuzumab. However, prescribers may provide new baseline measurements when a new Initial treatment authority application is submitted and Services Australia will assess response according to these revised baseline measurements.

(3) Re-commencement of treatment after a 6 month break in PBS-subsidised therapy:

A patient who wishes to trial a second or subsequent treatment cycle following a break in PBS-subsidised omaliuzumab therapy of at least 6 months, must re-qualify for initial treatment with respect to the indices of disease severity (systemic corticosteroid dose, Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) score or ACQ-IA, and relevant exacerbation history). Patients must have received optimised standard therapy, at adequate doses and for the minimum period specified, immediately prior to the time the new baseline assessments are performed.

(4) Monitoring of patients:

Anaphylaxis and anaphylactoid reactions have been reported following first or subsequent administration of omalizumab (see Product Information). Patients should be monitored post-injection, and medications for the treatment of anaphylactic reactions should be available for immediate use following administration of omalizumab. Patients should be informed that such reactions are possible and prompt medical attention should be sought if allergic reactions occur.

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

Uncontrolled severe allergic asthma

Treatment Phase: Balance of supply in a patient aged 6 to 12 years

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a medical practitioner who is either a: (i) paediatric respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) paediatrician or general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma, in consultation with a respiratory physician.

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have received insufficient therapy with this drug under the Initial treatment restriction to complete 28 weeks treatment; OR
- Patient must have received insufficient therapy with this drug under the Continuing treatment restriction to complete 24 weeks treatment, **AND**
- The treatment must provide no more than the balance of up to 28 weeks treatment available under the Initial restriction or up to 24 weeks treatment available under the Continuing restriction.

omalizumab 75 mg/0.5 mL injection, 0.5 mL syringe

11958J	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	..	..	221.87	Xolair [NV]

omalizumab 150 mg/mL injection, 1 mL syringe

11932B	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	..	..	435.07	Xolair [NV]

■ OMALIZUMAB

Note TREATMENT OF ADULT AND ADOLESCENT PATIENTS WITH UNCONTROLLED SEVERE ASTHMA

The following information applies to the prescribing under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) of the biological medicines for uncontrolled severe asthma. Where the term biological medicine appears in the following notes and restrictions it refers to all PBS benefits with the specific PBS indication of 'uncontrolled severe asthma'.

A patient is eligible for PBS-subsidised treatment with only 1 biological medicine for uncontrolled severe asthma at any one time.

A patient receiving PBS-subsidised treatment for uncontrolled severe asthma is able to commence a treatment cycle where they may trial a biological medicine without having to experience a disease flare when swapping to an alternate biological medicine within the same treatment cycle.

Under these arrangements, within a treatment cycle, a patient may receive long-term treatment with a biological medicine as long as they sustain a response to therapy.

A patient currently receiving PBS-subsidised treatment as of 1 April 2021 is considered to have started a cycle of treatment. Within the same treatment cycle, a patient cannot trial and fail, or cease to respond to, the same PBS-subsidised biological medicine more than once.

Therefore, once a patient fails to meet the response criteria for a PBS-subsidised biological medicine, they must change to an alternate biological medicine if they wish to continue PBS-subsidised biological treatment.

Once a patient has either failed to achieve or sustain a response to treatment 4 times, they are deemed to have completed a single treatment cycle. They must have at least a 12-month break in PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy before they are eligible to recommence another new treatment cycle [further details are under 'Recommencement of treatment after a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy' below].

The length of the break in therapy is measured from the date the most recent treatment with a PBS-subsidised biological medicine is ceased until the date of the first application for recommencement of treatment with a biological medicine under the new treatment cycle.

There is no limit to the number of treatment cycles that a patient may undertake in their lifetime.

How to prescribe PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment for uncontrolled severe asthma.

(1) Initial treatment:

Applications for initial treatment should be made where:

- (i) a patient has not received prior PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment and wishes to commence such therapy (Initial 1 restriction); or
- (ii) a patient has received prior PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine and wishes to recommence a new treatment cycle with this biological medicine following a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy (Initial 1 restriction); or
- (iii) a patient has received prior PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy and wishes to trial an alternate biological medicine within the same treatment cycle (Initial 2 restriction) - [further details are under 'Swapping therapy' below].

All applications for initial treatment will be limited to provide for a maximum of up to 32 weeks of therapy of a biological medicine. It is recommended that a patient be reviewed in the month prior to completing their course of initial treatment to ensure uninterrupted biological medicine supply.

(2) Continuing treatment:

Following the completion of an initial treatment course with a specific biological medicine, a patient may qualify to receive up to 24 weeks of continuing treatment with that biological medicine providing they have demonstrated an adequate response to treatment. The patient remains eligible to receive continuing biological medicine treatment with the same drug

in courses of up to 24 weeks providing they continue to sustain the response. It is recommended that a patient be reviewed the month prior to completing their current course of treatment to ensure uninterrupted biological medicine supply.

(3) Baseline measurements to determine response:

Baseline measurements of the Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ; 5 item version) or oral corticosteroid dose submitted with the Initial authority application for a biological medicine must be used to determine whether an adequate response to treatment has been achieved or sustained.

For patients transitioned from the paediatric to the adolescent/adult restriction, the exacerbation history may also be used to determine response.

However, prescribers may provide new baseline measurements when a new Initial treatment authority application is submitted and these new baseline measurements may be used to assess response.

(4) Swapping therapy within the same treatment cycle.

Once initial treatment with the first PBS-subsidised biological medicine is approved, a patient may swap to an alternate biological medicine at any time by qualifying under an Initial 2 restriction.

However, they cannot swap to a particular biological medicine if they have failed to respond to prior treatment with that drug within the same treatment cycle.

Within the same treatment cycle a patient may alternate between therapy with any biological medicine of their choice (1 at a time) providing:

(i) they have not received PBS-subsidised treatment with that particular biological medicine previously; or

(ii) they have demonstrated an adequate response to that particular biological medicine if they have previously trialed it on the PBS; and

(iii) they have not previously failed to respond to treatment with all 4 biological medicines in this treatment cycle.

(5) Re-commencement of a new treatment cycle after a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy:

A patient who wishes to trial a second or subsequent new treatment cycle, following a break in PBS-subsidised therapy of at least 12 months (in patients who have failed to achieve or ceased to sustain a response to treatment 4 times within a treatment cycle), must re-qualify through an Initial 1 restriction.

(6) Monitoring of patients:

Omaliuzumab only:

Anaphylaxis and anaphylactoid reactions have been reported following first or subsequent administration of omaliuzumab (see Product Information). Patients should be monitored post-injection, and medications for the treatment of anaphylactic reactions should be available for immediate use following administration of omaliuzumab. Patients should be informed that such reactions are possible and prompt medical attention should be sought if allergic reactions occur.

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

Note No increase in the maximum number of repeats may be authorised.

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

Uncontrolled severe asthma

Treatment Phase: Balance of supply

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a medical practitioner who is either a: (i) respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma.

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have received insufficient therapy with this drug under the Initial 1 (new patients or recommencement of treatment in a new treatment cycle) restriction to complete 32 weeks treatment; OR
- Patient must have received insufficient therapy with this drug under the Initial 2 (change of treatment) restriction to complete 32 weeks treatment; OR
- Patient must have received insufficient therapy with this drug under the Continuing treatment restriction to complete 24 weeks treatment, **AND**
- The treatment must not provide more than the balance of up to 32 weeks of treatment if the most recent authority approval was made under an Initial treatment restriction; OR
- The treatment must not provide more than the balance of up to 24 weeks of treatment if the most recent authority approval was made under the Continuing treatment restriction.

omalizumab 150 mg/mL injection, 1 mL syringe

11825J	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	..	..	435.07	Xolair [NV]

■ OMALIZUMAB

Note TREATMENT OF ADULT AND ADOLESCENT PATIENTS WITH UNCONTROLLED SEVERE ASTHMA

The following information applies to the prescribing under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) of the biological medicines for uncontrolled severe asthma. Where the term biological medicine appears in the following notes and restrictions it refers to all PBS benefits with the specific PBS indication of 'uncontrolled severe asthma'.

A patient is eligible for PBS-subsidised treatment with only 1 biological medicine for uncontrolled severe asthma at any one time.

A patient receiving PBS-subsidised treatment for uncontrolled severe asthma is able to commence a treatment cycle where they may trial a biological medicine without having to experience a disease flare when swapping to an alternate biological medicine within the same treatment cycle.

Under these arrangements, within a treatment cycle, a patient may receive long-term treatment with a biological medicine as long as they sustain a response to therapy.

A patient currently receiving PBS-subsidised treatment as of 1 April 2021 is considered to have started a cycle of treatment. Within the same treatment cycle, a patient cannot trial and fail, or cease to respond to, the same PBS-subsidised biological

medicine more than once.

Therefore, once a patient fails to meet the response criteria for a PBS-subsidised biological medicine, they must change to an alternate biological medicine if they wish to continue PBS-subsidised biological treatment.

Once a patient has either failed to achieve or sustain a response to treatment 4 times, they are deemed to have completed a single treatment cycle. They must have at least a 12-month break in PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy before they are eligible to recommence another new treatment cycle [further details are under 'Recommencement of treatment after a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy' below].

The length of the break in therapy is measured from the date the most recent treatment with a PBS-subsidised biological medicine is ceased until the date of the first application for recommencement of treatment with a biological medicine under the new treatment cycle.

There is no limit to the number of treatment cycles that a patient may undertake in their lifetime.

How to prescribe PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment for uncontrolled severe asthma.

(1) Initial treatment:

Applications for initial treatment should be made where:

(i) a patient has not received prior PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment and wishes to commence such therapy (Initial 1 restriction); or

(ii) a patient has received prior PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine and wishes to recommence a new treatment cycle with this biological medicine following a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy (Initial 1 restriction); or

(iii) a patient has received prior PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy and wishes to trial an alternate biological medicine within the same treatment cycle (Initial 2 restriction) - [further details are under 'Swapping therapy' below].

All applications for initial treatment will be limited to provide for a maximum of up to 32 weeks of therapy of a biological medicine. It is recommended that a patient be reviewed in the month prior to completing their course of initial treatment to ensure uninterrupted biological medicine supply.

(2) Continuing treatment:

Following the completion of an initial treatment course with a specific biological medicine, a patient may qualify to receive up to 24 weeks of continuing treatment with that biological medicine providing they have demonstrated an adequate response to treatment. The patient remains eligible to receive continuing biological medicine treatment with the same drug in courses of up to 24 weeks providing they continue to sustain the response. It is recommended that a patient be reviewed the month prior to completing their current course of treatment to ensure uninterrupted biological medicine supply.

(3) Baseline measurements to determine response:

Baseline measurements of the Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ; 5 item version) or oral corticosteroid dose submitted with the Initial authority application for a biological medicine must be used to determine whether an adequate response to treatment has been achieved or sustained.

For patients transitioned from the paediatric to the adolescent/adult restriction, the exacerbation history may also be used to determine response.

However, prescribers may provide new baseline measurements when a new Initial treatment authority application is submitted and these new baseline measurements may be used to assess response.

(4) Swapping therapy within the same treatment cycle.

Once initial treatment with the first PBS-subsidised biological medicine is approved, a patient may swap to an alternate biological medicine at any time by qualifying under an Initial 2 restriction.

However, they cannot swap to a particular biological medicine if they have failed to respond to prior treatment with that drug within the same treatment cycle.

Within the same treatment cycle a patient may alternate between therapy with any biological medicine of their choice (1 at a time) providing:

(i) they have not received PBS-subsidised treatment with that particular biological medicine previously; or

(ii) they have demonstrated an adequate response to that particular biological medicine if they have previously trialed it on the PBS; and

(iii) they have not previously failed to respond to treatment with all 4 biological medicines in this treatment cycle.

(5) Re-commencement of a new treatment cycle after a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy:

A patient who wishes to trial a second or subsequent new treatment cycle, following a break in PBS-subsidised therapy of at least 12 months (in patients who have failed to achieve or ceased to sustain a response to treatment 4 times within a treatment cycle), must re-qualify through an Initial 1 restriction.

(6) Monitoring of patients:

Omalizumab only:

Anaphylaxis and anaphylactoid reactions have been reported following first or subsequent administration of omalizumab (see Product Information). Patients should be monitored post-injection, and medications for the treatment of anaphylactic reactions should be available for immediate use following administration of omalizumab. Patients should be informed that such reactions are possible and prompt medical attention should be sought if allergic reactions occur.

Note For copies of the ACQ and the calculation sheets please contact Novartis Medical Information on 1800 671 203 or medinfo.phauno@novartis.com

Note Formal assessment and correction of inhaler technique should be performed in accordance with the National Asthma Council (NAC) Information Paper for Health Professionals on Inhaler Technique (available at www.nationalasthma.org.au); the assessment and adherence to correct technique should be documented in the patient's medical records. Patients can obtain support with inhaler technique through their local Asthma Foundation (1800 645 130).

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

Uncontrolled severe asthma

Treatment Phase: Continuing treatment

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a medical practitioner who is either a: (i) respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma.

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have received this drug as their most recent course of PBS-subsidised biological agent treatment for this condition in this treatment cycle, **AND**
- Patient must have demonstrated or sustained an adequate response to PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition, **AND**
- The treatment must not be used in combination with and within 4 weeks of another PBS-subsidised biological medicine prescribed for severe asthma, **AND**
- Patient must not receive more than 24 weeks of treatment under this restriction.

Population criteria:

- Patient must be aged 12 years or older.

An adequate response to omalizumab treatment is defined as:

- (a) a reduction in the Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) score of at least 0.5 from baseline, OR
- (b) maintenance oral corticosteroid dose reduced by at least 25% from baseline, and no deterioration in ACQ-5 score from baseline or an increase in ACQ-5 score from baseline less than or equal to 0.5, OR
- (c) a reduction in the time-adjusted exacerbation rates compared to the 12 months prior to baseline (this criterion is only applicable for patients transitioned from the paediatric to the adolescent/adult restriction).

All applications for second and subsequent continuing treatments with this drug must include a measurement of response to the prior course of therapy. The Asthma Control Questionnaire (5 item version) assessment of the patient's response to the prior course of treatment, the assessment of oral corticosteroid dose or the assessment of time adjusted exacerbation rate should be made from 20 weeks after the first PBS-subsidised dose of this drug under this restriction so that there is adequate time for a response to be demonstrated.

The assessment should, where possible, be completed by the same physician who initiated treatment with this drug. Where a response assessment is not undertaken and provided at the time of application, the patient will be deemed to have failed to respond to treatment with this drug.

Where treatment was ceased for clinical reasons despite the patient experiencing improvement, an assessment of the patient's response to treatment made at the time of treatment cessation or retrospectively will be considered to determine whether the patient demonstrated or sustained an adequate response to treatment.

A patient who fails to respond to treatment with this biological medicine for uncontrolled severe asthma will not be eligible to receive further PBS-subsidised treatment with this biological medicine for severe asthma within the current treatment cycle.

At the time of the authority application, medical practitioners should request the appropriate quantity and number of repeats to provide for a continuing course of this biological medicine consisting of the recommended number of doses for the baseline IgE level and body weight of the patient (refer to the TGA-approved Product Information), sufficient for up to 24 weeks of therapy.

The following information must be provided at the time of application and must be documented in the patient's medical records:

- (a) Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) score; and
- (b) If applicable, maintenance oral corticosteroid dose; and
- (c) For patients transitioned from the paediatric to the adolescent/adult restrictions, confirmation that the time-adjusted exacerbation rate has reduced.

The most recent Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) score must be no more than 4 weeks old at the time of application.

omalizumab 75 mg/0.5 mL injection, 0.5 mL syringe

11840E	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	5	..	221.87	Xolair [NV]

omalizumab 150 mg/mL injection, 1 mL syringe

11864K	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	5	..	435.07	Xolair [NV]

■ OMALIZUMAB

Note TREATMENT OF PAEDIATRIC PATIENTS WITH UNCONTROLLED SEVERE ALLERGIC ASTHMA

Patients are eligible to commence an 'omalizumab treatment cycle' (initial treatment course with or without continuing treatment course/s) if they satisfy the eligibility criteria as detailed under the initial treatment restriction.

Once a patient has either failed to achieve or maintain a response to omalizumab, they are deemed to have completed a treatment cycle and they must have, at a minimum, a 6 month break in PBS-subsidised omalizumab therapy before they are eligible to commence the next cycle. The length of a treatment break is measured from the date the most recent treatment with PBS-subsidised omalizumab treatment is stopped to the date of the first application for initial treatment with omalizumab under the new treatment cycle.

There is no limit to the number of treatment cycles a patient may undertake in their lifetime.

(1) How to prescribe PBS-subsidised omalizumab therapy.

(a) Initial treatment:

Applications for initial treatment should be made where a patient has received no prior PBS-subsidised omalizumab treatment in this treatment cycle and wishes to commence such therapy.

All applications for initial treatment will be limited to provide for a maximum of 28 weeks of therapy for omalizumab.

(b) Continuing treatment:

Following the completion of the initial treatment course with omalizumab, a patient may qualify to receive up to a further 24 weeks of continuing treatment with omalizumab providing they have demonstrated an adequate response to treatment. The patient remains eligible to receive continuing omalizumab treatment in courses of up to 24 weeks providing they continue to

sustain the response.

(2) Baseline measurements to determine response:

Services Australia will determine whether a response to treatment has been demonstrated based on the baseline measurements of the Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ; 5 item version) or ACQ-IA, systemic corticosteroid dose and time-adjusted exacerbation rate, submitted with the Initial authority application for omalizumab. However, prescribers may provide new baseline measurements when a new Initial treatment authority application is submitted and Services Australia will assess response according to these revised baseline measurements.

(3) Re-commencement of treatment after a 6 month break in PBS-subsidised therapy:

A patient who wishes to trial a second or subsequent treatment cycle following a break in PBS-subsidised omalizumab therapy of at least 6 months, must re-qualify for initial treatment with respect to the indices of disease severity (systemic corticosteroid dose, Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) score or ACQ-IA, and relevant exacerbation history). Patients must have received optimised standard therapy, at adequate doses and for the minimum period specified, immediately prior to the time the new baseline assessments are performed.

(4) Monitoring of patients:

Anaphylaxis and anaphylactoid reactions have been reported following first or subsequent administration of omalizumab (see Product Information). Patients should be monitored post-injection, and medications for the treatment of anaphylactic reactions should be available for immediate use following administration of omalizumab. Patients should be informed that such reactions are possible and prompt medical attention should be sought if allergic reactions occur.

Note For copies of the ACQ please contact Novartis Medical Information on 1800 671 203 or medinfo.phauno@novartis.com

Note Formal assessment and correction of inhaler technique should be performed in accordance with the National Asthma Council (NAC) Information Paper for Health Professionals on Inhaler Technique (available at www.nationalasthma.org.au); the assessment and adherence to correct technique should be documented in the patient's medical records. Patients can obtain support with inhaler technique through their local Asthma Foundation (1800 645 130).

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

Note No increase in the maximum number of repeats may be authorised.

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

Uncontrolled severe allergic asthma

Treatment Phase: Continuing treatment

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have a documented history of severe allergic asthma, **AND**
- Patient must have demonstrated or sustained an adequate response to PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition, **AND**
- Patient must not receive more than 24 weeks of treatment under this restriction.

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a medical practitioner who is either a: (i) paediatric respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) paediatrician or general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma, in consultation with a respiratory physician.

An adequate response to omalizumab treatment is defined as:

(a) a reduction in the Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) or ACQ-IA score of at least 0.5 from baseline, OR

(b) maintenance oral corticosteroid dose reduced by at least 25% from baseline, and no deterioration in ACQ-5 or ACQ-IA score from baseline, OR

(c) a reduction in the time-adjusted exacerbation rates compared to the 12 months prior to baseline.

A measurement of response to the prior course of therapy must be provided at the time of application and should be used to determine eligibility for continuing treatment. The Asthma Control Questionnaire (5 item version) or Asthma Control Questionnaire interviewer administered version (ACQ-IA) assessment of the patient's response to the prior course of treatment, the assessment of systemic corticosteroid dose, and the assessment of time-adjusted exacerbation rate should be made from 20 weeks after the first dose of PBS-subsidised omalizumab so that there is adequate time for a response to be demonstrated. The first assessment should, where possible, be completed by the same physician who initiated treatment with omalizumab.

Where a response assessment is not undertaken and provided at the time of application, the patient will be deemed to have failed to respond to treatment with omalizumab.

A patient who fails to respond to a course of PBS-subsidised omalizumab for the treatment of uncontrolled severe allergic asthma will not be eligible to receive further PBS-subsidised treatment with omalizumab for this condition within 6 months of the date on which treatment was ceased.

At the time of the authority application, medical practitioners should request the appropriate quantity and number of repeats to provide for a continuing course of omalizumab consisting of the recommended number of doses for the baseline IgE level and body weight of the patient (refer to the TGA-approved Product Information), sufficient for 24 weeks of therapy.

The following information must be provided at the time of application and must be documented in the patient's medical records:

- (a) If applicable, the baseline and maintenance oral corticosteroid dose; and
- (b) baseline and current Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) date and score; or
- (c) baseline and current Asthma Control Questionnaire interviewer administered version (ACQ-IA) date and score; and
- (d) if applicable, confirmation that the time-adjusted exacerbation rate has reduced.

The most recent Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) score or Asthma Control Questionnaire interviewer administered version (ACQ-IA) score must be no more than 4 weeks old at the time of application.

omalizumab 75 mg/0.5 mL injection, 0.5 mL syringe

11952C	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	5	..	221.87	Xolair [NV]

omalizumab 150 mg/mL injection, 1 mL syringe

11953D	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	5	..	435.07	Xolair [NV]

■ OMALIZUMAB**Note TREATMENT OF ADULT AND ADOLESCENT PATIENTS WITH UNCONTROLLED SEVERE ASTHMA**

The following information applies to the prescribing under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) of the biological medicines for uncontrolled severe asthma. Where the term biological medicine appears in the following notes and restrictions it refers to all PBS benefits with the specific PBS indication of 'uncontrolled severe asthma'.

A patient is eligible for PBS-subsidised treatment with only 1 biological medicine for uncontrolled severe asthma at any one time.

A patient receiving PBS-subsidised treatment for uncontrolled severe asthma is able to commence a treatment cycle where they may trial a biological medicine without having to experience a disease flare when swapping to an alternate biological medicine within the same treatment cycle.

Under these arrangements, within a treatment cycle, a patient may receive long-term treatment with a biological medicine as long as they sustain a response to therapy.

A patient currently receiving PBS-subsidised treatment as of 1 April 2021 is considered to have started a cycle of treatment. Within the same treatment cycle, a patient cannot trial and fail, or cease to respond to, the same PBS-subsidised biological medicine more than once.

Therefore, once a patient fails to meet the response criteria for a PBS-subsidised biological medicine, they must change to an alternate biological medicine if they wish to continue PBS-subsidised biological treatment.

Once a patient has either failed to achieve or sustain a response to treatment 4 times, they are deemed to have completed a single treatment cycle. They must have at least a 12-month break in PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy before they are eligible to recommence another new treatment cycle [further details are under 'Recommencement of treatment after a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy' below].

The length of the break in therapy is measured from the date the most recent treatment with a PBS-subsidised biological medicine is ceased until the date of the first application for recommencement of treatment with a biological medicine under the new treatment cycle.

There is no limit to the number of treatment cycles that a patient may undertake in their lifetime.

How to prescribe PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment for uncontrolled severe asthma.

(1) Initial treatment:

Applications for initial treatment should be made where:

- (i) a patient has not received prior PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment and wishes to commence such therapy (Initial 1 restriction); or
- (ii) a patient has received prior PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine and wishes to recommence a new treatment cycle with this biological medicine following a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy (Initial 1 restriction); or
- (iii) a patient has received prior PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy and wishes to trial an alternate biological medicine within the same treatment cycle (Initial 2 restriction) - [further details are under 'Swapping therapy' below].

All applications for initial treatment will be limited to provide for a maximum of up to 32 weeks of therapy of a biological medicine. It is recommended that a patient be reviewed in the month prior to completing their course of initial treatment to ensure uninterrupted biological medicine supply.

(2) Continuing treatment:

Following the completion of an initial treatment course with a specific biological medicine, a patient may qualify to receive up to 24 weeks of continuing treatment with that biological medicine providing they have demonstrated an adequate response to treatment. The patient remains eligible to receive continuing biological medicine treatment with the same drug in courses of up to 24 weeks providing they continue to sustain the response. It is recommended that a patient be reviewed the month prior to completing their current course of treatment to ensure uninterrupted biological medicine supply.

(3) Baseline measurements to determine response:

Baseline measurements of the Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ; 5 item version) or oral corticosteroid dose submitted with the Initial authority application for a biological medicine must be used to determine whether an adequate response to treatment has been achieved or sustained.

For patients transitioned from the paediatric to the adolescent/adult restriction, the exacerbation history may also be used to determine response.

However, prescribers may provide new baseline measurements when a new Initial treatment authority application is submitted and these new baseline measurements may be used to assess response.

(4) Swapping therapy within the same treatment cycle.

Once initial treatment with the first PBS-subsidised biological medicine is approved, a patient may swap to an alternate biological medicine at any time by qualifying under an Initial 2 restriction.

However, they cannot swap to a particular biological medicine if they have failed to respond to prior treatment with that drug within the same treatment cycle.

Within the same treatment cycle a patient may alternate between therapy with any biological medicine of their choice (1 at a time) providing:

- (i) they have not received PBS-subsidised treatment with that particular biological medicine previously; or
- (ii) they have demonstrated an adequate response to that particular biological medicine if they have previously trialed it on the PBS; and
- (iii) they have not previously failed to respond to treatment with all 4 biological medicines in this treatment cycle.

(5) Re-commencement of a new treatment cycle after a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy:

A patient who wishes to trial a second or subsequent new treatment cycle, following a break in PBS-subsidised therapy of at least 12 months (in patients who have failed to achieve or ceased to sustain a response to treatment 4 times within a

treatment cycle), must re-qualify through an Initial 1 restriction.

(6) Monitoring of patients:

Omalizumab only:

Anaphylaxis and anaphylactoid reactions have been reported following first or subsequent administration of omalizumab (see Product Information). Patients should be monitored post-injection, and medications for the treatment of anaphylactic reactions should be available for immediate use following administration of omalizumab. Patients should be informed that such reactions are possible and prompt medical attention should be sought if allergic reactions occur.

Note For copies of the ACQ and the calculation sheets please contact Novartis Medical Information on 1800 671 203 or medinfo.phauno@novartis.com

Note Any queries concerning the arrangements to prescribe may be directed to Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

Prescribing information (including Authority Application forms and other relevant documentation as applicable) is available on the Services Australia website at www.servicesaustralia.gov.au

Applications for authority to prescribe should be submitted online using the form upload facility in Health Professional Online Services (HPOS) at www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/hpos

Or mailed to:

Services Australia

Complex Drugs

Reply Paid 9826

HOBART TAS 7001

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

Uncontrolled severe asthma

Treatment Phase: Initial treatment - Initial 1 (New patients; or Recommencement of treatment in a new treatment cycle following a break in PBS subsidised biological medicine therapy)

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a medical practitioner who is either a: (i) respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma.

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must be under the care of the same physician for at least 6 months; OR
- Patient must have been diagnosed by a multidisciplinary severe asthma clinic team, **AND**
- Patient must not have received PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine for severe asthma; OR
- Patient must have had a break in treatment of at least 12 months from the most recently approved PBS-subsidised biological medicine for severe asthma, **AND**
- Patient must have a diagnosis of asthma confirmed and documented in the patient's medical records by either a: (i) respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma, defined by at least one of the following standard clinical features: (a) forced expiratory volume (FEV1) reversibility greater than or equal to 12% and greater than or equal to 200 mL at baseline within 30 minutes after administration of salbutamol (200 to 400 micrograms), (b) airway hyperresponsiveness defined as a greater than 20% decline in FEV1 during a direct bronchial provocation test or greater than 15% decline during an indirect bronchial provocation test, (c) peak expiratory flow (PEF) variability of greater than 15% between the two highest and two lowest peak expiratory flow rates during 14 days; OR
- Patient must have a diagnosis of asthma from at least two physicians experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma with the details documented in the patient's medical records, **AND**
- Patient must have a duration of asthma of at least 1 year, **AND**
- Patient must have past or current evidence of atopy that is no more than 1 year old at the time of application that is documented by either: (i) skin prick testing, (ii) an in vitro measure of specific IgE, **AND**
- Patient must have total serum human immunoglobulin E of at least 30 IU/mL, measured no more than 12 months prior to the time of application, **AND**
- Patient must have failed to achieve adequate control with optimised asthma therapy, despite formal assessment of and adherence to correct inhaler technique, which has been documented in the patient's medical records, **AND**
- Patient must not receive more than 32 weeks of treatment under this restriction, **AND**
- The treatment must not be used in combination with and within 4 weeks of another PBS-subsidised biological medicine prescribed for severe asthma.

Population criteria:

- Patient must be aged 12 years or older.

Optimised asthma therapy includes:

(i) Adherence to maximal inhaled therapy, including high dose inhaled corticosteroid (ICS) plus long-acting beta-2 agonist (LABA) therapy for at least 12 months, unless contraindicated or not tolerated; **AND**

(ii) treatment with oral corticosteroids, either daily oral corticosteroids for at least 6 weeks, OR a cumulative dose of oral corticosteroids of at least 500 mg prednisolone equivalent in the previous 12 months, unless contraindicated or not tolerated.

If the requirement for treatment with optimised asthma therapy cannot be met because of contraindications according to the relevant TGA-approved Product Information and/or intolerances of a severity necessitating permanent treatment withdrawal, details of the contraindication and/or intolerance must be provided in the Authority application.

The following initiation criteria indicate failure to achieve adequate control and must be demonstrated in all patients at the time of the application:

- (a) an Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) score of at least 2.0, as assessed in the previous month, **AND**

(b) while receiving optimised asthma therapy in the past 12 months, experienced at least 1 admission to hospital for a severe asthma exacerbation, OR 1 severe asthma exacerbation, requiring documented use of systemic corticosteroids (oral corticosteroids initiated or increased for at least 3 days, or parenteral corticosteroids) prescribed/supervised by a physician.

The Asthma Control Questionnaire (5 item version) assessment of the patient's response to this initial course of treatment, and the assessment of oral corticosteroid dose, should be made at around 28 weeks after the first PBS-subsidised dose of this drug under this restriction so that there is adequate time for a response to be demonstrated and for the application for the first continuing therapy to be processed.

This assessment, which will be used to determine eligibility for the first continuing treatment, should be conducted within 4 weeks of the last dose of biological medicine. Where a response assessment is not undertaken and provided, the patient will be deemed to have failed to respond to treatment with this drug.

If a patient fails to demonstrate a response to treatment with this drug they will not be eligible to receive further PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for severe asthma within the same treatment cycle.

A treatment break in PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy of at least 12 months must be observed in a patient who has either failed to achieve or sustain a response to treatment with 4 biological medicines for severe asthma within the same treatment cycle.

The length of the break in therapy is measured from the date the most recent treatment with a PBS-subsidised biological medicine was administered until the date of the first application for recommencement of treatment with a biological medicine under the new treatment cycle.

There is no limit to the number of treatment cycles that a patient may undertake in their lifetime.

At the time of the authority application, medical practitioners should request the appropriate maximum quantity and number of repeats to provide for an initial course of omalizumab consisting of the recommended number of doses for the baseline IgE level and body weight of the patient (refer to the TGA-approved Product Information) to be administered every 2 or 4 weeks.

A multidisciplinary severe asthma clinic team comprises of:

- (i) A respiratory physician; and
- (ii) A pharmacist, nurse or asthma educator.

The authority application must be made in writing and must include:

- (1) a completed authority prescription form; and
- (2) a completed authority application form relevant to the indication and treatment phase (the latest version is located on the website specified in the Administrative Advice).

The following must be provided at the time of application and documented in the patient's medical records:

- (a) details of prior optimised asthma drug therapy (dosage, date of commencement, duration of therapy); and
- (b) If applicable, details of contraindications and/or intolerances of a severity necessitating permanent treatment withdrawal to standard therapy according to the relevant TGA-approved Product Information; and
- (c) details of severe exacerbation/s experienced in the past 12 months while receiving optimised asthma therapy (date and treatment); and
- (d) the IgE result and date; and
- (e) Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) score.

Note The Services Australia website (www.servicesaustralia.gov.au) has details of the accepted toxicities, including severity, which will be accepted for the purposes of exempting a patient from the requirement of treatment with optimised asthma therapy.

Note Formal assessment and correction of inhaler technique should be performed in accordance with the National Asthma Council (NAC) Information Paper for Health Professionals on Inhaler Technique (available at www.nationalasthma.org.au); the assessment and adherence to correct technique should be documented in the patient's medical records. Patients can obtain support with inhaler technique through their local Asthma Foundation (1800 645 130).

Authority required

Uncontrolled severe asthma

Treatment Phase: Initial treatment - Initial 2 (Change of treatment)

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a medical practitioner who is either a: (i) respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma.

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must be under the care of the same physician for at least 6 months; OR
- Patient must have been diagnosed by a multidisciplinary severe asthma clinic team, **AND**
- Patient must have received prior PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine for severe asthma in this treatment cycle, **AND**
- Patient must not have failed, or ceased to respond to, PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for severe asthma during the current treatment cycle, **AND**
- Patient must have past or current evidence of atopy, documented by skin prick testing or an in vitro measure of specific IgE in the past 12 months or in the 12 months prior to initiating PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine for severe asthma, **AND**
- Patient must have total serum human immunoglobulin E of at least 30 IU/mL, measured no more than 12 months prior to initiating PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine for severe asthma, **AND**
- Patient must not receive more than 32 weeks of treatment under this restriction, **AND**
- The treatment must not be used in combination with and within 4 weeks of another PBS-subsidised biological medicine prescribed for severe asthma.

Population criteria:

- Patient must be aged 12 years or older.

An application for a patient who has received PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment for this condition who wishes to change therapy to this biological medicine, must be accompanied by the results of an ACQ-5 assessment of the patient's most recent course of PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment. The assessment must have been made not more than 4 weeks after the last dose of biological medicine. Where a response assessment was not undertaken, the patient will be deemed to have failed to respond to treatment with that previous biological medicine.

An ACQ-5 assessment of the patient may be made at the time of application for treatment (to establish a new baseline score), but should be made again around 28 weeks after the first PBS-subsidised dose of this biological medicine under this restriction so that there is adequate time for a response to be demonstrated and for the application for the first continuing therapy to be processed.

This assessment, which will be used to determine eligibility for the first continuing treatment, should be conducted within 4 weeks of the last dose of biological medicine. Where a response assessment is not undertaken and provided, the patient will be deemed to have failed to respond to treatment with this biological medicine.

At the time of the authority application, medical practitioners should request an appropriate maximum quantity based on IgE level and body weight (refer to the TGA-approved Product Information) to be administered every 2 to 4 weeks and up to 7 repeats to provide for an initial course sufficient for up to 32 weeks of therapy.

A multidisciplinary severe asthma clinic team comprises of:

- (i) A respiratory physician; and
- (ii) A pharmacist, nurse or asthma educator.

The authority application must be made in writing and must include:

- (1) a completed authority prescription form; and
- (2) a completed authority application form relevant to the indication and treatment phase (the latest version is located on the website specified in the Administrative Advice).

The following must be provided at the time of application and documented in the patient's medical records:

- (a) Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5 item version) score (where a new baseline is being submitted or where the patient has responded to prior treatment); and
- (b) details (date and duration of treatment) of prior biological medicine treatment; and
- (c) the IgE results and date; and
- (d) if applicable, the dose of the maintenance oral corticosteroid (where the response criteria or baseline is based on corticosteroid dose); and
- (e) the reason for switching therapy (e.g. failure of prior therapy, partial response to prior therapy, adverse event to prior therapy).

omalizumab 75 mg/0.5 mL injection, 0.5 mL syringe

10110D	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	7	..	221.87	Xolair [NV]

omalizumab 150 mg/mL injection, 1 mL syringe

10122R	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	7	..	435.07	Xolair [NV]

■ OMALIZUMAB

Note TREATMENT OF PAEDIATRIC PATIENTS WITH UNCONTROLLED SEVERE ALLERGIC ASTHMA

Patients are eligible to commence an 'omalizumab treatment cycle' (initial treatment course with or without continuing treatment course/s) if they satisfy the eligibility criteria as detailed under the initial treatment restriction.

Once a patient has either failed to achieve or maintain a response to omalizumab, they are deemed to have completed a treatment cycle and they must have, at a minimum, a 6 month break in PBS-subsidised omalizumab therapy before they are eligible to commence the next cycle. The length of a treatment break is measured from the date the most recent treatment with PBS-subsidised omalizumab treatment is stopped to the date of the first application for initial treatment with omalizumab under the new treatment cycle.

There is no limit to the number of treatment cycles a patient may undertake in their lifetime.

(1) How to prescribe PBS-subsidised omalizumab therapy.

(a) Initial treatment:

Applications for initial treatment should be made where a patient has received no prior PBS-subsidised omalizumab treatment in this treatment cycle and wishes to commence such therapy.

All applications for initial treatment will be limited to provide for a maximum of 28 weeks of therapy for omalizumab.

(b) Continuing treatment:

Following the completion of the initial treatment course with omalizumab, a patient may qualify to receive up to a further 24 weeks of continuing treatment with omalizumab providing they have demonstrated an adequate response to treatment. The patient remains eligible to receive continuing omalizumab treatment in courses of up to 24 weeks providing they continue to sustain the response.

(2) Baseline measurements to determine response:

Services Australia will determine whether a response to treatment has been demonstrated based on the baseline measurements of the Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ; 5 item version) or ACQ-IA, systemic corticosteroid dose and time-adjusted exacerbation rate, submitted with the Initial authority application for omalizumab. However, prescribers may provide new baseline measurements when a new Initial treatment authority application is submitted and Services Australia will assess response according to these revised baseline measurements.

(3) Re-commencement of treatment after a 6 month break in PBS-subsidised therapy:

A patient who wishes to trial a second or subsequent treatment cycle following a break in PBS-subsidised omalizumab therapy of at least 6 months, must re-qualify for initial treatment with respect to the indices of disease severity (systemic corticosteroid dose, Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) score or ACQ-IA, and relevant exacerbation history). Patients must have received optimised standard therapy, at adequate doses and for the minimum period specified, immediately prior

to the time the new baseline assessments are performed.

(4) Monitoring of patients:

Anaphylaxis and anaphylactoid reactions have been reported following first or subsequent administration of omalizumab (see Product Information). Patients should be monitored post-injection, and medications for the treatment of anaphylactic reactions should be available for immediate use following administration of omalizumab. Patients should be informed that such reactions are possible and prompt medical attention should be sought if allergic reactions occur.

Note The Services Australia website (www.servicesaustralia.gov.au) has details of the accepted toxicities, including severity, which will be accepted for the purposes of exempting a patient from the requirement of treatment with optimised asthma therapy.

Note For copies of the ACQ please contact Novartis Medical Information on 1800 671 203 or medinfo.phauno@novartis.com

Note Formal assessment and correction of inhaler technique should be performed in accordance with the National Asthma Council (NAC) Information Paper for Health Professionals on Inhaler Technique (available at www.nationalasthma.org.au); the assessment and adherence to correct technique should be documented in the patient's medical records. Patients can obtain support with inhaler technique through their local Asthma Foundation (1800 645 130).

Note Any queries concerning the arrangements to prescribe may be directed to Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday). Prescribing information (including Authority Application forms and other relevant documentation as applicable) is available on the Services Australia website at www.servicesaustralia.gov.au. Applications for authority to prescribe should be submitted online using the form upload facility in Health Professional Online Services (HPOS) at www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/hpos

Or mailed to:
Services Australia
Complex Drugs
Reply Paid 9826
HOBART TAS 7001

Note No increase in the maximum number of repeats may be authorised.

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

Uncontrolled severe allergic asthma

Treatment Phase: Initial treatment

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have a diagnosis of asthma confirmed and documented in the patient's medical records by either: a (i) paediatric respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) paediatrician or general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma in consultation with a respiratory physician, defined by at least one of the following standard clinical features: (a) forced expiratory volume (FEV1) reversibility, (b) airway hyperresponsiveness, (c) peak expiratory flow (PEF) variability, **AND**
- Patient must have a duration of asthma of at least 1 year, **AND**
- Patient must have past or current evidence of atopy, documented by either: (i) skin prick testing, (ii) an in vitro measure of specific IgE, **AND**
- Patient must have total serum human immunoglobulin E of at least 30 IU/mL, measured no more than 12 months prior to the time of application, **AND**
- Patient must have failed to achieve adequate control with optimised asthma therapy, despite formal assessment of and adherence to correct inhaler technique, which has been documented in the patient's medical records, **AND**
- Patient must not receive more than 28 weeks of treatment under this restriction.

Population criteria:

- Patient must be aged 6 to less than 12 years.

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a medical practitioner who is either a: (i) paediatric respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) paediatrician or general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma, in consultation with a respiratory physician.

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must be under the care of the same physician for at least 6 months.

Optimised asthma therapy includes:

(i) Adherence to optimal inhaled therapy, including high dose inhaled corticosteroid (ICS) and long-acting beta-2 agonist (LABA) therapy for at least six months. If LABA therapy is contraindicated, not tolerated or not effective, montelukast, cromoglycate or nedocromil may be used as an alternative; **AND**

(ii) treatment with at least 2 courses of oral or IV corticosteroids (daily or alternate day maintenance treatment courses, or 3-5 day exacerbation treatment courses), in the previous 12 months, unless contraindicated or not tolerated.

If the requirement for treatment with optimised asthma therapy cannot be met because of contraindications (including those specified in the relevant TGA-approved Product Information) and/or intolerances of a severity necessitating permanent treatment withdrawal, details of the contraindication and/or intolerance must be provided in the Authority application.

The following initiation criteria indicate failure to achieve adequate control and must be demonstrated in all patients at the time of the application:

(a) An Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) score of at least 2.0, as assessed in the previous month (for children aged 6 to 10 years it is recommended that the Interviewer Administered version - the ACQ-IA be used), **AND**

(b) while receiving optimised asthma therapy in the previous 12 months, experienced at least 1 admission to hospital for a severe asthma exacerbation, OR 1 severe asthma exacerbation, requiring documented use of systemic corticosteroids (oral corticosteroids initiated or increased for at least 3 days, or parenteral corticosteroids) prescribed/supervised by a physician.

The Asthma Control Questionnaire (5 item version) or ACQ-IA assessment of the patient's response to this initial course of treatment, the assessment of oral corticosteroid dose, and the assessment of exacerbation rate should be made at around

24 weeks after the first dose so that there is adequate time for a response to be demonstrated and for the application for continuing therapy to be processed.

This assessment, which will be used to determine eligibility for continuing treatment, should be conducted within 4 weeks of the last dose of biological medicine. Where a response assessment is not undertaken and provided, the patient will be deemed to have failed to respond to treatment with omalizumab.

A patient who fails to respond to a course of PBS-subsidised omalizumab for the treatment of uncontrolled severe allergic asthma will not be eligible to receive further PBS-subsidised treatment with omalizumab for this condition within 6 months of the date on which treatment was ceased.

At the time of the authority application, medical practitioners should request the appropriate maximum quantity and number of repeats to provide for an initial course of omalizumab of up to 28 weeks, consisting of the recommended number of doses for the baseline IgE level and body weight of the patient (refer to the TGA-approved Product Information) to be administered every 2 or 4 weeks.

The authority application must be made in writing and must include:

- (1) a completed authority prescription form; and
- (2) a completed authority application form relevant to the indication and treatment phase (the latest version is located on the website specified in the Administrative Advice).

The following must be provided at the time of application and documented in the patient's medical records:

- (a) details of prior optimised asthma drug therapy (dosage, date of commencement and duration of therapy); and
- (b) details of severe exacerbation/s experienced in the past 12 months while receiving optimised asthma therapy (date and treatment); and
- (c) the IgE result and date; and
- (d) Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) score; or
- (e) Asthma Control Questionnaire interviewer administered version (ACQ-IA) score.

omalizumab 75 mg/0.5 mL injection, 0.5 mL syringe

10956P	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	6	..	221.87	Xolair [NV]

omalizumab 150 mg/mL injection, 1 mL syringe

10968G	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	6	..	435.07	Xolair [NV]

■ SELINEXOR

Caution This drug is a Category D drug and must not be given to pregnant women. If this drug is taken during pregnancy, a teratogenic effect in humans cannot be ruled out.

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

Note No increase in the maximum quantity or number of units may be authorised.

Note No increase in the maximum number of repeats may be authorised.

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

Relapsed and/or refractory multiple myeloma

Treatment Phase: Initial treatment - Dose requirement of 80 mg, 60 mg or 40 mg per week

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be confirmed by a histological diagnosis, **AND**
- Patient must be undergoing triple combination therapy limited to: (i) this drug, (ii) bortezomib, (iii) dexamethasone; OR
- Patient must be undergoing dual combination therapy limited to: (i) this drug, (ii) dexamethasone, **AND**
- Patient must have progressive disease after at least one prior therapy, **AND**
- Patient must not have previously received this drug for this condition.

Progressive disease is defined as at least 1 of the following:

- (a) at least a 25% increase and an absolute increase of at least 5 g per L in serum M protein (monoclonal protein); or
- (b) at least a 25% increase in 24-hour urinary light chain M protein excretion, and an absolute increase of at least 200 mg per 24 hours; or
- (c) in oligo-secretory and non-secretory myeloma patients only, at least a 50% increase in the difference between involved free light chain and uninvolved free light chain; or
- (d) at least a 25% relative increase and at least a 10% absolute increase in plasma cells in a bone marrow aspirate or on biopsy; or
- (e) an increase in the size or number of lytic bone lesions (not including compression fractures); or
- (f) at least a 25% increase in the size of an existing or the development of a new soft tissue plasmacytoma (determined by clinical examination or diagnostic imaging); or
- (g) development of hypercalcaemia (corrected serum calcium greater than 2.65 mmol per L not attributable to any other cause).

Oligo-secretory and non-secretory patients are defined as having active disease with less than 10 g per L serum M protein.

Details of: the histological diagnosis of multiple myeloma; prior treatments including name(s) of drug(s) and date of most recent treatment cycle; the basis of the diagnosis of progressive disease or failure to respond; and which disease activity parameters will be used to assess response, must be documented in the patient's medical records.

Confirmation of eligibility for treatment with current diagnostic reports of at least one of the following must be documented in the patient's medical records:

- (a) the level of serum monoclonal protein; or
- (b) Bence-Jones proteinuria - the results of 24-hour urinary light chain M protein excretion; or
- (c) the serum level of free kappa and lambda light chains; or
- (d) bone marrow aspirate or trephine; or
- (e) if present, the size and location of lytic bone lesions (not including compression fractures); or
- (f) if present, the size and location of all soft tissue plasmacytomas by clinical or radiographic examination i.e. MRI or CT-scan; or
- (g) if present, the level of hypercalcaemia, corrected for albumin concentration.

As these parameters must be used to determine response, results for either (a) or (b) or (c) should be documented for all patients. Where the patient has oligo-secretory or non-secretory multiple myeloma, either (c) or (d) or if relevant (e), (f) or (g) must be documented in the patient's medical records. Where the prescriber plans to assess response in patients with oligo-secretory or non-secretory multiple myeloma with free light chain assays, evidence of the oligo-secretory or non-secretory nature of the multiple myeloma (current serum M protein less than 10 g per L) must be documented in the patient's medical records.

Refractory disease is defined as less than or equal to a 25% response to therapy, or progression during or within 60 days after completion of therapy

Authority required

Relapsed and/or refractory multiple myeloma

Treatment Phase: Continuing treatment - Dose requirement of 80 mg, 60 mg or 40 mg per week

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have previously received PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition, **AND**
- Patient must be undergoing triple combination therapy limited to: (i) this drug, (ii) bortezomib, (iii) dexamethasone; OR
- Patient must be undergoing dual combination therapy limited to: (i) this drug, (ii) dexamethasone, **AND**
- Patient must not have developed disease progression while receiving treatment with this drug for this condition.

Progressive disease is defined as at least 1 of the following:

- (a) at least a 25% increase and an absolute increase of at least 5 g per L in serum M protein (monoclonal protein); or
- (b) at least a 25% increase in 24-hour urinary light chain M protein excretion, and an absolute increase of at least 200 mg per 24 hours; or
- (c) in oligo-secretory and non-secretory myeloma patients only, at least a 50% increase in the difference between involved free light chain and uninvolved free light chain; or
- (d) at least a 25% relative increase and at least a 10% absolute increase in plasma cells in a bone marrow aspirate or on biopsy; or
- (e) an increase in the size or number of lytic bone lesions (not including compression fractures); or
- (f) at least a 25% increase in the size of an existing or the development of a new soft tissue plasmacytoma (determined by clinical examination or diagnostic imaging); or
- (g) development of hypercalcaemia (corrected serum calcium greater than 2.65 mmol per L not attributable to any other cause).

Oligo-secretory and non-secretory patients are defined as having active disease with less than 10 g per L serum M protein.

selinexor 20 mg tablet, 16

13099K	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	2	..	9408.67	Xpovio [TG]

▪ **SELINEXOR**

Caution This drug is a Category D drug and must not be given to pregnant women. If this drug is taken during pregnancy, a teratogenic effect in humans cannot be ruled out.

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

Note No increase in the maximum quantity or number of units may be authorised.

Note No increase in the maximum number of repeats may be authorised.

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

Relapsed and/or refractory multiple myeloma

Treatment Phase: Initial treatment - Dose requirement of 100 mg per week

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be confirmed by a histological diagnosis, **AND**
- Patient must be undergoing triple combination therapy limited to: (i) this drug, (ii) bortezomib, (iii) dexamethasone; OR
- Patient must be undergoing dual combination therapy limited to: (i) this drug, (ii) dexamethasone, **AND**
- Patient must have progressive disease after at least one prior therapy, **AND**
- Patient must not have previously received this drug for this condition.

Progressive disease is defined as at least 1 of the following:

- (a) at least a 25% increase and an absolute increase of at least 5 g per L in serum M protein (monoclonal protein); or
- (b) at least a 25% increase in 24-hour urinary light chain M protein excretion, and an absolute increase of at least 200 mg per 24 hours; or

- (c) in oligo-secretory and non-secretory myeloma patients only, at least a 50% increase in the difference between involved free light chain and uninvolved free light chain; or
- (d) at least a 25% relative increase and at least a 10% absolute increase in plasma cells in a bone marrow aspirate or on biopsy; or
- (e) an increase in the size or number of lytic bone lesions (not including compression fractures); or
- (f) at least a 25% increase in the size of an existing or the development of a new soft tissue plasmacytoma (determined by clinical examination or diagnostic imaging); or
- (g) development of hypercalcaemia (corrected serum calcium greater than 2.65 mmol per L not attributable to any other cause).

Oligo-secretory and non-secretory patients are defined as having active disease with less than 10 g per L serum M protein. Refractory disease is defined as less than or equal to a 25% response to therapy, or progression during or within 60 days after completion of therapy

Authority required

Relapsed and/or refractory multiple myeloma

Treatment Phase: Continuing treatment - Dose requirement of 100 mg per week

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have previously received PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition, **AND**
- Patient must be undergoing triple combination therapy limited to: (i) this drug, (ii) bortezomib, (iii) dexamethasone; OR
- Patient must be undergoing dual combination therapy limited to: (i) this drug, (ii) dexamethasone, **AND**
- Patient must not have developed disease progression while receiving treatment with this drug for this condition.

Progressive disease is defined as at least 1 of the following:

- (a) at least a 25% increase and an absolute increase of at least 5 g per L in serum M protein (monoclonal protein); or
- (b) at least a 25% increase in 24-hour urinary light chain M protein excretion, and an absolute increase of at least 200 mg per 24 hours; or
- (c) in oligo-secretory and non-secretory myeloma patients only, at least a 50% increase in the difference between involved free light chain and uninvolved free light chain; or
- (d) at least a 25% relative increase and at least a 10% absolute increase in plasma cells in a bone marrow aspirate or on biopsy; or
- (e) an increase in the size or number of lytic bone lesions (not including compression fractures); or
- (f) at least a 25% increase in the size of an existing or the development of a new soft tissue plasmacytoma (determined by clinical examination or diagnostic imaging); or
- (g) development of hypercalcaemia (corrected serum calcium greater than 2.65 mmol per L not attributable to any other cause).

Oligo-secretory and non-secretory patients are defined as having active disease with less than 10 g per L serum M protein.

selinexor 20 mg tablet, 20

13103P	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	2	..	11748.67	Xpovio [TG]

▪ **SELINEXOR**

Caution This drug is a Category D drug and must not be given to pregnant women. If this drug is taken during pregnancy, a teratogenic effect in humans cannot be ruled out.

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

Note No increase in the maximum quantity or number of units may be authorised.

Note No increase in the maximum number of repeats may be authorised.

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

Relapsed and/or refractory multiple myeloma

Treatment Phase: Initial treatment - Dose requirement of 160 mg per week

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be confirmed by a histological diagnosis, **AND**
- Patient must be undergoing dual combination therapy limited to: (i) this drug, (ii) dexamethasone, **AND**
- Patient must have progressive disease after at least one prior therapy, **AND**
- Patient must not have previously received this drug for this condition.

Progressive disease is defined as at least 1 of the following:

- (a) at least a 25% increase and an absolute increase of at least 5 g per L in serum M protein (monoclonal protein); or
- (b) at least a 25% increase in 24-hour urinary light chain M protein excretion, and an absolute increase of at least 200 mg per 24 hours; or
- (c) in oligo-secretory and non-secretory myeloma patients only, at least a 50% increase in the difference between involved free light chain and uninvolved free light chain; or
- (d) at least a 25% relative increase and at least a 10% absolute increase in plasma cells in a bone marrow aspirate or on biopsy; or
- (e) an increase in the size or number of lytic bone lesions (not including compression fractures); or
- (f) at least a 25% increase in the size of an existing or the development of a new soft tissue plasmacytoma (determined by clinical examination or diagnostic imaging); or

(g) development of hypercalcaemia (corrected serum calcium greater than 2.65 mmol per L not attributable to any other cause).

Oligo-secretory and non-secretory patients are defined as having active disease with less than 10 g per L serum M protein. Refractory disease is defined as less than or equal to a 25% response to therapy, or progression during or within 60 days after completion of therapy

Authority required

Relapsed and/or refractory multiple myeloma

Treatment Phase: Continuing treatment - Dose requirement of 160 mg per week

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have previously received PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition, **AND**
- Patient must be undergoing dual combination therapy limited to: (i) this drug, (ii) dexamethasone, **AND**
- Patient must not have developed disease progression while receiving treatment with this drug for this condition.

Progressive disease is defined as at least 1 of the following:

- (a) at least a 25% increase and an absolute increase of at least 5 g per L in serum M protein (monoclonal protein); or
- (b) at least a 25% increase in 24-hour urinary light chain M protein excretion, and an absolute increase of at least 200 mg per 24 hours; or
- (c) in oligo-secretory and non-secretory myeloma patients only, at least a 50% increase in the difference between involved free light chain and uninvolved free light chain; or
- (d) at least a 25% relative increase and at least a 10% absolute increase in plasma cells in a bone marrow aspirate or on biopsy; or
- (e) an increase in the size or number of lytic bone lesions (not including compression fractures); or
- (f) at least a 25% increase in the size of an existing or the development of a new soft tissue plasmacytoma (determined by clinical examination or diagnostic imaging); or
- (g) development of hypercalcaemia (corrected serum calcium greater than 2.65 mmol per L not attributable to any other cause).

Oligo-secretory and non-secretory patients are defined as having active disease with less than 10 g per L serum M protein.

selinexor 20 mg tablet, 32

13105R	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	2	..	18768.67	Xpovio [TG]

Highly Specialised Drugs Program (Public Hospital)

▪ ANIFROLUMAB

Note No increase in the maximum quantity or number of units may be authorised.

Note No increase in the maximum number of repeats may be authorised.

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Note SLEDAI-2K can be accessed via Gladman 2002 J. Rheumatol. 29 (2) 288-291 or from AstraZeneca Medical Information on 1800 805 342.

Authority required

Systemic lupus erythematosus

Treatment Phase: Initial treatment

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have a confirmed and documented diagnosis of systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) according to the American College of Rheumatology (ACR)/European League Against Rheumatism (EULAR) SLE Classification Criteria 2019, **AND**
- Patient must have persistent disease activity as supported by a SLE Disease Activity Index 2000 (SLEDAI-2K) score of at least 10 points, **AND**
- Patient must be currently receiving hydroxychloroquine, with treatment received for at least 12 weeks, unless contraindicated/intolerant necessitating treatment withdrawal, **AND**
- Patient must be currently receiving immunosuppressant medication, with treatment received for at least 12 weeks, with either: (i) minimum dose of methotrexate 20 mg per week, (ii) azathioprine 100 mg per day, (iii) mycophenolate 1,000 mg per day unless contraindicated/intolerant necessitating treatment withdrawal, **AND**
- Patient must be currently receiving prednisolone or equivalent of at least 7.5 mg per day, with treatment received for at least 4 weeks, unless contraindicated/intolerant necessitating treatment withdrawal, **AND**
- Patient must not have either: (i) severe active lupus nephritis, (ii) severe active central nervous system systemic lupus erythematosus.

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a specialist physician experienced in the management of this condition.

If prednisolone or equivalent is contraindicated according to the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA)-approved Product Information or cannot be tolerated at least 7.5 mg per day, the patient must have received at least 12 weeks of continuous treatment with each of at least 2 of the following: (i) hydroxychloroquine; (ii) methotrexate at a dose of at least 20 mg per week; (iii) azathioprine at a dose of at least 100 mg per day; (iv) mycophenolate at a dose of at least 1,000 mg per day.

Where two of: (i) hydroxychloroquine; (ii) methotrexate at a dose of at least 20 mg per week; or (iii) azathioprine at a dose of at least 100 mg per day; (iv) mycophenolate at a dose of at least 1,000 mg per day, are either contraindicated according to the relevant TGA-approved Product Information or cannot be tolerated at the doses specified above in addition to having a contraindication or intolerance to prednisolone or equivalent: at least one of the remaining tolerated therapies must be trialled at a minimum dose as mentioned above.

If the patient has a contraindication/severe intolerance to each of: (i) prednisolone or equivalent of at least 7.5 mg per day; (ii) hydroxychloroquine; (iii) methotrexate at a dose of at least 20 mg per week; (iv) azathioprine at a dose of at least 100 mg per day; (v) mycophenolate at a dose of at least 1,000 mg per day; in such cases, provide details for each of the contraindications/severe intolerances claimed in the authority application.

The authority application must be made in writing via HPOS form upload or mail and must include:

- (a) details of the ACR/EULAR SLE Classification Criteria 2019 confirming diagnosis of SLE;
- (b) details (date and score) of the completed SLEDAI-2K score sheet;
- (c) details of current systemic therapy used (dosage, date of commencement and duration of therapy including prior anifrolumab use);
- (d) details of contraindication/intolerances to prior therapies (drug name, the degree of toxicity and dose).

All the reports must be documented in the patient's medical records.

If the application is submitted through HPOS form upload or mail, it must include:

- (i) A completed authority prescription form; and
- (ii) A completed authority application form relevant to the indication and treatment phase (the latest version is located on the website specified in the Administrative Advice).

Note Any queries concerning the arrangements to prescribe may be directed to Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

Prescribing information (including Authority Application forms and other relevant documentation as applicable) is available

on the Services Australia website at www.servicesaustralia.gov.au
Applications for authority to prescribe should be submitted online using the form upload facility in Health Professional Online Services (HPOS) at www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/hpos
Or mailed to:
Services Australia
Complex Drugs
Reply Paid 9826
HOBART TAS 7001

Authority required

Systemic lupus erythematosus

Treatment Phase: Transitioning from non-PBS to PBS-subsidised supply - Grandfather arrangements

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have received non-PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this PBS indication prior to 1 July 2024, **AND**
- Patient must have had a confirmed and documented diagnosis of systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) according to the American College of Rheumatology (ACR)/European League Against Rheumatism (EULAR) SLE Classification Criteria 2019 prior to commencing therapy with this drug for this condition, **AND**
- Patient must have had persistent disease activity as supported by a SLE Disease Activity Index 2000 (SLEDAI-2K) score of at least 10 points prior to commencing therapy with this drug for this condition, **AND**
- Patient must have been receiving hydroxychloroquine for at least 12 weeks prior to commencing therapy with this drug for this condition, **AND**
- Patient must have been receiving immunosuppressant medication for at least 12 weeks with either (i) minimum dose of methotrexate 20 mg per week (ii) azathioprine 100 mg per day (iii) mycophenolate 1,000 mg per day, prior to commencing therapy with this drug for this condition unless contraindicated/intolerant necessitating treatment withdrawal, **AND**
- Patient must have been receiving prednisolone or equivalent of at least 7.5 mg per day for at least 4 weeks prior to commencing therapy with this drug for this condition unless contraindicated/intolerant necessitating treatment withdrawal, **AND**
- Patient must not have either: (i) severe active lupus nephritis, (ii) severe active central nervous system systemic lupus erythematosus.

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a specialist physician experienced in the management of this condition.

If prednisolone or equivalent is contraindicated according to the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA)-approved Product Information or cannot be tolerated at at least 7.5 mg per day, the patient must have received at least 12 weeks of continuous treatment with each of at least 2 of the following: (i) hydroxychloroquine; (ii) methotrexate at a dose of at least 20 mg per week; (iii) azathioprine at a dose of at least 100 mg per day; (iv) mycophenolate at a dose of at least 1,000 mg per day.

Where two of: (i) hydroxychloroquine; (ii) methotrexate at a dose of at least 20 mg per week; or (iii) azathioprine at a dose of at least 100 mg per day; (iv) mycophenolate at a dose of at least 1,000 mg per day, are either contraindicated according to the relevant TGA-approved Product Information or cannot be tolerated at the doses specified above in addition to having a contraindication or intolerance to prednisolone or equivalent: at least one of the remaining tolerated therapies must be trialled at a minimum dose as mentioned above.

If the patient has a contraindication/severe intolerance to each of: (i) prednisolone or equivalent of at least 7.5 mg per day; (ii) hydroxychloroquine; (iii) methotrexate at a dose of at least 20 mg per week; (iv) azathioprine at a dose of at least 100 mg per day; (v) mycophenolate at a dose of at least 1,000 mg per day; in such cases, provide details for each of the contraindications/severe intolerances claimed in the authority application.

The authority application must be made in writing via HPOS form upload or mail and must include:

- (a) details of the ACR/EULAR SLE Classification Criteria 2019 confirming diagnosis of SLE;
- (b) details (date and score) of the completed SLEDAI-2K score sheet;
- (c) details of current systemic therapy used (dosage, date of commencement and duration of therapy including prior anifrolumab use);
- (d) details of contraindication/intolerances to prior therapies (drug name, the degree of toxicity and dose).

All the reports must be documented in the patient's medical records.

If the application is submitted through HPOS form upload or mail, it must include:

- (i) A completed authority prescription form; and
- (ii) A completed authority application form relevant to the indication and treatment phase (the latest version is located on the website specified in the Administrative Advice).

For continuing PBS-subsidised treatment, a Grandfathered patient must qualify under the Continuing treatment criteria.

Note This grandfather restriction will cease to operate from 12 months after the date specified in the clinical criteria.

Note Any queries concerning the arrangements to prescribe may be directed to Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

Prescribing information (including Authority Application forms and other relevant documentation as applicable) is available on the Services Australia website at www.servicesaustralia.gov.au

Applications for authority to prescribe should be submitted online using the form upload facility in Health Professional Online Services (HPOS) at www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/hpos

Or mailed to:
Services Australia
Complex Drugs
Reply Paid 9826
HOBART TAS 7001

Authority required

Systemic lupus erythematosus

Treatment Phase: Continuing or recommencement of treatment (within 12 months of a treatment break)

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have previously been issued with an authority prescription for this drug for this condition, **AND**
- Patient must be responding to treatment if they have received less than 12 months of treatment with this drug for this condition; OR
- Patient must have attained a Lupus Low Disease Activity State (LLDAS) and maintained this state while on treatment.

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a specialist physician experienced in the management of this condition.

Lupus Low Disease Activity State (LLDAS) is defined as:

- (a) Total SLEDAI-2K of not greater than 4, with no major activity in major organ systems (renal, central nervous system (CNS), cardiopulmonary, vasculitis, fever); and
- (b) No new features of lupus disease activity compared with the previous assessment, and
- (c) Physician Global Assessment (PGA) of not greater than 1, and
- (d) Current prednisolone (or equivalent) dose of not greater than 7.5 mg daily, and
- (e) Well tolerated standard maintenance doses of anti-malarial and immunosuppressive drugs are allowed.

Where retreatment with anifrolumab after a break in PBS-subsidised treatment with anifrolumab is being sought, the date of cessation of the previous treatment course with anifrolumab must be included in the application. Recommencement of treatment with anifrolumab for severe SLE is within 12 months from the date that treatment was ceased.

Note PGA can be accessed via Petri 2005 N Engl J Med 353: 2550-8.

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

anifrolumab 300 mg/2 mL injection, 2 mL vial

14195D	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	5	..	1448.00	Saphnelo [AP]

▪ **AVATROMBOPAG**

Note No increase in the maximum number of repeats may be authorised.

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

Severe thrombocytopenia

Treatment Phase: Initial treatment - New patient

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be severe chronic immune (idiopathic) thrombocytopenic purpura (ITP), **AND**
- Patient must have failed to achieve an adequate response to, or be intolerant to, corticosteroid therapy, **AND**
- Patient must have failed to achieve an adequate response to, or be intolerant to, immunoglobulin therapy, **AND**
- The treatment must be the sole PBS-subsidised thrombopoietin receptor agonist (TRA) for this condition.

The following criteria indicate failure to achieve an adequate response to corticosteroid and/or immunoglobulin therapy and must be demonstrated at the time of initial application;

- (a) a platelet count of less than or equal to 20,000 million per L; OR
- (b) a platelet count of 20,000 million to 30,000 million per L, where the patient is experiencing significant bleeding or has a history of significant bleeding in this platelet range.

The authority application must be made via the online PBS Authorities System (real time assessment), or in writing via HPOS form upload or mail and must include:

- (a) details of a platelet count supporting the diagnosis of ITP.

All reports must be documented in the patient's medical records.

If the application is submitted through HPOS form upload or mail, it must include:

- (i) A completed authority prescription form; and
- (ii) A completed authority application form relevant to the indication and treatment phase (the latest version is located on the website specified in the Administrative Advice).

The platelet count must be no more than 4 weeks old at the time of application and must be documented in the patient's medical records.

A maximum of 24 weeks of treatment with this drug will be authorised under this criterion.

Note Any queries concerning the arrangements to prescribe may be directed to Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

Prescribing information (including Authority Application forms and other relevant documentation as applicable) is available on the Services Australia website at www.servicesaustralia.gov.au

Applications for authorisation under this restriction should be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/hpos)

Alternatively, applications for authority to prescribe can be submitted online using the form upload facility in Health Professional Online Services (HPOS) at www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/hpos

Or mailed to:

Services Australia
Complex Drugs
Reply Paid 9826
HOBART TAS 7001

Authority required

Severe thrombocytopenia

Treatment Phase: First Continuing treatment or Re-initiation of interrupted continuing treatment

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be severe chronic immune (idiopathic) thrombocytopenic purpura (ITP), **AND**
- Patient must have demonstrated a sustained platelet response to PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition under the Initial treatment restriction if the patient has not had a treatment break, confirmed through a pathology report from an Approved Pathology Authority; OR
- Patient must have changed treatment from either romiplostim or eltrombopag to this drug under the Balance of Supply/Change of Therapy restriction and demonstrated a sustained response; OR
- Patient must have demonstrated a sustained platelet response to the most recent PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition prior to interrupted treatment, confirmed through a pathology report from an Approved Pathology Authority, **AND**
- The treatment must be the sole PBS-subsidised thrombopoietin receptor agonist (TRA) for this condition.

For the purposes of this restriction, a sustained response is defined as the patient having the ability to maintain a platelet count sufficient to prevent clinically significant bleeding based on clinical assessment.

The platelet count must be conducted no later than 4 weeks from the date of completion of the most recent PBS-subsidised course of treatment with this drug and must be documented in the patient's medical records.

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

Authority required

Severe thrombocytopenia

Treatment Phase: Second or Subsequent Continuing treatment

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be severe chronic immune (idiopathic) thrombocytopenic purpura (ITP), **AND**
- Patient must have previously received PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition under first continuing or re-initiation of interrupted continuing treatment restriction, **AND**
- Patient must have demonstrated a continuing response to PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug, **AND**
- The treatment must be the sole PBS-subsidised thrombopoietin receptor agonist (TRA) for this condition.

The platelet count must be no more than 4 weeks old at the time of application and must be documented in the patient's medical records.

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

Authority required

Severe thrombocytopenia

Treatment Phase: Balance of supply or change of therapy

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be severe chronic immune (idiopathic) thrombocytopenic purpura (ITP), **AND**
- The treatment must be the sole PBS-subsidised thrombopoietin receptor agonist (TRA) for this condition, **AND**
- Patient must have received insufficient therapy with this drug for this condition under the Initial treatment restriction; OR
- Patient must have received insufficient therapy with this drug for this condition under the First Continuing treatment or Re-initiation of interrupted continuing treatment restriction; OR
- Patient must have received insufficient therapy with this drug for this condition under the Second or Subsequent Continuing treatment restriction; OR
- Patient must be changing therapy from romiplostim or eltrombopag to this drug for this condition, **AND**
- The treatment must provide no more than the balance of up to 24 weeks treatment under this restriction.

Patients receiving treatment with romiplostim or eltrombopag may change to avatrombopag under this restriction.

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

avatrombopag 20 mg tablet, 30

13313Q	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	5	..	2601.06	Doptelet [ZO]

▪ **BENRALIZUMAB**

Note TREATMENT OF ADULT AND ADOLESCENT PATIENTS WITH UNCONTROLLED SEVERE ASTHMA

The following information applies to the prescribing under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) of the biological medicines for uncontrolled severe asthma. Where the term biological medicine appears in the following notes and restrictions it refers to all PBS benefits with the specific PBS indication of 'uncontrolled severe asthma'.

A patient is eligible for PBS-subsidised treatment with only 1 biological medicine for uncontrolled severe asthma at any one time.

A patient receiving PBS-subsidised treatment for uncontrolled severe asthma is able to commence a treatment cycle where they may trial a biological medicine without having to experience a disease flare when swapping to an alternate biological medicine within the same treatment cycle.

Under these arrangements, within a treatment cycle, a patient may receive long-term treatment with a biological medicine as long as they sustain a response to therapy.

A patient currently receiving PBS-subsidised treatment as of 1 April 2021 is considered to have started a cycle of treatment. Within the same treatment cycle, a patient cannot trial and fail, or cease to respond to, the same PBS-subsidised biological medicine more than once.

Therefore, once a patient fails to meet the response criteria for a PBS-subsidised biological medicine, they must change to an alternate biological medicine if they wish to continue PBS-subsidised biological treatment.

Once a patient has either failed to achieve or sustain a response to treatment 4 times, they are deemed to have completed a single treatment cycle. They must have at least a 12-month break in PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy before they are eligible to recommence another new treatment cycle [further details are under 'Recommencement of treatment after a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy' below].

The length of the break in therapy is measured from the date the most recent treatment with a PBS-subsidised biological medicine is ceased until the date of the first application for recommencement of treatment with a biological medicine under the new treatment cycle.

There is no limit to the number of treatment cycles that a patient may undertake in their lifetime.

How to prescribe PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment for uncontrolled severe asthma.

(1) Initial treatment:

Applications for initial treatment should be made where:

(i) a patient has not received prior PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment and wishes to commence such therapy (Initial 1 restriction); or

(ii) a patient has received prior PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine and wishes to recommence a new treatment cycle with this biological medicine following a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy (Initial 1 restriction); or

(iii) a patient has received prior PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy and wishes to trial an alternate biological medicine within the same treatment cycle (Initial 2 restriction) - [further details are under 'Swapping therapy' below].

All applications for initial treatment will be limited to provide for a maximum of up to 32 weeks of therapy of a biological medicine. It is recommended that a patient be reviewed in the month prior to completing their course of initial treatment to ensure uninterrupted biological medicine supply.

(2) Continuing treatment:

Following the completion of an initial treatment course with a specific biological medicine, a patient may qualify to receive up to 24 weeks of continuing treatment with that biological medicine providing they have demonstrated an adequate response to treatment. The patient remains eligible to receive continuing biological medicine treatment with the same drug in courses of up to 24 weeks providing they continue to sustain the response. It is recommended that a patient be reviewed the month prior to completing their current course of treatment to ensure uninterrupted biological medicine supply.

(3) Baseline measurements to determine response:

Baseline measurements of the Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ; 5 item version) or oral corticosteroid dose submitted with the Initial authority application for a biological medicine must be used to determine whether an adequate response to treatment has been achieved or sustained.

For patients transitioned from the paediatric to the adolescent/adult restriction, the exacerbation history may also be used to determine response.

However, prescribers may provide new baseline measurements when a new Initial treatment authority application is submitted and these new baseline measurements may be used to assess response.

(4) Swapping therapy within the same treatment cycle.

Once initial treatment with the first PBS-subsidised biological medicine is approved, a patient may swap to an alternate biological medicine at any time by qualifying under an Initial 2 restriction.

However, they cannot swap to a particular biological medicine if they have failed to respond to prior treatment with that drug within the same treatment cycle.

Within the same treatment cycle a patient may alternate between therapy with any biological medicine of their choice (1 at a time) providing:

(i) they have not received PBS-subsidised treatment with that particular biological medicine previously; or

(ii) they have demonstrated an adequate response to that particular biological medicine if they have previously trialled it on the PBS; and

(iii) they have not previously failed to respond to treatment with all 4 biological medicines in this treatment cycle.

(5) Re-commencement of a new treatment cycle after a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy:

A patient who wishes to trial a second or subsequent new treatment cycle, following a break in PBS-subsidised therapy of at least 12 months (in patients who have failed to achieve or ceased to sustain a response to treatment 4 times within a treatment cycle), must re-qualify through an Initial 1 restriction.

(6) Monitoring of patients:

Omalizumab only:

Anaphylaxis and anaphylactoid reactions have been reported following first or subsequent administration of omalizumab (see Product Information). Patients should be monitored post-injection, and medications for the treatment of anaphylactic reactions should be available for immediate use following administration of omalizumab. Patients should be informed that such reactions are possible and prompt medical attention should be sought if allergic reactions occur.

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

Uncontrolled severe asthma

Treatment Phase: Balance of supply

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a medical practitioner who is either a: (i) respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma.

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have received insufficient therapy with this drug under the Initial 1 (new patients or recommencement of treatment in a new treatment cycle) restriction to complete 32 weeks treatment; OR

- Patient must have received insufficient therapy with this drug under the Initial 2 (change of treatment) restriction to complete 32 weeks treatment; OR
- Patient must have received insufficient therapy with this drug under the Continuing treatment restriction to complete 24 weeks treatment, **AND**
- The treatment must not provide more than the balance of up to 32 weeks of treatment if the most recent authority approval was made under an Initial treatment restriction; OR
- The treatment must not provide more than the balance of up to 24 weeks of treatment if the most recent authority approval was made under the Continuing treatment restriction.

benralizumab 30 mg/mL injection, 1 mL pen device

12000N	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	..	..	3145.45	Fasenra Pen [AP]

▪ BENRALIZUMAB

Note TREATMENT OF ADULT AND ADOLESCENT PATIENTS WITH UNCONTROLLED SEVERE ASTHMA

The following information applies to the prescribing under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) of the biological medicines for uncontrolled severe asthma. Where the term biological medicine appears in the following notes and restrictions it refers to all PBS benefits with the specific PBS indication of 'uncontrolled severe asthma'.

A patient is eligible for PBS-subsidised treatment with only 1 biological medicine for uncontrolled severe asthma at any one time.

A patient receiving PBS-subsidised treatment for uncontrolled severe asthma is able to commence a treatment cycle where they may trial a biological medicine without having to experience a disease flare when swapping to an alternate biological medicine within the same treatment cycle.

Under these arrangements, within a treatment cycle, a patient may receive long-term treatment with a biological medicine as long as they sustain a response to therapy.

A patient currently receiving PBS-subsidised treatment as of 1 April 2021 is considered to have started a cycle of treatment. Within the same treatment cycle, a patient cannot trial and fail, or cease to respond to, the same PBS-subsidised biological medicine more than once.

Therefore, once a patient fails to meet the response criteria for a PBS-subsidised biological medicine, they must change to an alternate biological medicine if they wish to continue PBS-subsidised biological treatment.

Once a patient has either failed to achieve or sustain a response to treatment 4 times, they are deemed to have completed a single treatment cycle. They must have at least a 12-month break in PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy before they are eligible to recommence another new treatment cycle [further details are under 'Recommencement of treatment after a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy' below].

The length of the break in therapy is measured from the date the most recent treatment with a PBS-subsidised biological medicine is ceased until the date of the first application for recommencement of treatment with a biological medicine under the new treatment cycle.

There is no limit to the number of treatment cycles that a patient may undertake in their lifetime.

How to prescribe PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment for uncontrolled severe asthma.

(1) Initial treatment:

Applications for initial treatment should be made where:

(i) a patient has not received prior PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment and wishes to commence such therapy (Initial 1 restriction); or

(ii) a patient has received prior PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine and wishes to recommence a new treatment cycle with this biological medicine following a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy (Initial 1 restriction); or
(iii) a patient has received prior PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy and wishes to trial an alternate biological medicine within the same treatment cycle (Initial 2 restriction) - [further details are under 'Swapping therapy' below].

All applications for initial treatment will be limited to provide for a maximum of up to 32 weeks of therapy of a biological medicine. It is recommended that a patient be reviewed in the month prior to completing their course of initial treatment to ensure uninterrupted biological medicine supply.

(2) Continuing treatment:

Following the completion of an initial treatment course with a specific biological medicine, a patient may qualify to receive up to 24 weeks of continuing treatment with that biological medicine providing they have demonstrated an adequate response to treatment. The patient remains eligible to receive continuing biological medicine treatment with the same drug in courses of up to 24 weeks providing they continue to sustain the response. It is recommended that a patient be reviewed the month prior to completing their current course of treatment to ensure uninterrupted biological medicine supply.

(3) Baseline measurements to determine response:

Baseline measurements of the Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ; 5 item version) or oral corticosteroid dose submitted with the Initial authority application for a biological medicine must be used to determine whether an adequate response to treatment has been achieved or sustained.

For patients transitioned from the paediatric to the adolescent/adult restriction, the exacerbation history may also be used to determine response.

However, prescribers may provide new baseline measurements when a new Initial treatment authority application is submitted and these new baseline measurements may be used to assess response.

(4) Swapping therapy within the same treatment cycle.

Once initial treatment with the first PBS-subsidised biological medicine is approved, a patient may swap to an alternate biological medicine at any time by qualifying under an Initial 2 restriction.

However, they cannot swap to a particular biological medicine if they have failed to respond to prior treatment with that drug within the same treatment cycle.

Within the same treatment cycle a patient may alternate between therapy with any biological medicine of their choice (1 at a time) providing:

(i) they have not received PBS-subsidised treatment with that particular biological medicine previously; or

(ii) they have demonstrated an adequate response to that particular biological medicine if they have previously trialled it on

the PBS; and

(iii) they have not previously failed to respond to treatment with all 4 biological medicines in this treatment cycle.

(5) Re-commencement of a new treatment cycle after a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy:

A patient who wishes to trial a second or subsequent new treatment cycle, following a break in PBS-subsidised therapy of at least 12 months (in patients who have failed to achieve or ceased to sustain a response to treatment 4 times within a treatment cycle), must re-qualify through an Initial 1 restriction.

(6) Monitoring of patients:

Omalizumab only:

Anaphylaxis and anaphylactoid reactions have been reported following first or subsequent administration of omalizumab (see Product Information). Patients should be monitored post-injection, and medications for the treatment of anaphylactic reactions should be available for immediate use following administration of omalizumab. Patients should be informed that such reactions are possible and prompt medical attention should be sought if allergic reactions occur.

Note For copies of the ACQ, please contact AstraZeneca Medical Information on 1800 805 342.

Note Formal assessment and correction of inhaler technique should be performed in accordance with the National Asthma Council (NAC) Information Paper for Health Professionals on Inhaler Technique (available at www.nationalasthma.org.au); the assessment and adherence to correct technique should be documented in the patient's medical records. Patients can obtain support with inhaler technique through their local Asthma Foundation (1800 645 130).

Note Any queries concerning the arrangements to prescribe may be directed to Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

Prescribing information (including Authority Application forms and other relevant documentation as applicable) is available on the Services Australia website at www.servicesaustralia.gov.au

Applications for authority to prescribe should be submitted online using the form upload facility in Health Professional Online Services (HPOS) at www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/hpos

Or mailed to:

Services Australia

Complex Drugs

Reply Paid 9826

HOBART TAS 7001

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

Uncontrolled severe asthma

Treatment Phase: Continuing treatment

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a medical practitioner who is either a: (i) respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma.

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have received this drug as their most recent course of PBS-subsidised biological agent treatment for this condition in this treatment cycle, **AND**
- Patient must have demonstrated or sustained an adequate response to PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition, **AND**
- The treatment must not be used in combination with and within 4 weeks of another PBS-subsidised biological medicine prescribed for severe asthma, **AND**
- Patient must not receive more than 24 weeks of treatment under this restriction.

Population criteria:

- Patient must be aged 12 years or older.

An adequate response to this biological medicine is defined as:

(a) a reduction in the Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) score of at least 0.5 from baseline,

OR

(b) maintenance oral corticosteroid dose reduced by at least 25% from baseline, and no deterioration in ACQ-5 score from baseline or an increase in ACQ-5 score from baseline less than or equal to 0.5.

All applications for second and subsequent continuing treatments with this drug must include a measurement of response to the prior course of therapy. The Asthma Control Questionnaire (5 item version) assessment of the patient's response to the prior course of treatment or the assessment of oral corticosteroid dose, should be made from 20 weeks after the first dose of PBS-subsidised dose of this drug under this restriction so that there is adequate time for a response to be demonstrated and for the application for continuing therapy to be processed.

The assessment should, where possible, be completed by the same physician who initiated treatment with this drug. This assessment, which will be used to determine eligibility for the first continuing treatment, should be conducted within 4 weeks of the last dose of biological medicine. To avoid an interruption of supply for the first continuing treatment, the assessment should be provided no later than 2 weeks prior to the patient completing their current treatment course, unless the patient is currently on a treatment break. Where a response assessment is not undertaken and provided, the patient will be deemed to have failed to respond to treatment with this drug.

Where treatment was ceased for clinical reasons despite the patient experiencing improvement, an assessment of the patient's response to treatment made at the time of treatment cessation or retrospectively will be considered to determine whether the patient demonstrated or sustained an adequate response to treatment.

A patient who fails to respond to treatment with this biological medicine for uncontrolled severe asthma will not be eligible to receive further PBS-subsidised treatment with this biological medicine for severe asthma within the current treatment cycle.

At the time of the authority application, medical practitioners should request the appropriate number of repeats to provide for a continuing course of this drug sufficient for up to 24 weeks of therapy.

The authority application must be made in writing and must include:

- (1) a completed authority prescription form; and

(2) a completed authority application form relevant to the indication and treatment phase (the latest version is located on the website specified in the Administrative Advice).

The following information must be provided at the time of application and must be documented in the patient's medical records:

- (a) if applicable, details of maintenance oral corticosteroid dose; and
- (b) a completed Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) score.

benralizumab 30 mg/mL injection, 1 mL pen device

11995H	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	2	..	3145.45	Fasenra Pen [AP]

■ BENRALIZUMAB

Note TREATMENT OF ADULT AND ADOLESCENT PATIENTS WITH UNCONTROLLED SEVERE ASTHMA

The following information applies to the prescribing under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) of the biological medicines for uncontrolled severe asthma. Where the term biological medicine appears in the following notes and restrictions it refers to all PBS benefits with the specific PBS indication of 'uncontrolled severe asthma'.

A patient is eligible for PBS-subsidised treatment with only 1 biological medicine for uncontrolled severe asthma at any one time.

A patient receiving PBS-subsidised treatment for uncontrolled severe asthma is able to commence a treatment cycle where they may trial a biological medicine without having to experience a disease flare when swapping to an alternate biological medicine within the same treatment cycle.

Under these arrangements, within a treatment cycle, a patient may receive long-term treatment with a biological medicine as long as they sustain a response to therapy.

A patient currently receiving PBS-subsidised treatment as of 1 April 2021 is considered to have started a cycle of treatment. Within the same treatment cycle, a patient cannot trial and fail, or cease to respond to, the same PBS-subsidised biological medicine more than once.

Therefore, once a patient fails to meet the response criteria for a PBS-subsidised biological medicine, they must change to an alternate biological medicine if they wish to continue PBS-subsidised biological treatment.

Once a patient has either failed to achieve or sustain a response to treatment 4 times, they are deemed to have completed a single treatment cycle. They must have at least a 12-month break in PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy before they are eligible to recommence another new treatment cycle [further details are under 'Recommencement of treatment after a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy' below].

The length of the break in therapy is measured from the date the most recent treatment with a PBS-subsidised biological medicine is ceased until the date of the first application for recommencement of treatment with a biological medicine under the new treatment cycle.

There is no limit to the number of treatment cycles that a patient may undertake in their lifetime.

How to prescribe PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment for uncontrolled severe asthma.

(1) Initial treatment:

Applications for initial treatment should be made where:

(i) a patient has not received prior PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment and wishes to commence such therapy (Initial 1 restriction); or

(ii) a patient has received prior PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine and wishes to recommence a new treatment cycle with this biological medicine following a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy (Initial 1 restriction); or

(iii) a patient has received prior PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy and wishes to trial an alternate biological medicine within the same treatment cycle (Initial 2 restriction) - [further details are under 'Swapping therapy' below].

All applications for initial treatment will be limited to provide for a maximum of up to 32 weeks of therapy of a biological medicine. It is recommended that a patient be reviewed in the month prior to completing their course of initial treatment to ensure uninterrupted biological medicine supply.

(2) Continuing treatment:

Following the completion of an initial treatment course with a specific biological medicine, a patient may qualify to receive up to 24 weeks of continuing treatment with that biological medicine providing they have demonstrated an adequate response to treatment. The patient remains eligible to receive continuing biological medicine treatment with the same drug in courses of up to 24 weeks providing they continue to sustain the response. It is recommended that a patient be reviewed the month prior to completing their current course of treatment to ensure uninterrupted biological medicine supply.

(3) Baseline measurements to determine response:

Baseline measurements of the Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ; 5 item version) or oral corticosteroid dose submitted with the Initial authority application for a biological medicine must be used to determine whether an adequate response to treatment has been achieved or sustained.

For patients transitioned from the paediatric to the adolescent/adult restriction, the exacerbation history may also be used to determine response.

However, prescribers may provide new baseline measurements when a new Initial treatment authority application is submitted and these new baseline measurements may be used to assess response.

(4) Swapping therapy within the same treatment cycle.

Once initial treatment with the first PBS-subsidised biological medicine is approved, a patient may swap to an alternate biological medicine at any time by qualifying under an Initial 2 restriction.

However, they cannot swap to a particular biological medicine if they have failed to respond to prior treatment with that drug within the same treatment cycle.

Within the same treatment cycle a patient may alternate between therapy with any biological medicine of their choice (1 at a time) providing:

(i) they have not received PBS-subsidised treatment with that particular biological medicine previously; or

(ii) they have demonstrated an adequate response to that particular biological medicine if they have previously trialed it on the PBS; and

(iii) they have not previously failed to respond to treatment with all 4 biological medicines in this treatment cycle.

(5) Re-commencement of a new treatment cycle after a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy:
A patient who wishes to trial a second or subsequent new treatment cycle, following a break in PBS-subsidised therapy of at least 12 months (in patients who have failed to achieve or ceased to sustain a response to treatment 4 times within a treatment cycle), must re-qualify through an Initial 1 restriction.

(6) Monitoring of patients:

Omalizumab only:

Anaphylaxis and anaphylactoid reactions have been reported following first or subsequent administration of omalizumab (see Product Information). Patients should be monitored post-injection, and medications for the treatment of anaphylactic reactions should be available for immediate use following administration of omalizumab. Patients should be informed that such reactions are possible and prompt medical attention should be sought if allergic reactions occur.

Note For copies of the ACQ, please contact AstraZeneca Medical Information on 1800 805 342.

Note Any queries concerning the arrangements to prescribe may be directed to Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

Prescribing information (including Authority Application forms and other relevant documentation as applicable) is available on the Services Australia website at www.servicesaustralia.gov.au

Applications for authority to prescribe should be submitted online using the form upload facility in Health Professional Online Services (HPOS) at www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/hpos

Or mailed to:

Services Australia

Complex Drugs

Reply Paid 9826

HOBART TAS 7001

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

Uncontrolled severe asthma

Treatment Phase: Initial treatment - Initial 1 (New patients; or Re commencement of treatment in a new treatment cycle following a break in PBS subsidised biological medicine therapy)

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a medical practitioner who is either a: (i) respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma.

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must be under the care of the same physician for at least 6 months; OR
- Patient must have been diagnosed by a multidisciplinary severe asthma clinic team, **AND**
- Patient must not have received PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine for severe asthma; OR
- Patient must have had a break in treatment of at least 12 months from the most recently approved PBS-subsidised biological medicine for severe asthma, **AND**
- Patient must have a diagnosis of asthma confirmed and documented in the patient's medical records by either a: (i) respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma, defined by at least one of the following standard clinical features: (a) forced expiratory volume (FEV1) reversibility greater than or equal to 12% and greater than or equal to 200 mL at baseline within 30 minutes after administration of salbutamol (200 to 400 micrograms), (b) airway hyperresponsiveness defined as a greater than 20% decline in FEV1 during a direct bronchial provocation test or greater than 15% decline during an indirect bronchial provocation test, (c) peak expiratory flow (PEF) variability of greater than 15% between the two highest and two lowest peak expiratory flow rates during 14 days; OR
- Patient must have a diagnosis of asthma from at least two physicians experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma with the details documented in the patient's medical records, **AND**
- Patient must have a duration of asthma of at least 1 year, **AND**
- Patient must have a blood eosinophil count of at least 300 cells per microlitre in the last 12 months; OR
- Patient must have blood eosinophil count of at least 150 cells per microlitre while receiving treatment with oral corticosteroids in the last 12 months, **AND**
- Patient must have failed to achieve adequate control with optimised asthma therapy, despite formal assessment of and adherence to correct inhaler technique, which has been documented in the patient's medical records, **AND**
- Patient must not receive more than 32 weeks of treatment under this restriction, **AND**
- The treatment must not be used in combination with and within 4 weeks of another PBS-subsidised biological medicine prescribed for severe asthma.

Population criteria:

- Patient must be aged 12 years or older.

Optimised asthma therapy includes:

(i) Adherence to maximal inhaled therapy, including high dose inhaled corticosteroid (ICS) plus long-acting beta-2 agonist (LABA) therapy for at least 12 months, unless contraindicated or not tolerated; **AND**

(ii) treatment with oral corticosteroids, either daily oral corticosteroids for at least 6 weeks, OR a cumulative dose of oral corticosteroids of at least 500 mg prednisolone equivalent in the previous 12 months, unless contraindicated or not tolerated.

If the requirement for treatment with optimised asthma therapy cannot be met because of contraindications according to the relevant TGA-approved Product Information and/or intolerances of a severity necessitating permanent treatment withdrawal, details of the contraindication and/or intolerance must be provided in the Authority application.

The following initiation criteria indicate failure to achieve adequate control and must be demonstrated in all patients at the time of the application:

- (a) an Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) score of at least 2.0, as assessed in the previous month, **AND**

(b) while receiving optimised asthma therapy in the past 12 months, experienced at least 1 admission to hospital for a severe asthma exacerbation, OR 1 severe asthma exacerbation, requiring documented use of systemic corticosteroids (oral corticosteroids initiated or increased for at least 3 days, or parenteral corticosteroids) prescribed/supervised by a physician.

The Asthma Control Questionnaire (5 item version) assessment of the patient's response to this initial course of treatment, and the assessment of oral corticosteroid dose, should be made at around 28 weeks after the first PBS-subsidised dose of this drug under this restriction so that there is adequate time for a response to be demonstrated and for the application for the first continuing therapy to be processed.

This assessment, which will be used to determine eligibility for the first continuing treatment, should be conducted within 4 weeks of the last dose of biological medicine. To avoid an interruption of supply for the first continuing treatment, the assessment should be provided no later than 2 weeks prior to the patient completing their current treatment course, unless the patient is currently on a treatment break. Where a response assessment is not undertaken and provided, the patient will be deemed to have failed to respond to treatment with this drug.

If a patient fails to demonstrate a response to treatment with this drug they will not be eligible to receive further PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition within the same treatment cycle.

A treatment break in PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy of at least 12 months must be observed in a patient who has either failed to achieve or sustain a response to treatment with 4 biological medicines within the same treatment cycle.

The length of the break in therapy is measured from the date the most recent treatment with a PBS-subsidised biological medicine was administered until the date of the first application for recommencement of treatment with a biological medicine under the new treatment cycle.

There is no limit to the number of treatment cycles that a patient may undertake in their lifetime.

A multidisciplinary severe asthma clinic team comprises of:

- (i) A respiratory physician; and
- (ii) A pharmacist, nurse or asthma educator.

At the time of the authority application, medical practitioners should request up to 4 repeats to provide for an initial course of benralizumab sufficient for up to 32 weeks of therapy, at a dose of 30 mg every 4 weeks for the first three doses (weeks 0, 4, and 8) then 30 mg every eight weeks thereafter.

The authority application must be made in writing and must include:

- (1) a completed authority prescription form; and
- (2) a completed authority application form relevant to the indication and treatment phase (the latest version is located on the website specified in the Administrative Advice).

The following must be provided at the time of application and documented in the patient's medical records:

- (a) details (treatment, date of commencement, duration of therapy) of prior optimised asthma drug therapy; and
- (b) if applicable, details of contraindications and/or intolerances of a severity necessitating permanent treatment withdrawal to standard therapy according to the relevant TGA-approved Product Information; and
- (c) details of severe exacerbation/s experienced in the past 12 months while receiving optimised asthma therapy (date and treatment); and
- (d) the eosinophil count and date; and
- (e) Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) score.

Note The Services Australia website (www.servicesaustralia.gov.au) has details of the accepted toxicities, including severity, which will be accepted for the purposes of exempting a patient from the requirement of treatment with optimised asthma therapy.

Note Formal assessment and correction of inhaler technique should be performed in accordance with the National Asthma Council (NAC) Information Paper for Health Professionals on Inhaler Technique (available at www.nationalasthma.org.au); the assessment and adherence to correct technique should be documented in the patient's medical records. Patients can obtain support with inhaler technique through their local Asthma Foundation (1800 645 130).

Authority required

Uncontrolled severe asthma

Treatment Phase: Initial treatment - Initial 2 (Change of treatment)

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a medical practitioner who is either a: (i) respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma.

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must be under the care of the same physician for at least 6 months; OR
- Patient must have been diagnosed by a multidisciplinary severe asthma clinic team, **AND**
- Patient must have received prior PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine for severe asthma in this treatment cycle, **AND**
- Patient must not have failed, or ceased to respond to, PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for severe asthma during the current treatment cycle, **AND**
- Patient must have had a blood eosinophil count of at least 300 cells per microlitre and that is no older than 12 months immediately prior to commencing PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment for severe asthma; OR
- Patient must have had a blood eosinophil count of at least 150 cells per microlitre while receiving treatment with oral corticosteroids and that is no older than 12 months immediately prior to commencing PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment for severe asthma, **AND**
- Patient must not receive more than 32 weeks of treatment under this restriction, **AND**
- The treatment must not be used in combination with and within 4 weeks of another PBS-subsidised biological medicine prescribed for severe asthma.

Population criteria:

- Patient must be aged 12 years or older.

An application for a patient who has received PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment for severe asthma who wishes to change therapy to this biological medicine, must be accompanied by the results of an ACQ-5 assessment of the patient's most recent course of PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment. The assessment must have been made not more than 4 weeks after the last dose of biological medicine. Where a response assessment was not undertaken, the patient will be deemed to have failed to respond to treatment with that previous biological medicine.

An ACQ-5 assessment of the patient may be made at the time of application for treatment (to establish a new baseline score), but should be made again around 28 weeks after the first PBS-subsidised dose of this biological medicine under this restriction so that there is adequate time for a response to be demonstrated and for the application for the first continuing therapy to be processed.

This assessment, which will be used to determine eligibility for the first continuing treatment, should be conducted within 4 weeks of the last dose of biological medicine. To avoid an interruption of supply for the first continuing treatment, the assessment should be provided no later than 2 weeks prior to the patient completing their current treatment course, unless the patient is currently on a treatment break. Where a response assessment is not undertaken and provided, the patient will be deemed to have failed to respond to treatment with this drug.

At the time of the authority application, medical practitioners should request up to 4 repeats to provide for an initial course sufficient for up to 32 weeks of therapy, based on a dose of 30 mg every 4 weeks for the first three doses (weeks 0, 4, and 8) then 30 mg every eight weeks thereafter (refer to the TGA-approved Product Information).

A multidisciplinary severe asthma clinic team comprises of:

- (i) A respiratory physician; and
- (ii) A pharmacist, nurse or asthma educator.

The authority application must be made in writing and must include:

- (1) a completed authority prescription form; and
- (2) a completed authority application form relevant to the indication and treatment phase (the latest version is located on the website specified in the Administrative Advice).

The following must be provided at the time of application and documented in the patient's medical records:

- (a) Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5 item version) score (where a new baseline is being submitted or where the patient has responded to prior treatment); and
- (b) details (date and duration of treatment) of prior biological medicine treatment; and
- (c) eosinophil count and date; and
- (d) if applicable, the dose of the maintenance oral corticosteroid (where the response criteria or baseline is based on corticosteroid dose); and
- (e) the reason for switching therapy (e.g. failure of prior therapy, partial response to prior therapy, adverse event to prior therapy).

benralizumab 30 mg/mL injection, 1 mL pen device

11994G	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	4	..	3145.45	Fasenra Pen [AP]

■ CICLOSPORIN

Caution Careful monitoring of patients is mandatory.

Authority required (STREAMLINED)

6643

Management of transplant rejection

Treatment Phase: Management (initiation, stabilisation and review of therapy)

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have had an organ or tissue transplantation, **AND**
- The treatment must be under the supervision and direction of a transplant unit.

Authority required (STREAMLINED)

6660

Severe atopic dermatitis

Treatment Phase: Management (initiation, stabilisation and review of therapy)

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a dermatologist; OR
- Must be treated by a clinical immunologist.

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be ineffective to other systemic therapies; OR
- The condition must be inappropriate for other systemic therapies.

Authority required (STREAMLINED)

15360

Severe psoriasis

Treatment Phase: Management (initiation, stabilisation and review of therapy)

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be ineffective to other systemic therapies; OR
- The condition must be inappropriate for other systemic therapies, **AND**
- The condition must have caused significant interference with quality of life.

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a medical practitioner who is either: (i) a dermatologist, (ii) a rheumatologist, (iii) general physician; OR

- Must be treated by a medical practitioner in consultation with one of the above specialist types who is either an accredited: (i) dermatology registrar, (ii) rheumatology registrar.

For patients who do not demonstrate an adequate response to ciclosporin, a Psoriasis Area and Severity Index (PASI) assessment must be completed, preferably while on treatment, but no longer than 4 weeks following the cessation of treatment. This assessment will be required for patients who transition to 'biological medicines' for the treatment of 'severe chronic plaque psoriasis'.

This assessment must be documented in the patient's medical records.

Authority required (STREAMLINED)

6631

Nephrotic syndrome

Treatment Phase: Management (initiation, stabilisation and review of therapy)

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have failed prior treatment with steroids and cytostatic drugs; OR
- Patient must be intolerant to treatment with steroids and cytostatic drugs; OR
- The condition must be considered inappropriate for treatment with steroids and cytostatic drugs, **AND**
- Patient must not have renal impairment.

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a nephrologist.

Authority required (STREAMLINED)

6638

Severe active rheumatoid arthritis

Treatment Phase: Management (initiation, stabilisation and review of therapy)

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must have been ineffective to prior treatment with classical slow-acting anti-rheumatic agents (including methotrexate); OR
- The condition must be considered inappropriate for treatment with slow-acting anti-rheumatic agents (including methotrexate).

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a rheumatologist; OR
- Must be treated by a clinical immunologist.

ciclosporin 10 mg capsule, 60

5632K	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	2	5	..	*74.40	Neoral 10 [NV]

ciclosporin 100 mg capsule, 30

5636P	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	4	5	..	*373.80	^a APO-Ciclosporin [TX] ^a Neoral 100 [NV]	^a Cyclosporin Sandoz [NM]

ciclosporin 25 mg capsule, 30

5634M	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	4	5	..	*88.16	^a APO-Ciclosporin [TX] ^a Neoral 25 [NV]	^a Cyclosporin Sandoz [NM]

ciclosporin 50 mg capsule, 30

5635N	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	4	5	..	*183.48	^a APO-Ciclosporin [TX] ^a Neoral 50 [NV]	^a Cyclosporin Sandoz [NM]

ciclosporin 100 mg/mL oral liquid, 50 mL

5633L	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	4	5	..	*1263.16	Neoral [NV]

▪ DAUNORUBICIN + CYTARABINE

Caution Liposomal daunorubicin and cytarabine (Vyxeos) must not be substituted or interchanged with other daunorubicin and/or cytarabine containing products. Due to substantial differences in the pharmacokinetic parameters, the dose and schedule recommendations for Vyxeos are different from other medications that contain daunorubicin and/or cytarabine in other forms.

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

Note No increase in the maximum quantity or number of units may be authorised.

Note No increase in the maximum number of repeats may be authorised.

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

Acute Myeloid Leukaemia

Treatment Phase: Consolidation therapy

Clinical criteria:

- The treatment must be for consolidation treatment following induction treatment with this product, **AND**

- The condition must be either: (i) newly diagnosed therapy-related acute myeloid leukaemia (AML), (ii) newly diagnosed AML with myelodysplasia-related changes (MRC) (prior myelodysplastic syndromes (MDS) or MDS-related cytogenetic or molecular abnormality), **AND**

- The treatment must not exceed two cycles of consolidation therapy under this restriction.

This drug is not PBS-subsidised if it is administered to an in-patient in a public hospital setting.

The TGA-approved Product Information recommended dosing schedule for consolidation is daunorubicin 29 mg/m² and cytarabine 65 mg/m² on days 1 and 3.

With each authority application, state the body surface area (m²) of the patient.

Based on this prescribe up to:

1 vial where the body surface area is between 1 m² to 1.53 m²

2 vials where the body surface area is above 1.53 m² or up to and including 3.07 m²

daunorubicin hydrochloride 44 mg + cytarabine 100 mg injection, 1 vial

14205P	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	2	3	..	*16430.00	Vyxeos [JA]

▪ DAUNORUBICIN + CYTARABINE

Caution Liposomal daunorubicin and cytarabine (Vyxeos) must not be substituted or interchanged with other daunorubicin and/or cytarabine containing products. Due to substantial differences in the pharmacokinetic parameters, the dose and schedule recommendations for Vyxeos are different from other medications that contain daunorubicin and/or cytarabine in other forms.

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

Note No increase in the maximum quantity or number of units may be authorised.

Note No increase in the maximum number of repeats may be authorised.

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

Acute Myeloid Leukaemia

Treatment Phase: Induction therapy

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must not have received prior chemotherapy as induction therapy for this condition, **AND**
- The condition must be either: (i) newly diagnosed therapy-related acute myeloid leukaemia (AML), (ii) newly diagnosed AML with myelodysplasia-related changes (MRC) (prior myelodysplastic syndromes (MDS) or MDS-related cytogenetic or molecular abnormality), **AND**
- The condition must not be either: (i) internal tandem duplication (ITD); (ii) tyrosine kinase domain (TKD) FMS tyrosine kinase 3 (FLT3), mutation positive, **AND**
- Patient must not have favourable cytogenetic risk acute myeloid leukaemia (AML), **AND**
- Patient must have a World Health Organisation (WHO) Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group (ECOG) performance status score of 2 or less, **AND**
- The treatment must not exceed two cycles of induction therapy under this restriction.

This drug is not PBS-subsidised if it is administered to an in-patient in a public hospital setting.

The prescriber must confirm whether the patient has newly diagnosed therapy-related AML or AML-MRC. The test result and date of testing must be provided at the time of application and documented in the patient's file.

The TGA-approved Product Information recommended dosing schedule is as follows:

(i) First Induction: daunorubicin 44 mg/m² and cytarabine 100 mg/m² on days 1, 3 and 5

(ii) Second Induction: daunorubicin 44 mg/m² and cytarabine 100 mg/m² on days 1 and 3

With each authority application, state the body surface area (m²) of the patient.

Based on (i) to (ii), prescribe up to:

1 vial where the body surface area is up to and including 1 m²;

2 vials where the body surface area is above 1 m² or up to and including 2 m²;

3 vials where the body surface area is above 2 m² or up to and including 3 m².

daunorubicin hydrochloride 44 mg + cytarabine 100 mg injection, 1 vial

14171W	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	3	4	..	*24645.00	Vyxeos [JA]

▪ DUPILUMAB

Note TREATMENT OF ADULT AND ADOLESCENT PATIENTS WITH UNCONTROLLED SEVERE ASTHMA

The following information applies to the prescribing under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) of the biological medicines for uncontrolled severe asthma. Where the term biological medicine appears in the following notes and restrictions it refers to all PBS benefits with the specific PBS indication of 'uncontrolled severe asthma'.

A patient is eligible for PBS-subsidised treatment with only 1 biological medicine for uncontrolled severe asthma at any one time.

A patient receiving PBS-subsidised treatment for uncontrolled severe asthma is able to commence a treatment cycle where they may trial a biological medicine without having to experience a disease flare when swapping to an alternate biological medicine within the same treatment cycle.

Under these arrangements, within a treatment cycle, a patient may receive long-term treatment with a biological medicine as long as they sustain a response to therapy.

A patient currently receiving PBS-subsidised treatment as of 1 April 2021 is considered to have started a cycle of treatment.

Within the same treatment cycle, a patient cannot trial and fail, or cease to respond to, the same PBS-subsidised biological medicine more than once.

Therefore, once a patient fails to meet the response criteria for a PBS-subsidised biological medicine, they must change to an alternate biological medicine if they wish to continue PBS-subsidised biological treatment.

Once a patient has either failed to achieve or sustain a response to treatment 4 times, they are deemed to have completed a single treatment cycle. They must have at least a 12-month break in PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy before they are eligible to recommence another new treatment cycle [further details are under 'Recommencement of treatment after a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy' below].

The length of the break in therapy is measured from the date the most recent treatment with a PBS-subsidised biological medicine is ceased until the date of the first application for recommencement of treatment with a biological medicine under the new treatment cycle.

There is no limit to the number of treatment cycles that a patient may undertake in their lifetime.

How to prescribe PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment for uncontrolled severe asthma.

(1) Initial treatment:

Applications for initial treatment should be made where:

(i) a patient has not received prior PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment and wishes to commence such therapy (Initial 1 restriction); or

(ii) a patient has received prior PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine and wishes to recommence a new treatment cycle with this biological medicine following a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy (Initial 1 restriction); or

(iii) a patient has received prior PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy and wishes to trial an alternate biological medicine within the same treatment cycle (Initial 2 restriction) - [further details are under 'Swapping therapy' below].

All applications for initial treatment will be limited to provide for a maximum of up to 32 weeks of therapy of a biological medicine. It is recommended that a patient be reviewed in the month prior to completing their course of initial treatment to ensure uninterrupted biological medicine supply.

(2) Continuing treatment:

Following the completion of an initial treatment course with a specific biological medicine, a patient may qualify to receive up to 24 weeks of continuing treatment with that biological medicine providing they have demonstrated an adequate response to treatment. The patient remains eligible to receive continuing biological medicine treatment with the same drug in courses of up to 24 weeks providing they continue to sustain the response. It is recommended that a patient be reviewed the month prior to completing their current course of treatment to ensure uninterrupted biological medicine supply.

(3) Baseline measurements to determine response:

Baseline measurements of the Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ; 5 item version) or oral corticosteroid dose submitted with the Initial authority application for a biological medicine must be used to determine whether an adequate response to treatment has been achieved or sustained.

For patients transitioned from the paediatric to the adolescent/adult restriction, the exacerbation history may also be used to determine response.

However, prescribers may provide new baseline measurements when a new Initial treatment authority application is submitted and these new baseline measurements may be used to assess response.

(4) Swapping therapy within the same treatment cycle.

Once initial treatment with the first PBS-subsidised biological medicine is approved, a patient may swap to an alternate biological medicine at any time by qualifying under an Initial 2 restriction.

However, they cannot swap to a particular biological medicine if they have failed to respond to prior treatment with that drug within the same treatment cycle.

Within the same treatment cycle a patient may alternate between therapy with any biological medicine of their choice (1 at a time) providing:

(i) they have not received PBS-subsidised treatment with that particular biological medicine previously; or

(ii) they have demonstrated an adequate response to that particular biological medicine if they have previously trialed it on the PBS; and

(iii) they have not previously failed to respond to treatment with all 4 biological medicines in this treatment cycle.

(5) Re-commencement of a new treatment cycle after a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy:

A patient who wishes to trial a second or subsequent new treatment cycle, following a break in PBS-subsidised therapy of at least 12 months (in patients who have failed to achieve or ceased to sustain a response to treatment 4 times within a treatment cycle), must re-qualify through an Initial 1 restriction.

(6) Monitoring of patients:

Omalizumab only:

Anaphylaxis and anaphylactoid reactions have been reported following first or subsequent administration of omalizumab (see Product Information). Patients should be monitored post-injection, and medications for the treatment of anaphylactic reactions should be available for immediate use following administration of omalizumab. Patients should be informed that such reactions are possible and prompt medical attention should be sought if allergic reactions occur.

Note For copies of the ACQ and the calculation sheets please contact Sanofi Medical Information on 1800 818 806 or MedInfo.Australia@sanofi.com

Note Formal assessment and correction of inhaler technique should be performed in accordance with the National Asthma Council (NAC) Information Paper for Health Professionals on Inhaler Technique (available at www.nationalasthma.org.au); the assessment and adherence to correct technique should be documented in the patient's medical records. Patients can obtain support with inhaler technique through their local Asthma Foundation (1800 645 130).

Note Any queries concerning the arrangements to prescribe may be directed to Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

Prescribing information (including Authority Application forms and other relevant documentation as applicable) is available on the Services Australia website at www.servicesaustralia.gov.au

Applications for authority to prescribe should be submitted online using the form upload facility in Health Professional Online Services (HPOS) at www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/hpos

Or mailed to:

Services Australia

Complex Drugs

Reply Paid 9826
HOBART TAS 7001

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

Uncontrolled severe asthma

Treatment Phase: Continuing treatment

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a medical practitioner who is either a: (i) respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma.

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have received this drug as their most recent course of PBS-subsidised biological agent treatment for this condition in this treatment cycle, **AND**
- Patient must have demonstrated or sustained an adequate response to PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition, **AND**
- The treatment must not be used in combination with and within 4 weeks of another PBS-subsidised biological medicine prescribed for severe asthma, **AND**
- Patient must not receive more than 24 weeks of treatment under this restriction.

Population criteria:

- Patient must be aged 12 years or older.

An adequate response to this biological medicine is defined as:

(a) a reduction in the Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) score of at least 0.5 from baseline,

OR

(b) maintenance oral corticosteroid dose reduced by at least 25% from baseline, and no deterioration in ACQ-5 score from baseline or an increase in ACQ-5 score from baseline less than or equal to 0.5.

All applications for second and subsequent continuing treatments with this drug must include a measurement of response to the prior course of therapy. The Asthma Control Questionnaire (5 item version) assessment of the patient's response to the prior course of treatment or the assessment of oral corticosteroid dose, should be made from 20 weeks after the first dose of PBS-subsidised dose of this drug under this restriction so that there is adequate time for a response to be demonstrated and, for the application for continuing therapy to be processed.

The assessment should, where possible, be completed by the same physician who initiated treatment with this drug. This assessment, which will be used to determine eligibility for continuing treatment, should be conducted within 4 weeks of the last dose of biological medicine. To avoid an interruption of supply for the first continuing treatment, the assessment should be provided no later than 2 weeks prior to the patient completing their current treatment course, unless the patient is currently on a treatment break. Where a response assessment is not undertaken and provided, the patient will be deemed to have failed to respond to treatment with this drug.

Where treatment was ceased for clinical reasons despite the patient experiencing improvement, an assessment of the patient's response to treatment made at the time of treatment cessation or retrospectively will be considered to determine whether the patient demonstrated or sustained an adequate response to treatment.

A patient who fails to respond to treatment with this biological medicine for uncontrolled severe asthma will not be eligible to receive further PBS-subsidised treatment with this biological medicine for severe asthma within the current treatment cycle.

A swapping between 200 mg and 300 mg strengths is not permitted as the respective strengths are PBS approved for different patient cohorts.

At the time of the authority application, medical practitioners should request the appropriate number of repeats to provide for a continuing course of this drug sufficient for up to 24 weeks of therapy.

The authority application must be made in writing and must include:

- (1) a completed authority prescription form; and
- (2) a completed authority application form relevant to the indication and treatment phase (the latest version is located on the website specified in the Administrative Advice).

The following information must be provided at the time of application and must be documented in the patient's medical records:

- (a) if applicable, details of maintenance oral corticosteroid dose; and
- (b) a completed Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) score.

dupilumab 300 mg/2 mL injection, 2 x 2 mL syringes

12302L	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	5	..	1609.86	Dupixent [SW]

dupilumab 200 mg/1.14 mL injection, 2 x 1.14 mL syringes

12318H	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	5	..	1609.86	Dupixent [SW]

■ DUPILUMAB

Note TREATMENT OF ADULT AND ADOLESCENT PATIENTS WITH UNCONTROLLED SEVERE ASTHMA

The following information applies to the prescribing under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) of the biological medicines for uncontrolled severe asthma. Where the term biological medicine appears in the following notes and restrictions it refers to all PBS benefits with the specific PBS indication of 'uncontrolled severe asthma'.

A patient is eligible for PBS-subsidised treatment with only 1 biological medicine for uncontrolled severe asthma at any one time.

A patient receiving PBS-subsidised treatment for uncontrolled severe asthma is able to commence a treatment cycle where

they may trial a biological medicine without having to experience a disease flare when swapping to an alternate biological medicine within the same treatment cycle.

Under these arrangements, within a treatment cycle, a patient may receive long-term treatment with a biological medicine as long as they sustain a response to therapy.

A patient currently receiving PBS-subsidised treatment as of 1 April 2021 is considered to have started a cycle of treatment. Within the same treatment cycle, a patient cannot trial and fail, or cease to respond to, the same PBS-subsidised biological medicine more than once.

Therefore, once a patient fails to meet the response criteria for a PBS-subsidised biological medicine, they must change to an alternate biological medicine if they wish to continue PBS-subsidised biological treatment.

Once a patient has either failed to achieve or sustain a response to treatment 4 times, they are deemed to have completed a single treatment cycle. They must have at least a 12-month break in PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy before they are eligible to recommence another new treatment cycle [further details are under 'Recommencement of treatment after a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy' below].

The length of the break in therapy is measured from the date the most recent treatment with a PBS-subsidised biological medicine is ceased until the date of the first application for recommencement of treatment with a biological medicine under the new treatment cycle.

There is no limit to the number of treatment cycles that a patient may undertake in their lifetime.

How to prescribe PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment for uncontrolled severe asthma.

(1) Initial treatment:

Applications for initial treatment should be made where:

(i) a patient has not received prior PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment and wishes to commence such therapy (Initial 1 restriction); or

(ii) a patient has received prior PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine and wishes to recommence a new treatment cycle with this biological medicine following a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy (Initial 1 restriction); or

(iii) a patient has received prior PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy and wishes to trial an alternate biological medicine within the same treatment cycle (Initial 2 restriction) - [further details are under 'Swapping therapy' below].

All applications for initial treatment will be limited to provide for a maximum of up to 32 weeks of therapy of a biological medicine. It is recommended that a patient be reviewed in the month prior to completing their course of initial treatment to ensure uninterrupted biological medicine supply.

(2) Continuing treatment:

Following the completion of an initial treatment course with a specific biological medicine, a patient may qualify to receive up to 24 weeks of continuing treatment with that biological medicine providing they have demonstrated an adequate response to treatment. The patient remains eligible to receive continuing biological medicine treatment with the same drug in courses of up to 24 weeks providing they continue to sustain the response. It is recommended that a patient be reviewed the month prior to completing their current course of treatment to ensure uninterrupted biological medicine supply.

(3) Baseline measurements to determine response:

Baseline measurements of the Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ; 5 item version) or oral corticosteroid dose submitted with the Initial authority application for a biological medicine must be used to determine whether an adequate response to treatment has been achieved or sustained.

For patients transitioned from the paediatric to the adolescent/adult restriction, the exacerbation history may also be used to determine response.

However, prescribers may provide new baseline measurements when a new Initial treatment authority application is submitted and these new baseline measurements may be used to assess response.

(4) Swapping therapy within the same treatment cycle.

Once initial treatment with the first PBS-subsidised biological medicine is approved, a patient may swap to an alternate biological medicine at any time by qualifying under an Initial 2 restriction.

However, they cannot swap to a particular biological medicine if they have failed to respond to prior treatment with that drug within the same treatment cycle.

Within the same treatment cycle a patient may alternate between therapy with any biological medicine of their choice (1 at a time) providing:

(i) they have not received PBS-subsidised treatment with that particular biological medicine previously; or

(ii) they have demonstrated an adequate response to that particular biological medicine if they have previously trialed it on the PBS; and

(iii) they have not previously failed to respond to treatment with all 4 biological medicines in this treatment cycle.

(5) Re-commencement of a new treatment cycle after a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy:

A patient who wishes to trial a second or subsequent new treatment cycle, following a break in PBS-subsidised therapy of at least 12 months (in patients who have failed to achieve or ceased to sustain a response to treatment 4 times within a treatment cycle), must re-qualify through an Initial 1 restriction.

(6) Monitoring of patients:

Omalizumab only:

Anaphylaxis and anaphylactoid reactions have been reported following first or subsequent administration of omalizumab (see Product Information). Patients should be monitored post-injection, and medications for the treatment of anaphylactic reactions should be available for immediate use following administration of omalizumab. Patients should be informed that such reactions are possible and prompt medical attention should be sought if allergic reactions occur.

Note For copies of the ACQ and the calculation sheets please contact Sanofi Medical Information on 1800 818 806 or MedInfo.Australia@sanofi.com

Note Any queries concerning the arrangements to prescribe may be directed to Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

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Applications for authority to prescribe should be submitted online using the form upload facility in Health Professional Online Services (HPOS) at www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/hpos

Or mailed to:

Services Australia

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

Uncontrolled severe asthma

Treatment Phase: Initial treatment 1 - (New patient; or Recommencement of treatment in a new treatment cycle following a break in PBS subsidised biological medicine therapy)

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a medical practitioner who is either a: (i) respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma.

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must be under the care of the same physician for at least 6 months; OR
- Patient must have been diagnosed by a multidisciplinary severe asthma clinic team, **AND**
- Patient must not have received PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine for severe asthma; OR
- Patient must have had a break in treatment of at least 12 months from the most recently approved PBS-subsidised biological medicine for severe asthma, **AND**
- Patient must have a diagnosis of asthma confirmed and documented in the patient's medical records by either a: (i) respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma, defined by at least one of the following standard clinical features: (a) forced expiratory volume (FEV1) reversibility greater than or equal to 12% and greater than or equal to 200 mL at baseline within 30 minutes after administration of salbutamol (200 to 400 micrograms), (b) airway hyperresponsiveness defined as a greater than 20% decline in FEV1 during a direct bronchial provocation test or greater than 15% decline during an indirect bronchial provocation test, (c) peak expiratory flow (PEF) variability of greater than 15% between the two highest and two lowest peak expiratory flow rates during 14 days; OR
- Patient must have a diagnosis of asthma from at least two physicians experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma with the details documented in the patient's medical records, **AND**
- Patient must have a duration of asthma of at least 1 year, **AND**
- Patient must have been receiving regular maintenance oral corticosteroids (OCS) in the last 6 months with a stable daily OCS dose of 5 to 35 mg/day of prednisolone or equivalent over the 4 weeks prior to treatment initiation, **AND**
- Patient must have blood eosinophil count of at least 150 cells per microlitre while receiving treatment with oral corticosteroids in the last 12 months; OR
- Patient must have total serum human immunoglobulin E of at least 30 IU/mL, measured in the last 12 months that has past or current evidence of atopy, documented by either: (i) skin prick testing; (ii) an in vitro measure of specific IgE, **AND**
- Patient must have failed to achieve adequate control with optimised asthma therapy, despite formal assessment of and adherence to correct inhaler technique, which has been documented in the patient's medical records, **AND**
- Patient must not receive more than 32 weeks of treatment under this restriction, **AND**
- The treatment must not be used in combination with and within 4 weeks of another PBS-subsidised biological medicine prescribed for severe asthma.

Population criteria:

- Patient must be aged 12 years or older.

Optimised asthma therapy includes:

- (i) Adherence to maximal inhaled therapy, including high dose inhaled corticosteroid (ICS) plus long-acting beta-2 agonist (LABA) therapy for at least 12 months, unless contraindicated or not tolerated; AND
- (ii) treatment with oral corticosteroids as outlined in the clinical criteria.

If the requirement for treatment with optimised asthma therapy cannot be met because of contraindications according to the relevant TGA-approved Product Information and/or intolerances of a severity necessitating permanent treatment withdrawal, details of the contraindication and/or intolerance must be provided in the Authority application.

The following initiation criteria indicate failure to achieve adequate control and must be demonstrated in all patients at the time of the application:

- (a) an Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) score of at least 2.0, as assessed in the previous month, AND
 - (b) while receiving optimised asthma therapy in the past 12 months, experienced at least 1 admission to hospital for a severe asthma exacerbation, OR 1 severe asthma exacerbation, requiring documented use of systemic corticosteroids (oral corticosteroids initiated or increased for at least 3 days, or parenteral corticosteroids) prescribed/supervised by a physician.
- The Asthma Control Questionnaire (5 item version) assessment of the patient's response to this initial course of treatment, and the assessment of oral corticosteroid dose, should be made at around 28 weeks after the first PBS-subsidised dose of this drug under this restriction so that there is adequate time for a response to be demonstrated and for the application for the first continuing therapy to be processed.

This assessment, which will be used to determine eligibility for the first continuing treatment, should be conducted within 4 weeks of the last dose of biological medicine. To avoid an interruption of supply for the first continuing treatment, the assessment should be provided no later than 2 weeks prior to the patient completing their current treatment course, unless the patient is currently on a treatment break.

If a patient fails to demonstrate a response to treatment with this drug they will not be eligible to receive further PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition within the same treatment cycle.

A treatment break in PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy of at least 12 months must be observed in a patient who has either failed to achieve or sustain a response to treatment with 4 biological medicines within the same treatment cycle.

The length of the break in therapy is measured from the date the most recent treatment with a PBS-subsidised biological medicine was administered until the date of the first application for recommencement of treatment with a biological medicine under the new treatment cycle.

There is no limit to the number of treatment cycles that a patient may undertake in their lifetime.

A multidisciplinary severe asthma clinic team comprises of:

- (i) A respiratory physician; and
- (ii) A pharmacist, nurse or asthma educator.

At the time of the authority application, medical practitioners should request up to 8 repeats to provide for an initial course of dupilumab sufficient for up to 32 weeks of therapy, at a dose of 600 mg as an initial dose, followed by 300 mg every 2 weeks thereafter.

A swapping between 200 mg and 300 mg strengths is not permitted as the respective strengths are PBS approved for different patient cohorts.

The authority application must be made in writing and must include:

- (1) a completed authority prescription form; and
- (2) a completed authority application form relevant to the indication and treatment phase (the latest version is located on the website specified in the Administrative Advice).

The following must be provided at the time of application and documented in the patient's medical records:

- (a) details (treatment, date of commencement, duration of therapy) of prior optimised asthma drug therapy; and
- (b) If applicable, details of contraindications and/or intolerances of a severity necessitating permanent treatment withdrawal to standard therapy according to the relevant TGA-approved Product Information; and
- (c) details of severe exacerbation/s experienced in the past 12 months while receiving optimised asthma therapy (date and treatment); and
- (d) Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) score; and
- (e) if applicable, the eosinophil count and date; and
- (f) if applicable, the IgE result and date.

Note The Services Australia website (www.servicessaustralia.gov.au) has details of the accepted toxicities, including severity, which will be accepted for the purposes of exempting a patient from the requirement of treatment with optimised asthma therapy.

Note Formal assessment and correction of inhaler technique should be performed in accordance with the National Asthma Council (NAC) Information Paper for Health Professionals on Inhaler Technique (available at www.nationalasthma.org.au); the assessment and adherence to correct technique should be documented in the patient's medical records. Patients can obtain support with inhaler technique through their local Asthma Foundation (1800 645 130).

Authority required

Uncontrolled severe asthma

Treatment Phase: Initial treatment - Initial 2 (Change of treatment)

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a medical practitioner who is either a: (i) respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma.

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must be under the care of the same physician for at least 6 months; OR
- Patient must have been diagnosed by a multidisciplinary severe asthma clinic team, **AND**
- Patient must have received prior PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine for severe asthma in this treatment cycle, **AND**
- Patient must not have failed, or ceased to respond to, PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for severe asthma during the current treatment cycle, **AND**
- Patient must have had a blood eosinophil count of at least 150 cells per microlitre while receiving treatment with oral corticosteroids and that is no older than 12 months immediately prior to commencing PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment for severe asthma; OR
- Patient must have each of: (i) total serum human immunoglobulin E of at least 30 IU/mL measured no more than 12 months prior to initiating PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine for severe asthma, (ii) past or current evidence of atopy, documented by skin prick testing or an in vitro measure of specific IgE in the past 12 months or in the 12 months prior to initiating PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine for severe asthma, **AND**
- Patient must have received regular maintenance oral corticosteroids (OCS) in the last 6 months with a stable daily OCS dose of 5 to 35 mg/day of prednisolone or equivalent over the 4 weeks prior to treatment initiation, **AND**
- Patient must not receive more than 32 weeks of treatment under this restriction, **AND**
- The treatment must not be used in combination with and within 4 weeks of another PBS-subsidised biological medicine prescribed for severe asthma.

Population criteria:

- Patient must be aged 12 years or older.

An application for a patient who has received PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment for severe asthma who wishes to change therapy to this biological medicine, must be accompanied by the results of an ACQ-5 assessment of the patient's most recent course of PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment. The assessment must have been made not more than 4 weeks after the last dose of biological medicine. Where a response assessment was not undertaken, the patient will be deemed to have failed to respond to treatment with that previous biological medicine.

An ACQ-5 assessment of the patient may be made at the time of application for treatment (to establish a new baseline score), but should be made again around 28 weeks after the first PBS-subsidised dose of this biological medicine under this restriction so that there is adequate time for a response to be demonstrated and for the application for the first continuing therapy to be processed.

This assessment at around 28 weeks, which will be used to determine eligibility for the first continuing treatment, should be conducted within 4 weeks of the last dose of biological medicine. To avoid an interruption of supply for the first continuing treatment, the assessment should be provided no later than 2 weeks prior to the patient completing their current treatment

course, unless the patient is currently on a treatment break. Where a response assessment is not undertaken and provided, the patient will be deemed to have failed to respond to treatment with this biological medicine.

At the time of the authority application, medical practitioners should request up to 8 repeats to provide for an initial course of dupilumab sufficient for up to 32 weeks of therapy at a dose of 600 mg as an initial dose, followed by 300 mg every 2 weeks thereafter.

A swapping between 200 mg and 300 mg strengths is not permitted as the respective strengths are PBS approved for different patient cohorts.

A multidisciplinary severe asthma clinic team comprises of:

- (i) A respiratory physician; and
- (ii) A pharmacist, nurse or asthma educator.

The authority application must be made in writing and must include:

- (1) a completed authority prescription form; and
- (2) a completed authority application form relevant to the indication and treatment phase (the latest version is located on the website specified in the Administrative Advice).

The following must be provided at the time of application and documented in the patient's medical records:

- (a) Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5 item version) score (where a new baseline is being submitted or where the patient has responded to prior treatment); and
- (b) details (treatment, date of commencement, duration of therapy) of prior biological medicine treatment; and
- (c) if applicable, the eosinophil count and date; and
- (d) if applicable, the dose of the maintenance oral corticosteroid (where the response criteria or baseline is based on corticosteroid dose); and
- (e) if applicable, the IgE result and date; and
- (f) the reason for switching therapy (e.g. failure of prior therapy, partial response to prior therapy, adverse event to prior therapy).

dupilumab 300 mg/2 mL injection, 2 x 2 mL syringes

12293B	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	8	..	1609.86	Dupixent [SW]

▪ DUPILUMAB

Note TREATMENT OF ADULT AND ADOLESCENT PATIENTS WITH UNCONTROLLED SEVERE ASTHMA

The following information applies to the prescribing under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) of the biological medicines for uncontrolled severe asthma. Where the term biological medicine appears in the following notes and restrictions it refers to all PBS benefits with the specific PBS indication of 'uncontrolled severe asthma'.

A patient is eligible for PBS-subsidised treatment with only 1 biological medicine for uncontrolled severe asthma at any one time.

A patient receiving PBS-subsidised treatment for uncontrolled severe asthma is able to commence a treatment cycle where they may trial a biological medicine without having to experience a disease flare when swapping to an alternate biological medicine within the same treatment cycle.

Under these arrangements, within a treatment cycle, a patient may receive long-term treatment with a biological medicine as long as they sustain a response to therapy.

A patient currently receiving PBS-subsidised treatment as of 1 April 2021 is considered to have started a cycle of treatment. Within the same treatment cycle, a patient cannot trial and fail, or cease to respond to, the same PBS-subsidised biological medicine more than once.

Therefore, once a patient fails to meet the response criteria for a PBS-subsidised biological medicine, they must change to an alternate biological medicine if they wish to continue PBS-subsidised biological treatment.

Once a patient has either failed to achieve or sustain a response to treatment 4 times, they are deemed to have completed a single treatment cycle. They must have at least a 12-month break in PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy before they are eligible to recommence another new treatment cycle [further details are under 'Recommencement of treatment after a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy' below].

The length of the break in therapy is measured from the date the most recent treatment with a PBS-subsidised biological medicine is ceased until the date of the first application for recommencement of treatment with a biological medicine under the new treatment cycle.

There is no limit to the number of treatment cycles that a patient may undertake in their lifetime.

How to prescribe PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment for uncontrolled severe asthma.

(1) Initial treatment:

Applications for initial treatment should be made where:

- (i) a patient has not received prior PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment and wishes to commence such therapy (Initial 1 restriction); or
- (ii) a patient has received prior PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine and wishes to recommence a new treatment cycle with this biological medicine following a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy (Initial 1 restriction); or
- (iii) a patient has received prior PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy and wishes to trial an alternate biological medicine within the same treatment cycle (Initial 2 restriction) - [further details are under 'Swapping therapy' below].

All applications for initial treatment will be limited to provide for a maximum of up to 32 weeks of therapy of a biological medicine. It is recommended that a patient be reviewed in the month prior to completing their course of initial treatment to ensure uninterrupted biological medicine supply.

(2) Continuing treatment:

Following the completion of an initial treatment course with a specific biological medicine, a patient may qualify to receive up to 24 weeks of continuing treatment with that biological medicine providing they have demonstrated an adequate response to treatment. The patient remains eligible to receive continuing biological medicine treatment with the same drug in courses of up to 24 weeks providing they continue to sustain the response. It is recommended that a patient be reviewed the month prior to completing their current course of treatment to ensure uninterrupted biological medicine supply.

(3) Baseline measurements to determine response:

Baseline measurements of the Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ; 5 item version) or oral corticosteroid dose submitted with the Initial authority application for a biological medicine must be used to determine whether an adequate response to treatment has been achieved or sustained.

For patients transitioned from the paediatric to the adolescent/adult restriction, the exacerbation history may also be used to determine response.

However, prescribers may provide new baseline measurements when a new Initial treatment authority application is submitted and these new baseline measurements may be used to assess response.

(4) Swapping therapy within the same treatment cycle.

Once initial treatment with the first PBS-subsidised biological medicine is approved, a patient may swap to an alternate biological medicine at any time by qualifying under an Initial 2 restriction.

However, they cannot swap to a particular biological medicine if they have failed to respond to prior treatment with that drug within the same treatment cycle.

Within the same treatment cycle a patient may alternate between therapy with any biological medicine of their choice (1 at a time) providing:

(i) they have not received PBS-subsidised treatment with that particular biological medicine previously; or

(ii) they have demonstrated an adequate response to that particular biological medicine if they have previously trialed it on the PBS; and

(iii) they have not previously failed to respond to treatment with all 4 biological medicines in this treatment cycle.

(5) Re-commencement of a new treatment cycle after a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy:

A patient who wishes to trial a second or subsequent new treatment cycle, following a break in PBS-subsidised therapy of at least 12 months (in patients who have failed to achieve or ceased to sustain a response to treatment 4 times within a treatment cycle), must re-qualify through an Initial 1 restriction.

(6) Monitoring of patients:

Omalizumab only:

Anaphylaxis and anaphylactoid reactions have been reported following first or subsequent administration of omalizumab (see Product Information). Patients should be monitored post-injection, and medications for the treatment of anaphylactic reactions should be available for immediate use following administration of omalizumab. Patients should be informed that such reactions are possible and prompt medical attention should be sought if allergic reactions occur.

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Applications for authority to prescribe should be submitted online using the form upload facility in Health Professional Online Services (HPOS) at www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/hpos

Or mailed to:

Services Australia
Complex Drugs
Reply Paid 9826
HOBART TAS 7001

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

Uncontrolled severe asthma

Treatment Phase: Initial treatment 1 - (New patient; or Recommencement of treatment in a new treatment cycle following a break in PBS subsidised biological medicine therapy)

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a medical practitioner who is either a: (i) respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma.

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must be under the care of the same physician for at least 6 months; OR
- Patient must have been diagnosed by a multidisciplinary severe asthma clinic team, **AND**
- Patient must not have received PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine for severe asthma; OR
- Patient must have had a break in treatment of at least 12 months from the most recently approved PBS-subsidised biological medicine for severe asthma, **AND**
- Patient must have a diagnosis of asthma confirmed and documented in the patient's medical records by either a: (i) respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma, defined by at least one of the following standard clinical features: (a) forced expiratory volume (FEV1) reversibility greater than or equal to 12% and greater than or equal to 200 mL at baseline within 30 minutes after administration of salbutamol (200 to 400 micrograms), (b) airway hyperresponsiveness defined as a greater than 20% decline in FEV1 during a direct bronchial provocation test or greater than 15% decline during an indirect bronchial provocation test, (c) peak expiratory flow (PEF) variability of greater than 15% between the two highest and two lowest peak expiratory flow rates during 14 days; OR
- Patient must have a diagnosis of asthma from at least two physicians experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma with the details documented in the patient's medical records, **AND**
- Patient must have a duration of asthma of at least 1 year, **AND**
- Patient must have a blood eosinophil count of at least 300 cells per microlitre in the last 12 months; OR
- Patient must have blood eosinophil count of at least 150 cells per microlitre while receiving treatment with oral corticosteroids in the last 12 months; OR

- Patient must have total serum human immunoglobulin E of at least 30 IU/mL, measured in the last 12 months that has past or current evidence of atopy, documented by either: (i) skin prick testing; (ii) an in vitro measure of specific IgE, **AND**
- Patient must have failed to achieve adequate control with optimised asthma therapy, despite formal assessment of and adherence to correct inhaler technique, which has been documented in the patient's medical records, **AND**
- Patient must not receive more than 32 weeks of treatment under this restriction, **AND**
- The treatment must not be used in combination with and within 4 weeks of another PBS-subsidised biological medicine prescribed for severe asthma.

Population criteria:

- Patient must be aged 12 years or older.

Optimised asthma therapy includes:

- (i) Adherence to maximal inhaled therapy, including high dose inhaled corticosteroid (ICS) plus long-acting beta-2 agonist (LABA) therapy for at least 12 months, unless contraindicated or not tolerated; **AND**
- (ii) treatment with oral corticosteroids, either daily oral corticosteroids for at least 6 weeks, **OR** a cumulative dose of oral corticosteroids of at least 500 mg prednisolone equivalent in the previous 12 months, unless contraindicated or not tolerated.

If the requirement for treatment with optimised asthma therapy cannot be met because of contraindications according to the relevant TGA-approved Product Information and/or intolerances of a severity necessitating permanent treatment withdrawal, details of the contraindication and/or intolerance must be provided in the Authority application.

The following initiation criteria indicate failure to achieve adequate control and must be demonstrated in all patients at the time of the application:

- (a) an Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) score of at least 2.0, as assessed in the previous month, **AND**
- (b) while receiving optimised asthma therapy in the past 12 months, experienced at least 1 admission to hospital for a severe asthma exacerbation, **OR** 1 severe asthma exacerbation, requiring documented use of systemic corticosteroids (oral corticosteroids initiated or increased for at least 3 days, or parenteral corticosteroids) prescribed/supervised by a physician. The Asthma Control Questionnaire (5 item version) assessment of the patient's response to this initial course of treatment, and the assessment of oral corticosteroid dose, should be made at around 28 weeks after the first PBS-subsidised dose of this drug under this restriction so that there is adequate time for a response to be demonstrated and for the application for the first continuing therapy to be processed.

This assessment, which will be used to determine eligibility for the first continuing treatment, should be conducted within 4 weeks of the last dose of biological medicine. To avoid an interruption of supply for the first continuing treatment, the assessment should be provided no later than 2 weeks prior to the patient completing their current treatment course, unless the patient is currently on a treatment break.

If a patient fails to demonstrate a response to treatment with this drug they will not be eligible to receive further PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition within the same treatment cycle.

A treatment break in PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy of at least 12 months must be observed in a patient who has either failed to achieve or sustain a response to treatment with 4 biological medicines within the same treatment cycle.

The length of the break in therapy is measured from the date the most recent treatment with a PBS-subsidised biological medicine was administered until the date of the first application for recommencement of treatment with a biological medicine under the new treatment cycle.

There is no limit to the number of treatment cycles that a patient may undertake in their lifetime.

A multidisciplinary severe asthma clinic team comprises of:

- (i) A respiratory physician; and
- (ii) A pharmacist, nurse or asthma educator.

At the time of the authority application, medical practitioners should request up to 8 repeats to provide for an initial course of dupilumab sufficient for up to 32 weeks of therapy, at a dose of 400 mg as an initial dose, followed by 200 mg every 2 weeks thereafter.

A swapping between 200 mg and 300 mg strengths is not permitted as the respective strengths are PBS approved for different patient cohorts.

The authority application must be made in writing and must include:

- (1) a completed authority prescription form; and
- (2) a completed authority application form relevant to the indication and treatment phase (the latest version is located on the website specified in the Administrative Advice).

The following must be provided at the time of application and documented in the patient's medical records:

- (a) details (treatment, date of commencement, duration of therapy) of prior optimised asthma drug therapy; and
- (b) If applicable, details of contraindications and/or intolerances of a severity necessitating permanent treatment withdrawal to standard therapy according to the relevant TGA-approved Product Information; and
- (c) details of severe exacerbation/s experienced in the past 12 months while receiving optimised asthma therapy (date and treatment); and
- (d) Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) score; and
- (e) if applicable, the eosinophil count and date; and
- (f) if applicable, the IgE result and date.

Note The Services Australia website (www.servicesaustralia.gov.au) has details of the accepted toxicities, including severity, which will be accepted for the purposes of exempting a patient from the requirement of treatment with optimised asthma therapy.

Note Formal assessment and correction of inhaler technique should be performed in accordance with the National Asthma Council (NAC) Information Paper for Health Professionals on Inhaler Technique (available at www.nationalasthma.org.au); the assessment and adherence to correct technique should be documented in the patient's medical records. Patients can obtain support with inhaler technique through their local Asthma Foundation (1800 645 130).

Authority required

Uncontrolled severe asthma

Treatment Phase: Initial treatment - Initial 2 (Change of treatment)

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a medical practitioner who is either a: (i) respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma.

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must be under the care of the same physician for at least 6 months; OR
- Patient must have been diagnosed by a multidisciplinary severe asthma clinic team, **AND**
- Patient must have received prior PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine for severe asthma in this treatment cycle, **AND**
- Patient must not have failed, or ceased to respond to, PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for severe asthma during the current treatment cycle, **AND**
- Patient must have had a blood eosinophil count of at least 300 cells per microlitre and that is no older than 12 months immediately prior to commencing PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment for severe asthma; OR
- Patient must have had a blood eosinophil count of at least 150 cells per microlitre while receiving treatment with oral corticosteroids and that is no older than 12 months immediately prior to commencing PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment for severe asthma; OR
- Patient must have had a total serum human immunoglobulin E of at least 30 IU/mL, measured no more than 12 months prior to initiating PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine for severe asthma, that has past or current evidence of atopy, documented by either: (i) skin prick testing; (ii) an in vitro measure of specific IgE, **AND**
- Patient must not receive more than 32 weeks of treatment under this restriction, **AND**
- The treatment must not be used in combination with and within 4 weeks of another PBS-subsidised biological medicine prescribed for severe asthma.

Population criteria:

- Patient must be aged 12 years or older.

An application for a patient who has received PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment for severe asthma who wishes to change therapy to this biological medicine, must be accompanied by the results of an ACQ-5 assessment of the patient's most recent course of PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment. The assessment must have been made not more than 4 weeks after the last dose of biological medicine. Where a response assessment was not undertaken, the patient will be deemed to have failed to respond to treatment with that previous biological medicine.

An ACQ-5 assessment of the patient may be made at the time of application for treatment (to establish a new baseline score), but should be made again around 28 weeks after the first PBS-subsidised dose of this biological medicine under this restriction so that there is adequate time for a response to be demonstrated and for the application for the first continuing therapy to be processed.

This assessment at around 28 weeks, which will be used to determine eligibility for the first continuing treatment, should be conducted within 4 weeks of the last dose of biological medicine. To avoid an interruption of supply for the first continuing treatment, the assessment should be provided no later than 2 weeks prior to the patient completing their current treatment course, unless the patient is currently on a treatment break. Where a response assessment is not undertaken and provided, the patient will be deemed to have failed to respond to treatment with this biological medicine.

At the time of the authority application, medical practitioners should request up to 8 repeats to provide for an initial course of dupilumab sufficient for up to 32 weeks of therapy, at a dose of 400 mg as an initial dose, followed by 200 mg every 2 weeks thereafter.

A swapping between 200 mg and 300 mg strengths is not permitted as the respective strengths are PBS approved for different patient cohorts.

A multidisciplinary severe asthma clinic team comprises of:

- (i) A respiratory physician; and
- (ii) A pharmacist, nurse or asthma educator.

The authority application must be made in writing and must include:

- (1) a completed authority prescription form; and
- (2) a completed authority application form relevant to the indication and treatment phase (the latest version is located on the website specified in the Administrative Advice).

The following must be provided at the time of application and documented in the patient's medical records:

- (a) Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5 item version) score (where a new baseline is being submitted or where the patient has responded to prior treatment); and
- (b) details (treatment, date of commencement, duration of therapy) of prior biological medicine treatment; and
- (c) if applicable, the eosinophil count and date; and
- (d) if applicable, the dose of the maintenance oral corticosteroid (where the response criteria or baseline is based on corticosteroid dose); and
- (e) if applicable, the IgE result and date; and
- (f) the reason for switching therapy (e.g. failure of prior therapy, partial response to prior therapy, adverse event to prior therapy).

dupilumab 200 mg/1.14 mL injection, 2 x 1.14 mL syringes

12309W	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	8	..	1609.86	Dupixent [SW]

▪ **MEPOLIZUMAB**

Note TREATMENT OF ADULT AND ADOLESCENT PATIENTS WITH UNCONTROLLED SEVERE ASTHMA

The following information applies to the prescribing under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) of the biological

medicines for uncontrolled severe asthma. Where the term biological medicine appears in the following notes and restrictions it refers to all PBS benefits with the specific PBS indication of 'uncontrolled severe asthma'.

A patient is eligible for PBS-subsidised treatment with only 1 biological medicine for uncontrolled severe asthma at any one time.

A patient receiving PBS-subsidised treatment for uncontrolled severe asthma is able to commence a treatment cycle where they may trial a biological medicine without having to experience a disease flare when swapping to an alternate biological medicine within the same treatment cycle.

Under these arrangements, within a treatment cycle, a patient may receive long-term treatment with a biological medicine as long as they sustain a response to therapy.

A patient currently receiving PBS-subsidised treatment as of 1 April 2021 is considered to have started a cycle of treatment. Within the same treatment cycle, a patient cannot trial and fail, or cease to respond to, the same PBS-subsidised biological medicine more than once.

Therefore, once a patient fails to meet the response criteria for a PBS-subsidised biological medicine, they must change to an alternate biological medicine if they wish to continue PBS-subsidised biological treatment.

Once a patient has either failed to achieve or sustain a response to treatment 4 times, they are deemed to have completed a single treatment cycle. They must have at least a 12-month break in PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy before they are eligible to recommence another new treatment cycle [further details are under 'Recommencement of treatment after a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy' below].

The length of the break in therapy is measured from the date the most recent treatment with a PBS-subsidised biological medicine is ceased until the date of the first application for recommencement of treatment with a biological medicine under the new treatment cycle.

There is no limit to the number of treatment cycles that a patient may undertake in their lifetime.

How to prescribe PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment for uncontrolled severe asthma.

(1) Initial treatment:

Applications for initial treatment should be made where:

(i) a patient has not received prior PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment and wishes to commence such therapy (Initial 1 restriction); or

(ii) a patient has received prior PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine and wishes to recommence a new treatment cycle with this biological medicine following a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy (Initial 1 restriction); or

(iii) a patient has received prior PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy and wishes to trial an alternate biological medicine within the same treatment cycle (Initial 2 restriction) - [further details are under 'Swapping therapy' below].

All applications for initial treatment will be limited to provide for a maximum of up to 32 weeks of therapy of a biological medicine. It is recommended that a patient be reviewed in the month prior to completing their course of initial treatment to ensure uninterrupted biological medicine supply.

(2) Continuing treatment:

Following the completion of an initial treatment course with a specific biological medicine, a patient may qualify to receive up to 24 weeks of continuing treatment with that biological medicine providing they have demonstrated an adequate response to treatment. The patient remains eligible to receive continuing biological medicine treatment with the same drug in courses of up to 24 weeks providing they continue to sustain the response. It is recommended that a patient be reviewed the month prior to completing their current course of treatment to ensure uninterrupted biological medicine supply.

(3) Baseline measurements to determine response:

Baseline measurements of the Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ; 5 item version) or oral corticosteroid dose submitted with the Initial authority application for a biological medicine must be used to determine whether an adequate response to treatment has been achieved or sustained.

For patients transitioned from the paediatric to the adolescent/adult restriction, the exacerbation history may also be used to determine response.

However, prescribers may provide new baseline measurements when a new Initial treatment authority application is submitted and these new baseline measurements may be used to assess response.

(4) Swapping therapy within the same treatment cycle.

Once initial treatment with the first PBS-subsidised biological medicine is approved, a patient may swap to an alternate biological medicine at any time by qualifying under an Initial 2 restriction.

However, they cannot swap to a particular biological medicine if they have failed to respond to prior treatment with that drug within the same treatment cycle.

Within the same treatment cycle a patient may alternate between therapy with any biological medicine of their choice (1 at a time) providing:

(i) they have not received PBS-subsidised treatment with that particular biological medicine previously; or

(ii) they have demonstrated an adequate response to that particular biological medicine if they have previously trialed it on the PBS; and

(iii) they have not previously failed to respond to treatment with all 4 biological medicines in this treatment cycle.

(5) Re-commencement of a new treatment cycle after a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy:

A patient who wishes to trial a second or subsequent new treatment cycle, following a break in PBS-subsidised therapy of at least 12 months (in patients who have failed to achieve or ceased to sustain a response to treatment 4 times within a treatment cycle), must re-qualify through an Initial 1 restriction.

(6) Monitoring of patients:

Omalizumab only:

Anaphylaxis and anaphylactoid reactions have been reported following first or subsequent administration of omalizumab (see Product Information). Patients should be monitored post-injection, and medications for the treatment of anaphylactic reactions should be available for immediate use following administration of omalizumab. Patients should be informed that such reactions are possible and prompt medical attention should be sought if allergic reactions occur.

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

Uncontrolled severe asthma

Treatment Phase: Balance of supply

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a medical practitioner who is either a: (i) respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma.

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have received insufficient therapy with this drug under the Initial 1 (new patients or recommencement of treatment in a new treatment cycle) restriction to complete 32 weeks treatment; OR
- Patient must have received insufficient therapy with this drug under the Initial 2 (change of treatment) restriction to complete 32 weeks treatment; OR
- Patient must have received insufficient therapy with this drug under the Continuing treatment restriction to complete 24 weeks treatment, **AND**
- The treatment must not provide more than the balance of up to 32 weeks of treatment if the most recent authority approval was made under an Initial treatment restriction; OR
- The treatment must not provide more than the balance of up to 24 weeks of treatment if the most recent authority approval was made under the Continuing treatment restriction.

mepolizumab 100 mg injection, 1 vial

11839D	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	..	..	1556.10	Nucala [GK]

mepolizumab 100 mg/mL injection, 1 mL pen device

12021Q	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	..	..	1556.10	Nucala [GK]

MEPOLIZUMAB

Note TREATMENT OF ADULT AND ADOLESCENT PATIENTS WITH UNCONTROLLED SEVERE ASTHMA

The following information applies to the prescribing under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) of the biological medicines for uncontrolled severe asthma. Where the term biological medicine appears in the following notes and restrictions it refers to all PBS benefits with the specific PBS indication of 'uncontrolled severe asthma'.

A patient is eligible for PBS-subsidised treatment with only 1 biological medicine for uncontrolled severe asthma at any one time.

A patient receiving PBS-subsidised treatment for uncontrolled severe asthma is able to commence a treatment cycle where they may trial a biological medicine without having to experience a disease flare when swapping to an alternate biological medicine within the same treatment cycle.

Under these arrangements, within a treatment cycle, a patient may receive long-term treatment with a biological medicine as long as they sustain a response to therapy.

A patient currently receiving PBS-subsidised treatment as of 1 April 2021 is considered to have started a cycle of treatment. Within the same treatment cycle, a patient cannot trial and fail, or cease to respond to, the same PBS-subsidised biological medicine more than once.

Therefore, once a patient fails to meet the response criteria for a PBS-subsidised biological medicine, they must change to an alternate biological medicine if they wish to continue PBS-subsidised biological treatment.

Once a patient has either failed to achieve or sustain a response to treatment 4 times, they are deemed to have completed a single treatment cycle. They must have at least a 12-month break in PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy before they are eligible to recommence another new treatment cycle [further details are under 'Recommencement of treatment after a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy' below].

The length of the break in therapy is measured from the date the most recent treatment with a PBS-subsidised biological medicine is ceased until the date of the first application for recommencement of treatment with a biological medicine under the new treatment cycle.

There is no limit to the number of treatment cycles that a patient may undertake in their lifetime.

How to prescribe PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment for uncontrolled severe asthma.

(1) Initial treatment:

Applications for initial treatment should be made where:

- (i) a patient has not received prior PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment and wishes to commence such therapy (Initial 1 restriction); or
- (ii) a patient has received prior PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine and wishes to recommence a new treatment cycle with this biological medicine following a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy (Initial 1 restriction); or
- (iii) a patient has received prior PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy and wishes to trial an alternate biological medicine within the same treatment cycle (Initial 2 restriction) - [further details are under 'Swapping therapy' below].

All applications for initial treatment will be limited to provide for a maximum of up to 32 weeks of therapy of a biological medicine. It is recommended that a patient be reviewed in the month prior to completing their course of initial treatment to ensure uninterrupted biological medicine supply.

(2) Continuing treatment:

Following the completion of an initial treatment course with a specific biological medicine, a patient may qualify to receive up to 24 weeks of continuing treatment with that biological medicine providing they have demonstrated an adequate response to treatment. The patient remains eligible to receive continuing biological medicine treatment with the same drug in courses of up to 24 weeks providing they continue to sustain the response. It is recommended that a patient be reviewed the month prior to completing their current course of treatment to ensure uninterrupted biological medicine supply.

(3) Baseline measurements to determine response:

Baseline measurements of the Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ; 5 item version) or oral corticosteroid dose submitted with the Initial authority application for a biological medicine must be used to determine whether an adequate response to

treatment has been achieved or sustained.

For patients transitioned from the paediatric to the adolescent/adult restriction, the exacerbation history may also be used to determine response.

However, prescribers may provide new baseline measurements when a new Initial treatment authority application is submitted and these new baseline measurements may be used to assess response.

(4) Swapping therapy within the same treatment cycle.

Once initial treatment with the first PBS-subsidised biological medicine is approved, a patient may swap to an alternate biological medicine at any time by qualifying under an Initial 2 restriction.

However, they cannot swap to a particular biological medicine if they have failed to respond to prior treatment with that drug within the same treatment cycle.

Within the same treatment cycle a patient may alternate between therapy with any biological medicine of their choice (1 at a time) providing:

(i) they have not received PBS-subsidised treatment with that particular biological medicine previously; or

(ii) they have demonstrated an adequate response to that particular biological medicine if they have previously trialed it on the PBS; and

(iii) they have not previously failed to respond to treatment with all 4 biological medicines in this treatment cycle.

(5) Re-commencement of a new treatment cycle after a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy:

A patient who wishes to trial a second or subsequent new treatment cycle, following a break in PBS-subsidised therapy of at least 12 months (in patients who have failed to achieve or ceased to sustain a response to treatment 4 times within a treatment cycle), must re-qualify through an Initial 1 restriction.

(6) Monitoring of patients:

Omalizumab only:

Anaphylaxis and anaphylactoid reactions have been reported following first or subsequent administration of omalizumab (see Product Information). Patients should be monitored post-injection, and medications for the treatment of anaphylactic reactions should be available for immediate use following administration of omalizumab. Patients should be informed that such reactions are possible and prompt medical attention should be sought if allergic reactions occur.

Note For copies of the ACQ, please contact GlaxoSmithKline Medical Information on 1800 033 109.

Note Formal assessment and correction of inhaler technique should be performed in accordance with the National Asthma Council (NAC) Information Paper for Health Professionals on Inhaler Technique (available at www.nationalasthma.org.au); the assessment and adherence to correct technique should be documented in the patient's medical records. Patients can obtain support with inhaler technique through their local Asthma Foundation (1800 645 130).

Note Any queries concerning the arrangements to prescribe may be directed to Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

Prescribing information (including Authority Application forms and other relevant documentation as applicable) is available on the Services Australia website at www.servicesaustralia.gov.au

Applications for authority to prescribe should be submitted online using the form upload facility in Health Professional Online Services (HPOS) at www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/hpos

Or mailed to:

Services Australia
Complex Drugs
Reply Paid 9826
HOBART TAS 7001

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

Uncontrolled severe asthma

Treatment Phase: Continuing treatment

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a medical practitioner who is either a: (i) respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma.

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have received this drug as their most recent course of PBS-subsidised biological agent treatment for this condition in this treatment cycle, **AND**
- Patient must have demonstrated or sustained an adequate response to PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition, **AND**
- The treatment must not be used in combination with and within 4 weeks of another PBS-subsidised biological medicine prescribed for severe asthma, **AND**
- Patient must not receive more than 24 weeks of treatment under this restriction.

Population criteria:

- Patient must be aged 12 years or older.

An adequate response to this biological medicine is defined as:

(a) a reduction in the Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) score of at least 0.5 from baseline,

OR

(b) maintenance oral corticosteroid dose reduced by at least 25% from baseline, and no deterioration in ACQ-5 score from baseline or an increase in ACQ-5 score from baseline less than or equal to 0.5.

All applications for second and subsequent continuing treatments with this drug must include a measurement of response to the prior course of therapy. The Asthma Control Questionnaire (5 item version) assessment of the patient's response to the prior course of treatment or the assessment of oral corticosteroid dose, should be made from 20 weeks after the first dose of PBS-subsidised dose of this drug under this restriction so that there is adequate time for a response to be demonstrated and for the application for continuing therapy to be processed.

The assessment should, where possible, be completed by the same physician who initiated treatment with this drug. This assessment, which will be used to determine eligibility for the first continuing treatment, should be conducted within 4 weeks

of the last dose of biological medicine. To avoid an interruption of supply for the first continuing treatment, the assessment should be provided no later than 2 weeks prior to the patient completing their current treatment course, unless the patient is currently on a treatment break. Where a response assessment is not undertaken and provided, the patient will be deemed to have failed to respond to treatment with this drug.

Where treatment was ceased for clinical reasons despite the patient experiencing improvement, an assessment of the patient's response to treatment made at the time of treatment cessation or retrospectively will be considered to determine whether the patient demonstrated or sustained an adequate response to treatment.

A patient who fails to respond to treatment with this biological medicine for uncontrolled severe asthma will not be eligible to receive further PBS-subsidised treatment with this biological medicine for severe asthma within the current treatment cycle.

At the time of the authority application, medical practitioners should request the appropriate number of repeats to provide for a continuing course of this drug sufficient for up to 24 weeks of therapy.

The authority application must be made in writing and must include:

- (1) a completed authority prescription form; and
- (2) a completed authority application form relevant to the indication and treatment phase (the latest version is located on the website specified in the Administrative Advice).

The following information must be provided at the time of application and must be documented in the patient's medical records:

- (a) if applicable, details of maintenance oral corticosteroid dose; and
- (b) a completed Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) score.

mepolizumab 100 mg injection, 1 vial

10980X	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	5	..	1556.10	Nucala [GK]

mepolizumab 100 mg/mL injection, 1 mL pen device

12064Y	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	5	..	1556.10	Nucala [GK]

■ MEPOLIZUMAB

Note TREATMENT OF ADULT AND ADOLESCENT PATIENTS WITH UNCONTROLLED SEVERE ASTHMA

The following information applies to the prescribing under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) of the biological medicines for uncontrolled severe asthma. Where the term biological medicine appears in the following notes and restrictions it refers to all PBS benefits with the specific PBS indication of 'uncontrolled severe asthma'.

A patient is eligible for PBS-subsidised treatment with only 1 biological medicine for uncontrolled severe asthma at any one time.

A patient receiving PBS-subsidised treatment for uncontrolled severe asthma is able to commence a treatment cycle where they may trial a biological medicine without having to experience a disease flare when swapping to an alternate biological medicine within the same treatment cycle.

Under these arrangements, within a treatment cycle, a patient may receive long-term treatment with a biological medicine as long as they sustain a response to therapy.

A patient currently receiving PBS-subsidised treatment as of 1 April 2021 is considered to have started a cycle of treatment. Within the same treatment cycle, a patient cannot trial and fail, or cease to respond to, the same PBS-subsidised biological medicine more than once.

Therefore, once a patient fails to meet the response criteria for a PBS-subsidised biological medicine, they must change to an alternate biological medicine if they wish to continue PBS-subsidised biological treatment.

Once a patient has either failed to achieve or sustain a response to treatment 4 times, they are deemed to have completed a single treatment cycle. They must have at least a 12-month break in PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy before they are eligible to recommence another new treatment cycle [further details are under 'Recommencement of treatment after a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy' below].

The length of the break in therapy is measured from the date the most recent treatment with a PBS-subsidised biological medicine is ceased until the date of the first application for recommencement of treatment with a biological medicine under the new treatment cycle.

There is no limit to the number of treatment cycles that a patient may undertake in their lifetime.

How to prescribe PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment for uncontrolled severe asthma.

(1) Initial treatment:

Applications for initial treatment should be made where:

- (i) a patient has not received prior PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment and wishes to commence such therapy (Initial 1 restriction); or
- (ii) a patient has received prior PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine and wishes to recommence a new treatment cycle with this biological medicine following a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy (Initial 1 restriction); or
- (iii) a patient has received prior PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy and wishes to trial an alternate biological medicine within the same treatment cycle (Initial 2 restriction) - [further details are under 'Swapping therapy' below].

All applications for initial treatment will be limited to provide for a maximum of up to 32 weeks of therapy of a biological medicine. It is recommended that a patient be reviewed in the month prior to completing their course of initial treatment to ensure uninterrupted biological medicine supply.

(2) Continuing treatment:

Following the completion of an initial treatment course with a specific biological medicine, a patient may qualify to receive up to 24 weeks of continuing treatment with that biological medicine providing they have demonstrated an adequate response to treatment. The patient remains eligible to receive continuing biological medicine treatment with the same drug in courses of up to 24 weeks providing they continue to sustain the response. It is recommended that a patient be reviewed the month prior to completing their current course of treatment to ensure uninterrupted biological medicine supply.

(3) Baseline measurements to determine response:

Baseline measurements of the Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ; 5 item version) or oral corticosteroid dose submitted with the Initial authority application for a biological medicine must be used to determine whether an adequate response to treatment has been achieved or sustained.

For patients transitioned from the paediatric to the adolescent/adult restriction, the exacerbation history may also be used to determine response.

However, prescribers may provide new baseline measurements when a new Initial treatment authority application is submitted and these new baseline measurements may be used to assess response.

(4) Swapping therapy within the same treatment cycle.

Once initial treatment with the first PBS-subsidised biological medicine is approved, a patient may swap to an alternate biological medicine at any time by qualifying under an Initial 2 restriction.

However, they cannot swap to a particular biological medicine if they have failed to respond to prior treatment with that drug within the same treatment cycle.

Within the same treatment cycle a patient may alternate between therapy with any biological medicine of their choice (1 at a time) providing:

(i) they have not received PBS-subsidised treatment with that particular biological medicine previously; or

(ii) they have demonstrated an adequate response to that particular biological medicine if they have previously trialled it on the PBS; and

(iii) they have not previously failed to respond to treatment with all 4 biological medicines in this treatment cycle.

(5) Re-commencement of a new treatment cycle after a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy:

A patient who wishes to trial a second or subsequent new treatment cycle, following a break in PBS-subsidised therapy of at least 12 months (in patients who have failed to achieve or ceased to sustain a response to treatment 4 times within a treatment cycle), must re-qualify through an Initial 1 restriction.

(6) Monitoring of patients:

Omalizumab only:

Anaphylaxis and anaphylactoid reactions have been reported following first or subsequent administration of omalizumab (see Product Information). Patients should be monitored post-injection, and medications for the treatment of anaphylactic reactions should be available for immediate use following administration of omalizumab. Patients should be informed that such reactions are possible and prompt medical attention should be sought if allergic reactions occur.

Note For copies of the ACQ, please contact GlaxoSmithKline Medical Information on 1800 033 109.

Note Any queries concerning the arrangements to prescribe may be directed to Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

Prescribing information (including Authority Application forms and other relevant documentation as applicable) is available on the Services Australia website at www.servicesaustralia.gov.au

Applications for authority to prescribe should be submitted online using the form upload facility in Health Professional Online Services (HPOS) at www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/hpos

Or mailed to:

Services Australia
Complex Drugs
Reply Paid 9826
HOBART TAS 7001

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

Uncontrolled severe asthma

Treatment Phase: Initial treatment - Initial 1 (New patients; or Recommencement of treatment in a new treatment cycle following a break in PBS subsidised biological medicine therapy)

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a medical practitioner who is either a: (i) respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma.

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must be under the care of the same physician for at least 6 months; OR
- Patient must have been diagnosed by a multidisciplinary severe asthma clinic team, **AND**
- Patient must not have received PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine for severe asthma; OR
- Patient must have had a break in treatment of at least 12 months from the most recently approved PBS-subsidised biological medicine for severe asthma, **AND**
- Patient must have a diagnosis of asthma confirmed and documented in the patient's medical records by either a: (i) respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma, defined by at least one of the following standard clinical features: (a) forced expiratory volume (FEV1) reversibility greater than or equal to 12% and greater than or equal to 200 mL at baseline within 30 minutes after administration of salbutamol (200 to 400 micrograms), (b) airway hyperresponsiveness defined as a greater than 20% decline in FEV1 during a direct bronchial provocation test or greater than 15% decline during an indirect bronchial provocation test, (c) peak expiratory flow (PEF) variability of greater than 15% between the two highest and two lowest peak expiratory flow rates during 14 days; OR
- Patient must have a diagnosis of asthma from at least two physicians experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma with the details documented in the patient's medical records, **AND**
- Patient must have a duration of asthma of at least 1 year, **AND**
- Patient must have a blood eosinophil count of at least 300 cells per microlitre in the last 12 months; OR
- Patient must have blood eosinophil count of at least 150 cells per microlitre while receiving treatment with oral corticosteroids in the last 12 months, **AND**
- Patient must have failed to achieve adequate control with optimised asthma therapy, despite formal assessment of and adherence to correct inhaler technique, which has been documented in the patient's medical records, **AND**
- Patient must not receive more than 32 weeks of treatment under this restriction, **AND**

-
- The treatment must not be used in combination with and within 4 weeks of another PBS-subsidised biological medicine prescribed for severe asthma.

Population criteria:

- Patient must be aged 12 years or older.

Optimised asthma therapy includes:

- (i) Adherence to maximal inhaled therapy, including high dose inhaled corticosteroid (ICS) plus long-acting beta-2 agonist (LABA) therapy for at least 12 months, unless contraindicated or not tolerated; AND
- (ii) treatment with oral corticosteroids, either daily oral corticosteroids for at least 6 weeks, OR a cumulative dose of oral corticosteroids of at least 500 mg prednisolone equivalent in the previous 12 months, unless contraindicated or not tolerated.

If the requirement for treatment with optimised asthma therapy cannot be met because of contraindications according to the relevant TGA-approved Product Information and/or intolerances of a severity necessitating permanent treatment withdrawal, details of the contraindication and/or intolerance must be provided in the Authority application.

The following initiation criteria indicate failure to achieve adequate control and must be demonstrated in all patients at the time of the application:

- (a) an Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) score of at least 2.0, as assessed in the previous month, AND
 - (b) while receiving optimised asthma therapy in the past 12 months, experienced at least 1 admission to hospital for a severe asthma exacerbation, OR 1 severe asthma exacerbation, requiring documented use of systemic corticosteroids (oral corticosteroids initiated or increased for at least 3 days, or parenteral corticosteroids) prescribed/supervised by a physician.
- The Asthma Control Questionnaire (5 item version) assessment of the patient's response to this initial course of treatment, and the assessment of oral corticosteroid dose, should be made at around 28 weeks after the first PBS-subsidised dose of this drug under this restriction so that there is adequate time for a response to be demonstrated and for the application for the first continuing therapy to be processed.

This assessment, which will be used to determine eligibility for the first continuing treatment, should be conducted within 4 weeks of the last dose of biological medicine. To avoid an interruption of supply for the first continuing treatment, the assessment should be provided no later than 2 weeks prior to the patient completing their current treatment course, unless the patient is currently on a treatment break. Where a response assessment is not undertaken and provided, the patient will be deemed to have failed to respond to treatment with this drug.

If a patient fails to demonstrate a response to treatment with this drug they will not be eligible to receive further PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition within the same treatment cycle.

A treatment break in PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy of at least 12 months must be observed in a patient who has either failed to achieve or sustain a response to treatment with 4 biological medicines within the same treatment cycle.

The length of the break in therapy is measured from the date the most recent treatment with a PBS-subsidised biological medicine was administered until the date of the first application for recommencement of treatment with a biological medicine under the new treatment cycle.

There is no limit to the number of treatment cycles that a patient may undertake in their lifetime.

At the time of the authority application, medical practitioners should request up to 7 repeats to provide for an initial course of mepolizumab sufficient for up to 32 weeks of therapy.

A multidisciplinary severe asthma clinic team comprises of:

- (i) A respiratory physician; and
- (ii) A pharmacist, nurse or asthma educator.

The authority application must be made in writing and must include:

- (1) a completed authority prescription form; and
- (2) a completed authority application form relevant to the indication and treatment phase (the latest version is located on the website specified in the Administrative Advice).

The following must be provided at the time of application and documented in the patient's medical records:

- (a) details (treatment, date of commencement, duration of therapy) of prior optimised asthma drug therapy; and
- (b) if applicable, details of contraindications and/or intolerances of a severity necessitating permanent treatment withdrawal to standard therapy according to the relevant TGA-approved Product Information; and
- (c) details of severe exacerbation/s experienced in the past 12 months while receiving optimised asthma therapy (date and treatment); and
- (d) the eosinophil count and date; and
- (e) Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) score.

Note The Services Australia website (www.servicesaustralia.gov.au) has details of the accepted toxicities, including severity, which will be accepted for the purposes of exempting a patient from the requirement of treatment with optimised asthma therapy.

Note Formal assessment and correction of inhaler technique should be performed in accordance with the National Asthma Council (NAC) Information Paper for Health Professionals on Inhaler Technique (available at www.nationalasthma.org.au); the assessment and adherence to correct technique should be documented in the patient's medical records. Patients can obtain support with inhaler technique through their local Asthma Foundation (1800 645 130).

Authority required

Uncontrolled severe asthma

Treatment Phase: Initial treatment - Initial 2 (Change of treatment)

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a medical practitioner who is either a: (i) respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma.

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must be under the care of the same physician for at least 6 months; OR
- Patient must have been diagnosed by a multidisciplinary severe asthma clinic team, **AND**

- Patient must have received prior PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine for severe asthma in this treatment cycle, **AND**
- Patient must not have failed, or ceased to respond to, PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for severe asthma during the current treatment cycle, **AND**
- Patient must have had a blood eosinophil count of at least 300 cells per microlitre and that is no older than 12 months immediately prior to commencing PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment for severe asthma; OR
- Patient must have had a blood eosinophil count of at least 150 cells per microlitre while receiving treatment with oral corticosteroids and that is no older than 12 months immediately prior to commencing PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment for severe asthma, **AND**
- Patient must not receive more than 32 weeks of treatment under this restriction, **AND**
- The treatment must not be used in combination with and within 4 weeks of another PBS-subsidised biological medicine prescribed for severe asthma.

Population criteria:

- Patient must be aged 12 years or older.

An application for a patient who has received PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment for severe asthma who wishes to change therapy to this biological medicine, must be accompanied by the results of an ACQ-5 assessment of the patient's most recent course of PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment. The assessment must have been made not more than 4 weeks after the last dose of biological medicine. Where a response assessment was not undertaken, the patient will be deemed to have failed to respond to treatment with that previous biological medicine.

An ACQ-5 assessment of the patient may be made at the time of application for treatment (to establish a new baseline score), but should be made again around 28 weeks after the first PBS-subsidised dose of this biological medicine under this restriction so that there is adequate time for a response to be demonstrated and for the application for the first continuing therapy to be processed.

This assessment, which will be used to determine eligibility for the first continuing treatment, should be conducted within 4 weeks of the last dose of biological medicine. To avoid an interruption of supply for the first continuing treatment, the assessment should be provided no later than 2 weeks prior to the patient completing their current treatment course, unless the patient is currently on a treatment break. Where a response assessment is not undertaken and provided, the patient will be deemed to have failed to respond to treatment with this drug.

At the time of the authority application, medical practitioners should request up to 7 repeats to provide for an initial course sufficient for up to 32 weeks of therapy.

A multidisciplinary severe asthma clinic team comprises of:

- A respiratory physician; and
- A pharmacist, nurse or asthma educator.

The authority application must be made in writing and must include:

- a completed authority prescription form; and
- a completed authority application form relevant to the indication and treatment phase (the latest version is located on the website specified in the Administrative Advice).

The following must be provided at the time of application and documented in the patient's medical records:

- Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5 item version) score (where a new baseline is being submitted or where the patient has responded to prior treatment); and
- details (date and duration of treatment) of prior biological medicine treatment; and
- eosinophil count and date; and
- if applicable, the dose of the maintenance oral corticosteroid (where the response criteria or baseline is based on corticosteroid dose); and
- the reason for switching therapy (e.g. failure of prior therapy, partial response to prior therapy, adverse event to prior therapy).

mepolizumab 100 mg injection, 1 vial

10996R	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	7	..	1556.10	Nucala [GK]

mepolizumab 100 mg/mL injection, 1 mL pen device

12007Y	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	7	..	1556.10	Nucala [GK]

▪ **OCTREOTIDE**

Note Pharmaceutical benefits that have the form octreotide 50 microgram/mL 5 x 1 mL ampoules can be substituted for octreotide 50 microgram/mL 5 x 1 mL vials in the case of a shortage.

Authority required (STREAMLINED)

8165

Acromegaly

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be active, **AND**
- Patient must have persistent elevation of mean growth hormone levels of greater than 2.5 micrograms per litre, **AND**
- The treatment must be after failure of other therapy including dopamine agonists; OR
- The treatment must be as interim treatment while awaiting the effects of radiotherapy and where treatment with dopamine agonists has failed; OR
- The treatment must be in a patient who is unfit for or unwilling to undergo surgery and where radiotherapy is contraindicated, **AND**

- The treatment must cease in a patient treated with radiotherapy if there is biochemical evidence of remission (normal IGF1) after octreotide has been withdrawn for at least 4 weeks, **AND**
 - The treatment must cease if IGF1 is not lower after 3 months of treatment at a dose of 100 micrograms 3 time daily, **AND**
 - The treatment must not be given concomitantly with PBS-subsidised lanreotide or pegvisomant for this condition.
- In a patient treated with radiotherapy, octreotide should be withdrawn every 2 years in the 10 years after radiotherapy for assessment of remission

Authority required (STREAMLINED)

6390

Functional carcinoid tumour

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be causing intractable symptoms, **AND**
- Patient must have experienced on average over 1 week, 3 or more episodes per day of diarrhoea and/or flushing, which persisted despite the use of anti-histamines, anti-serotonin agents and anti-diarrhoea agents, **AND**
- Patient must be one in whom surgery or antineoplastic therapy has failed or is inappropriate, **AND**
- The treatment must cease if there is failure to produce a clinically significant reduction in the frequency and severity of symptoms after 2 months' therapy.

Dosage and tolerance to the drug should be assessed regularly and the dosage should be titrated slowly downwards to determine the minimum effective dose.

Authority required (STREAMLINED)

6369

Vasoactive intestinal peptide secreting tumour (VIPoma)

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be causing intractable symptoms, **AND**
- Patient must have experienced on average over 1 week, 3 or more episodes per day of diarrhoea and/or flushing, which persisted despite the use of anti-histamines, anti-serotonin agents and anti-diarrhoea agents, **AND**
- Patient must be one in whom surgery or antineoplastic therapy has failed or is inappropriate, **AND**
- The treatment must cease if there is failure to produce a clinically significant reduction in the frequency and severity of symptoms after 2 months' therapy.

Dosage and tolerance to the drug should be assessed regularly and the dosage should be titrated slowly downwards to determine the minimum effective dose.

octreotide 50 microgram/mL injection, 5 x 1 mL vials

14178F	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	18	11	..	*656.10	^a Octreotide Acetate Omega (Canada) [GQ]

octreotide 50 microgram/mL injection, 5 x 1 mL ampoules

9508K	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	18	11	..	*186.84	^a Octreotide GH [HQ] ^a Sandostatin 0.05 [NV]	^a Octreotide (SUN) [RA]

▪ **OCTREOTIDE**

Note Pharmaceutical benefits that have the form octreotide 500 microgram/mL 5 x 1 mL ampoules can be substituted for octreotide 500 microgram/mL 5 x 1 mL vials in the case of a shortage

Authority required (STREAMLINED)

8165

Acromegaly

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be active, **AND**
 - Patient must have persistent elevation of mean growth hormone levels of greater than 2.5 micrograms per litre, **AND**
 - The treatment must be after failure of other therapy including dopamine agonists; OR
 - The treatment must be as interim treatment while awaiting the effects of radiotherapy and where treatment with dopamine agonists has failed; OR
 - The treatment must be in a patient who is unfit for or unwilling to undergo surgery and where radiotherapy is contraindicated, **AND**
 - The treatment must cease in a patient treated with radiotherapy if there is biochemical evidence of remission (normal IGF1) after octreotide has been withdrawn for at least 4 weeks, **AND**
 - The treatment must cease if IGF1 is not lower after 3 months of treatment at a dose of 100 micrograms 3 time daily, **AND**
 - The treatment must not be given concomitantly with PBS-subsidised lanreotide or pegvisomant for this condition.
- In a patient treated with radiotherapy, octreotide should be withdrawn every 2 years in the 10 years after radiotherapy for assessment of remission

Authority required (STREAMLINED)

6390

Functional carcinoid tumour

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be causing intractable symptoms, **AND**
- Patient must have experienced on average over 1 week, 3 or more episodes per day of diarrhoea and/or flushing, which persisted despite the use of anti-histamines, anti-serotonin agents and anti-diarrhoea agents, **AND**

- Patient must be one in whom surgery or antineoplastic therapy has failed or is inappropriate, **AND**
- The treatment must cease if there is failure to produce a clinically significant reduction in the frequency and severity of symptoms after 2 months' therapy.

Dosage and tolerance to the drug should be assessed regularly and the dosage should be titrated slowly downwards to determine the minimum effective dose.

Authority required (STREAMLINED)

6369

Vasoactive intestinal peptide secreting tumour (VIPoma)

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be causing intractable symptoms, **AND**
- Patient must have experienced on average over 1 week, 3 or more episodes per day of diarrhoea and/or flushing, which persisted despite the use of anti-histamines, anti-serotonin agents and anti-diarrhoea agents, **AND**
- Patient must be one in whom surgery or antineoplastic therapy has failed or is inappropriate, **AND**
- The treatment must cease if there is failure to produce a clinically significant reduction in the frequency and severity of symptoms after 2 months' therapy.

Dosage and tolerance to the drug should be assessed regularly and the dosage should be titrated slowly downwards to determine the minimum effective dose.

octreotide 500 microgram/mL injection, 5 x 1 mL vials

14218H	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	18	11	..	*1870.38	^a Octreotide Acetate Omega (Canada) [GQ]

octreotide 500 microgram/mL injection, 5 x 1 mL ampoules

9510M	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	18	11	..	*1870.38	^a Octreotide GH [HQ] ^a Sandostatin 0.5 [NV]	^a Octreotide (SUN) [RA]

▪ **OCTREOTIDE**

Note Pharmaceutical benefits that have the form octreotide 100 microgram/mL 5 x 1 mL ampoules can be substituted for octreotide 100 microgram/mL 5 x 1 mL vials in the case of a shortage.

Authority required (STREAMLINED)

8165

Acromegaly

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be active, **AND**
- Patient must have persistent elevation of mean growth hormone levels of greater than 2.5 micrograms per litre, **AND**
- The treatment must be after failure of other therapy including dopamine agonists; OR
- The treatment must be as interim treatment while awaiting the effects of radiotherapy and where treatment with dopamine agonists has failed; OR
- The treatment must be in a patient who is unfit for or unwilling to undergo surgery and where radiotherapy is contraindicated, **AND**
- The treatment must cease in a patient treated with radiotherapy if there is biochemical evidence of remission (normal IGF1) after octreotide has been withdrawn for at least 4 weeks, **AND**
- The treatment must cease if IGF1 is not lower after 3 months of treatment at a dose of 100 micrograms 3 time daily, **AND**
- The treatment must not be given concomitantly with PBS-subsidised lanreotide or pegvisomant for this condition.

In a patient treated with radiotherapy, octreotide should be withdrawn every 2 years in the 10 years after radiotherapy for assessment of remission

Authority required (STREAMLINED)

6390

Functional carcinoid tumour

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be causing intractable symptoms, **AND**
- Patient must have experienced on average over 1 week, 3 or more episodes per day of diarrhoea and/or flushing, which persisted despite the use of anti-histamines, anti-serotonin agents and anti-diarrhoea agents, **AND**
- Patient must be one in whom surgery or antineoplastic therapy has failed or is inappropriate, **AND**
- The treatment must cease if there is failure to produce a clinically significant reduction in the frequency and severity of symptoms after 2 months' therapy.

Dosage and tolerance to the drug should be assessed regularly and the dosage should be titrated slowly downwards to determine the minimum effective dose.

Authority required (STREAMLINED)

6369

Vasoactive intestinal peptide secreting tumour (VIPoma)

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be causing intractable symptoms, **AND**
- Patient must have experienced on average over 1 week, 3 or more episodes per day of diarrhoea and/or flushing, which persisted despite the use of anti-histamines, anti-serotonin agents and anti-diarrhoea agents, **AND**
- Patient must be one in whom surgery or antineoplastic therapy has failed or is inappropriate, **AND**

- The treatment must cease if there is failure to produce a clinically significant reduction in the frequency and severity of symptoms after 2 months' therapy.

Dosage and tolerance to the drug should be assessed regularly and the dosage should be titrated slowly downwards to determine the minimum effective dose.

octreotide 100 microgram/mL injection, 5 x 1 mL vials

14219J	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	18	11	..	*661.86	^a Octreotide Acetate Omega (Canada) [GQ]

octreotide 100 microgram/mL injection, 5 x 1 mL ampoules

9509L	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	18	11	..	*373.32	^a Octreotide GH [HQ] ^a Sandostatin 0.1 [NV]	^a Octreotide (SUN) [RA]

■ OMALIZUMAB

Note TREATMENT OF ADULT AND ADOLESCENT PATIENTS WITH UNCONTROLLED SEVERE ASTHMA

The following information applies to the prescribing under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) of the biological medicines for uncontrolled severe asthma. Where the term biological medicine appears in the following notes and restrictions it refers to all PBS benefits with the specific PBS indication of 'uncontrolled severe asthma'.

A patient is eligible for PBS-subsidised treatment with only 1 biological medicine for uncontrolled severe asthma at any one time.

A patient receiving PBS-subsidised treatment for uncontrolled severe asthma is able to commence a treatment cycle where they may trial a biological medicine without having to experience a disease flare when swapping to an alternate biological medicine within the same treatment cycle.

Under these arrangements, within a treatment cycle, a patient may receive long-term treatment with a biological medicine as long as they sustain a response to therapy.

A patient currently receiving PBS-subsidised treatment as of 1 April 2021 is considered to have started a cycle of treatment. Within the same treatment cycle, a patient cannot trial and fail, or cease to respond to, the same PBS-subsidised biological medicine more than once.

Therefore, once a patient fails to meet the response criteria for a PBS-subsidised biological medicine, they must change to an alternate biological medicine if they wish to continue PBS-subsidised biological treatment.

Once a patient has either failed to achieve or sustain a response to treatment 4 times, they are deemed to have completed a single treatment cycle. They must have at least a 12-month break in PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy before they are eligible to recommence another new treatment cycle [further details are under 'Recommencement of treatment after a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy' below].

The length of the break in therapy is measured from the date the most recent treatment with a PBS-subsidised biological medicine is ceased until the date of the first application for recommencement of treatment with a biological medicine under the new treatment cycle.

There is no limit to the number of treatment cycles that a patient may undertake in their lifetime.

How to prescribe PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment for uncontrolled severe asthma.

(1) Initial treatment:

Applications for initial treatment should be made where:

(i) a patient has not received prior PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment and wishes to commence such therapy (Initial 1 restriction); or

(ii) a patient has received prior PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine and wishes to recommence a new treatment cycle with this biological medicine following a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy (Initial 1 restriction); or

(iii) a patient has received prior PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy and wishes to trial an alternate biological medicine within the same treatment cycle (Initial 2 restriction) - [further details are under 'Swapping therapy' below].

All applications for initial treatment will be limited to provide for a maximum of up to 32 weeks of therapy of a biological medicine. It is recommended that a patient be reviewed in the month prior to completing their course of initial treatment to ensure uninterrupted biological medicine supply.

(2) Continuing treatment:

Following the completion of an initial treatment course with a specific biological medicine, a patient may qualify to receive up to 24 weeks of continuing treatment with that biological medicine providing they have demonstrated an adequate response to treatment. The patient remains eligible to receive continuing biological medicine treatment with the same drug in courses of up to 24 weeks providing they continue to sustain the response. It is recommended that a patient be reviewed the month prior to completing their current course of treatment to ensure uninterrupted biological medicine supply.

(3) Baseline measurements to determine response:

Baseline measurements of the Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ; 5 item version) or oral corticosteroid dose submitted with the Initial authority application for a biological medicine must be used to determine whether an adequate response to treatment has been achieved or sustained.

For patients transitioned from the paediatric to the adolescent/adult restriction, the exacerbation history may also be used to determine response.

However, prescribers may provide new baseline measurements when a new Initial treatment authority application is submitted and these new baseline measurements may be used to assess response.

(4) Swapping therapy within the same treatment cycle.

Once initial treatment with the first PBS-subsidised biological medicine is approved, a patient may swap to an alternate biological medicine at any time by qualifying under an Initial 2 restriction.

However, they cannot swap to a particular biological medicine if they have failed to respond to prior treatment with that drug within the same treatment cycle.

Within the same treatment cycle a patient may alternate between therapy with any biological medicine of their choice (1 at a time) providing:

(i) they have not received PBS-subsidised treatment with that particular biological medicine previously; or

(ii) they have demonstrated an adequate response to that particular biological medicine if they have previously trialled it on the PBS; and

(iii) they have not previously failed to respond to treatment with all 4 biological medicines in this treatment cycle.

(5) Re-commencement of a new treatment cycle after a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy:

A patient who wishes to trial a second or subsequent new treatment cycle, following a break in PBS-subsidised therapy of at least 12 months (in patients who have failed to achieve or ceased to sustain a response to treatment 4 times within a treatment cycle), must re-qualify through an Initial 1 restriction.

(6) Monitoring of patients:

Omalizumab only:

Anaphylaxis and anaphylactoid reactions have been reported following first or subsequent administration of omalizumab (see Product Information). Patients should be monitored post-injection, and medications for the treatment of anaphylactic reactions should be available for immediate use following administration of omalizumab. Patients should be informed that such reactions are possible and prompt medical attention should be sought if allergic reactions occur.

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

Uncontrolled severe asthma

Treatment Phase: Balance of supply

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a medical practitioner who is either a: (i) respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma.

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have received insufficient therapy with this drug under the Initial 1 (new patients or recommencement of treatment in a new treatment cycle) restriction to complete 32 weeks treatment; OR
- Patient must have received insufficient therapy with this drug under the Initial 2 (change of treatment) restriction to complete 32 weeks treatment; OR
- Patient must have received insufficient therapy with this drug under the Continuing treatment restriction to complete 24 weeks treatment, **AND**
- The treatment must not provide more than the balance of up to 32 weeks of treatment if the most recent authority approval was made under an Initial treatment restriction; OR
- The treatment must not provide more than the balance of up to 24 weeks of treatment if the most recent authority approval was made under the Continuing treatment restriction.

omalizumab 75 mg/0.5 mL injection, 0.5 mL syringe

11846L	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	..	..	205.00	Xolair [NV]

▪ **OMALIZUMAB**

Note TREATMENT OF PAEDIATRIC PATIENTS WITH UNCONTROLLED SEVERE ALLERGIC ASTHMA

Patients are eligible to commence an 'omalizumab treatment cycle' (initial treatment course with or without continuing treatment course/s) if they satisfy the eligibility criteria as detailed under the initial treatment restriction.

Once a patient has either failed to achieve or maintain a response to omalizumab, they are deemed to have completed a treatment cycle and they must have, at a minimum, a 6 month break in PBS-subsidised omalizumab therapy before they are eligible to commence the next cycle. The length of a treatment break is measured from the date the most recent treatment with PBS-subsidised omalizumab treatment is stopped to the date of the first application for initial treatment with omalizumab under the new treatment cycle.

There is no limit to the number of treatment cycles a patient may undertake in their lifetime.

(1) How to prescribe PBS-subsidised omalizumab therapy.

(a) Initial treatment:

Applications for initial treatment should be made where a patient has received no prior PBS-subsidised omalizumab treatment in this treatment cycle and wishes to commence such therapy.

All applications for initial treatment will be limited to provide for a maximum of 28 weeks of therapy for omalizumab.

(b) Continuing treatment:

Following the completion of the initial treatment course with omalizumab, a patient may qualify to receive up to a further 24 weeks of continuing treatment with omalizumab providing they have demonstrated an adequate response to treatment. The patient remains eligible to receive continuing omalizumab treatment in courses of up to 24 weeks providing they continue to sustain the response.

(2) Baseline measurements to determine response:

Services Australia will determine whether a response to treatment has been demonstrated based on the baseline measurements of the Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ; 5 item version) or ACQ-IA, systemic corticosteroid dose and time-adjusted exacerbation rate, submitted with the Initial authority application for omalizumab. However, prescribers may provide new baseline measurements when a new Initial treatment authority application is submitted and Services Australia will assess response according to these revised baseline measurements.

(3) Re-commencement of treatment after a 6 month break in PBS-subsidised therapy:

A patient who wishes to trial a second or subsequent treatment cycle following a break in PBS-subsidised omalizumab therapy of at least 6 months, must re-qualify for initial treatment with respect to the indices of disease severity (systemic corticosteroid dose, Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) score or ACQ-IA, and relevant exacerbation history). Patients must have received optimised standard therapy, at adequate doses and for the minimum period specified, immediately prior to the time the new baseline assessments are performed.

(4) Monitoring of patients:

Anaphylaxis and anaphylactoid reactions have been reported following first or subsequent administration of omalizumab (see Product Information). Patients should be monitored post-injection, and medications for the treatment of anaphylactic reactions should be available for immediate use following administration of omalizumab. Patients should be informed that such reactions are possible and prompt medical attention should be sought if allergic reactions occur.

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

Uncontrolled severe allergic asthma

Treatment Phase: Balance of supply in a patient aged 6 to 12 years

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a medical practitioner who is either a: (i) paediatric respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) paediatrician or general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma, in consultation with a respiratory physician.

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have received insufficient therapy with this drug under the Initial treatment restriction to complete 28 weeks treatment; OR
- Patient must have received insufficient therapy with this drug under the Continuing treatment restriction to complete 24 weeks treatment, **AND**
- The treatment must provide no more than the balance of up to 28 weeks treatment available under the Initial restriction or up to 24 weeks treatment available under the Continuing restriction.

omalizumab 75 mg/0.5 mL injection, 0.5 mL syringe

11962N	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	..	..	205.00	Xolair [NV]

omalizumab 150 mg/mL injection, 1 mL syringe

11950Y	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	..	..	410.00	Xolair [NV]

■ OMALIZUMAB

Note TREATMENT OF ADULT AND ADOLESCENT PATIENTS WITH UNCONTROLLED SEVERE ASTHMA

The following information applies to the prescribing under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) of the biological medicines for uncontrolled severe asthma. Where the term biological medicine appears in the following notes and restrictions it refers to all PBS benefits with the specific PBS indication of 'uncontrolled severe asthma'.

A patient is eligible for PBS-subsidised treatment with only 1 biological medicine for uncontrolled severe asthma at any one time.

A patient receiving PBS-subsidised treatment for uncontrolled severe asthma is able to commence a treatment cycle where they may trial a biological medicine without having to experience a disease flare when swapping to an alternate biological medicine within the same treatment cycle.

Under these arrangements, within a treatment cycle, a patient may receive long-term treatment with a biological medicine as long as they sustain a response to therapy.

A patient currently receiving PBS-subsidised treatment as of 1 April 2021 is considered to have started a cycle of treatment. Within the same treatment cycle, a patient cannot trial and fail, or cease to respond to, the same PBS-subsidised biological medicine more than once.

Therefore, once a patient fails to meet the response criteria for a PBS-subsidised biological medicine, they must change to an alternate biological medicine if they wish to continue PBS-subsidised biological treatment.

Once a patient has either failed to achieve or sustain a response to treatment 4 times, they are deemed to have completed a single treatment cycle. They must have at least a 12-month break in PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy before they are eligible to recommence another new treatment cycle [further details are under 'Recommencement of treatment after a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy' below].

The length of the break in therapy is measured from the date the most recent treatment with a PBS-subsidised biological medicine is ceased until the date of the first application for recommencement of treatment with a biological medicine under the new treatment cycle.

There is no limit to the number of treatment cycles that a patient may undertake in their lifetime.

How to prescribe PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment for uncontrolled severe asthma.

(1) Initial treatment:

Applications for initial treatment should be made where:

(i) a patient has not received prior PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment and wishes to commence such therapy (Initial 1 restriction); or

(ii) a patient has received prior PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine and wishes to recommence a new treatment cycle with this biological medicine following a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy (Initial 1 restriction); or (iii) a patient has received prior PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy and wishes to trial an alternate biological medicine within the same treatment cycle (Initial 2 restriction) - [further details are under 'Swapping therapy' below].

All applications for initial treatment will be limited to provide for a maximum of up to 32 weeks of therapy of a biological medicine. It is recommended that a patient be reviewed in the month prior to completing their course of initial treatment to ensure uninterrupted biological medicine supply.

(2) Continuing treatment:

Following the completion of an initial treatment course with a specific biological medicine, a patient may qualify to receive up to 24 weeks of continuing treatment with that biological medicine providing they have demonstrated an adequate response to treatment. The patient remains eligible to receive continuing biological medicine treatment with the same drug

in courses of up to 24 weeks providing they continue to sustain the response. It is recommended that a patient be reviewed the month prior to completing their current course of treatment to ensure uninterrupted biological medicine supply.

(3) Baseline measurements to determine response:

Baseline measurements of the Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ; 5 item version) or oral corticosteroid dose submitted with the Initial authority application for a biological medicine must be used to determine whether an adequate response to treatment has been achieved or sustained.

For patients transitioned from the paediatric to the adolescent/adult restriction, the exacerbation history may also be used to determine response.

However, prescribers may provide new baseline measurements when a new Initial treatment authority application is submitted and these new baseline measurements may be used to assess response.

(4) Swapping therapy within the same treatment cycle.

Once initial treatment with the first PBS-subsidised biological medicine is approved, a patient may swap to an alternate biological medicine at any time by qualifying under an Initial 2 restriction.

However, they cannot swap to a particular biological medicine if they have failed to respond to prior treatment with that drug within the same treatment cycle.

Within the same treatment cycle a patient may alternate between therapy with any biological medicine of their choice (1 at a time) providing:

(i) they have not received PBS-subsidised treatment with that particular biological medicine previously; or

(ii) they have demonstrated an adequate response to that particular biological medicine if they have previously trialed it on the PBS; and

(iii) they have not previously failed to respond to treatment with all 4 biological medicines in this treatment cycle.

(5) Re-commencement of a new treatment cycle after a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy:

A patient who wishes to trial a second or subsequent new treatment cycle, following a break in PBS-subsidised therapy of at least 12 months (in patients who have failed to achieve or ceased to sustain a response to treatment 4 times within a treatment cycle), must re-qualify through an Initial 1 restriction.

(6) Monitoring of patients:

Omaliuzumab only:

Anaphylaxis and anaphylactoid reactions have been reported following first or subsequent administration of omaliuzumab (see Product Information). Patients should be monitored post-injection, and medications for the treatment of anaphylactic reactions should be available for immediate use following administration of omaliuzumab. Patients should be informed that such reactions are possible and prompt medical attention should be sought if allergic reactions occur.

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

Note No increase in the maximum number of repeats may be authorised.

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

Uncontrolled severe asthma

Treatment Phase: Balance of supply

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a medical practitioner who is either a: (i) respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma.

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have received insufficient therapy with this drug under the Initial 1 (new patients or recommencement of treatment in a new treatment cycle) restriction to complete 32 weeks treatment; OR
- Patient must have received insufficient therapy with this drug under the Initial 2 (change of treatment) restriction to complete 32 weeks treatment; OR
- Patient must have received insufficient therapy with this drug under the Continuing treatment restriction to complete 24 weeks treatment, **AND**
- The treatment must not provide more than the balance of up to 32 weeks of treatment if the most recent authority approval was made under an Initial treatment restriction; OR
- The treatment must not provide more than the balance of up to 24 weeks of treatment if the most recent authority approval was made under the Continuing treatment restriction.

omalizumab 150 mg/mL injection, 1 mL syringe

11828M	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	..	..	410.00	Xolair [NV]

■ OMALIZUMAB

Note TREATMENT OF ADULT AND ADOLESCENT PATIENTS WITH UNCONTROLLED SEVERE ASTHMA

The following information applies to the prescribing under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) of the biological medicines for uncontrolled severe asthma. Where the term biological medicine appears in the following notes and restrictions it refers to all PBS benefits with the specific PBS indication of 'uncontrolled severe asthma'.

A patient is eligible for PBS-subsidised treatment with only 1 biological medicine for uncontrolled severe asthma at any one time.

A patient receiving PBS-subsidised treatment for uncontrolled severe asthma is able to commence a treatment cycle where they may trial a biological medicine without having to experience a disease flare when swapping to an alternate biological medicine within the same treatment cycle.

Under these arrangements, within a treatment cycle, a patient may receive long-term treatment with a biological medicine as long as they sustain a response to therapy.

A patient currently receiving PBS-subsidised treatment as of 1 April 2021 is considered to have started a cycle of treatment. Within the same treatment cycle, a patient cannot trial and fail, or cease to respond to, the same PBS-subsidised biological

medicine more than once.

Therefore, once a patient fails to meet the response criteria for a PBS-subsidised biological medicine, they must change to an alternate biological medicine if they wish to continue PBS-subsidised biological treatment.

Once a patient has either failed to achieve or sustain a response to treatment 4 times, they are deemed to have completed a single treatment cycle. They must have at least a 12-month break in PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy before they are eligible to recommence another new treatment cycle [further details are under 'Recommencement of treatment after a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy' below].

The length of the break in therapy is measured from the date the most recent treatment with a PBS-subsidised biological medicine is ceased until the date of the first application for recommencement of treatment with a biological medicine under the new treatment cycle.

There is no limit to the number of treatment cycles that a patient may undertake in their lifetime.

How to prescribe PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment for uncontrolled severe asthma.

(1) Initial treatment:

Applications for initial treatment should be made where:

(i) a patient has not received prior PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment and wishes to commence such therapy (Initial 1 restriction); or

(ii) a patient has received prior PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine and wishes to recommence a new treatment cycle with this biological medicine following a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy (Initial 1 restriction); or

(iii) a patient has received prior PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy and wishes to trial an alternate biological medicine within the same treatment cycle (Initial 2 restriction) - [further details are under 'Swapping therapy' below].

All applications for initial treatment will be limited to provide for a maximum of up to 32 weeks of therapy of a biological medicine. It is recommended that a patient be reviewed in the month prior to completing their course of initial treatment to ensure uninterrupted biological medicine supply.

(2) Continuing treatment:

Following the completion of an initial treatment course with a specific biological medicine, a patient may qualify to receive up to 24 weeks of continuing treatment with that biological medicine providing they have demonstrated an adequate response to treatment. The patient remains eligible to receive continuing biological medicine treatment with the same drug in courses of up to 24 weeks providing they continue to sustain the response. It is recommended that a patient be reviewed the month prior to completing their current course of treatment to ensure uninterrupted biological medicine supply.

(3) Baseline measurements to determine response:

Baseline measurements of the Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ; 5 item version) or oral corticosteroid dose submitted with the Initial authority application for a biological medicine must be used to determine whether an adequate response to treatment has been achieved or sustained.

For patients transitioned from the paediatric to the adolescent/adult restriction, the exacerbation history may also be used to determine response.

However, prescribers may provide new baseline measurements when a new Initial treatment authority application is submitted and these new baseline measurements may be used to assess response.

(4) Swapping therapy within the same treatment cycle.

Once initial treatment with the first PBS-subsidised biological medicine is approved, a patient may swap to an alternate biological medicine at any time by qualifying under an Initial 2 restriction.

However, they cannot swap to a particular biological medicine if they have failed to respond to prior treatment with that drug within the same treatment cycle.

Within the same treatment cycle a patient may alternate between therapy with any biological medicine of their choice (1 at a time) providing:

(i) they have not received PBS-subsidised treatment with that particular biological medicine previously; or

(ii) they have demonstrated an adequate response to that particular biological medicine if they have previously trialed it on the PBS; and

(iii) they have not previously failed to respond to treatment with all 4 biological medicines in this treatment cycle.

(5) Re-commencement of a new treatment cycle after a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy:

A patient who wishes to trial a second or subsequent new treatment cycle, following a break in PBS-subsidised therapy of at least 12 months (in patients who have failed to achieve or ceased to sustain a response to treatment 4 times within a treatment cycle), must re-qualify through an Initial 1 restriction.

(6) Monitoring of patients:

Omalizumab only:

Anaphylaxis and anaphylactoid reactions have been reported following first or subsequent administration of omalizumab (see Product Information). Patients should be monitored post-injection, and medications for the treatment of anaphylactic reactions should be available for immediate use following administration of omalizumab. Patients should be informed that such reactions are possible and prompt medical attention should be sought if allergic reactions occur.

Note For copies of the ACQ and the calculation sheets please contact Novartis Medical Information on 1800 671 203 or medinfo.phauno@novartis.com

Note Formal assessment and correction of inhaler technique should be performed in accordance with the National Asthma Council (NAC) Information Paper for Health Professionals on Inhaler Technique (available at www.nationalasthma.org.au); the assessment and adherence to correct technique should be documented in the patient's medical records. Patients can obtain support with inhaler technique through their local Asthma Foundation (1800 645 130).

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

Uncontrolled severe asthma

Treatment Phase: Continuing treatment

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a medical practitioner who is either a: (i) respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma.

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have received this drug as their most recent course of PBS-subsidised biological agent treatment for this condition in this treatment cycle, **AND**
- Patient must have demonstrated or sustained an adequate response to PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition, **AND**
- The treatment must not be used in combination with and within 4 weeks of another PBS-subsidised biological medicine prescribed for severe asthma, **AND**
- Patient must not receive more than 24 weeks of treatment under this restriction.

Population criteria:

- Patient must be aged 12 years or older.

An adequate response to omalizumab treatment is defined as:

- (a) a reduction in the Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) score of at least 0.5 from baseline, OR
- (b) maintenance oral corticosteroid dose reduced by at least 25% from baseline, and no deterioration in ACQ-5 score from baseline or an increase in ACQ-5 score from baseline less than or equal to 0.5, OR
- (c) a reduction in the time-adjusted exacerbation rates compared to the 12 months prior to baseline (this criterion is only applicable for patients transitioned from the paediatric to the adolescent/adult restriction).

All applications for second and subsequent continuing treatments with this drug must include a measurement of response to the prior course of therapy. The Asthma Control Questionnaire (5 item version) assessment of the patient's response to the prior course of treatment, the assessment of oral corticosteroid dose or the assessment of time adjusted exacerbation rate should be made from 20 weeks after the first PBS-subsidised dose of this drug under this restriction so that there is adequate time for a response to be demonstrated.

The assessment should, where possible, be completed by the same physician who initiated treatment with this drug. Where a response assessment is not undertaken and provided at the time of application, the patient will be deemed to have failed to respond to treatment with this drug.

Where treatment was ceased for clinical reasons despite the patient experiencing improvement, an assessment of the patient's response to treatment made at the time of treatment cessation or retrospectively will be considered to determine whether the patient demonstrated or sustained an adequate response to treatment.

A patient who fails to respond to treatment with this biological medicine for uncontrolled severe asthma will not be eligible to receive further PBS-subsidised treatment with this biological medicine for severe asthma within the current treatment cycle.

At the time of the authority application, medical practitioners should request the appropriate quantity and number of repeats to provide for a continuing course of this biological medicine consisting of the recommended number of doses for the baseline IgE level and body weight of the patient (refer to the TGA-approved Product Information), sufficient for up to 24 weeks of therapy.

The following information must be provided at the time of application and must be documented in the patient's medical records:

- (a) Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) score; and
- (b) If applicable, maintenance oral corticosteroid dose; and
- (c) For patients transitioned from the paediatric to the adolescent/adult restrictions, confirmation that the time-adjusted exacerbation rate has reduced.

The most recent Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) score must be no more than 4 weeks old at the time of application.

omalizumab 75 mg/0.5 mL injection, 0.5 mL syringe

11835X	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	5	..	205.00	Xolair [NV]

omalizumab 150 mg/mL injection, 1 mL syringe

11824H	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	5	..	410.00	Xolair [NV]

■ OMALIZUMAB

Note TREATMENT OF PAEDIATRIC PATIENTS WITH UNCONTROLLED SEVERE ALLERGIC ASTHMA

Patients are eligible to commence an 'omalizumab treatment cycle' (initial treatment course with or without continuing treatment course/s) if they satisfy the eligibility criteria as detailed under the initial treatment restriction.

Once a patient has either failed to achieve or maintain a response to omalizumab, they are deemed to have completed a treatment cycle and they must have, at a minimum, a 6 month break in PBS-subsidised omalizumab therapy before they are eligible to commence the next cycle. The length of a treatment break is measured from the date the most recent treatment with PBS-subsidised omalizumab treatment is stopped to the date of the first application for initial treatment with omalizumab under the new treatment cycle.

There is no limit to the number of treatment cycles a patient may undertake in their lifetime.

(1) How to prescribe PBS-subsidised omalizumab therapy.

(a) Initial treatment:

Applications for initial treatment should be made where a patient has received no prior PBS-subsidised omalizumab treatment in this treatment cycle and wishes to commence such therapy.

All applications for initial treatment will be limited to provide for a maximum of 28 weeks of therapy for omalizumab.

(b) Continuing treatment:

Following the completion of the initial treatment course with omalizumab, a patient may qualify to receive up to a further 24 weeks of continuing treatment with omalizumab providing they have demonstrated an adequate response to treatment. The patient remains eligible to receive continuing omalizumab treatment in courses of up to 24 weeks providing they continue to

sustain the response.

(2) Baseline measurements to determine response:

Services Australia will determine whether a response to treatment has been demonstrated based on the baseline measurements of the Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ; 5 item version) or ACQ-IA, systemic corticosteroid dose and time-adjusted exacerbation rate, submitted with the Initial authority application for omalizumab. However, prescribers may provide new baseline measurements when a new Initial treatment authority application is submitted and Services Australia will assess response according to these revised baseline measurements.

(3) Re-commencement of treatment after a 6 month break in PBS-subsidised therapy:

A patient who wishes to trial a second or subsequent treatment cycle following a break in PBS-subsidised omalizumab therapy of at least 6 months, must re-qualify for initial treatment with respect to the indices of disease severity (systemic corticosteroid dose, Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) score or ACQ-IA, and relevant exacerbation history). Patients must have received optimised standard therapy, at adequate doses and for the minimum period specified, immediately prior to the time the new baseline assessments are performed.

(4) Monitoring of patients:

Anaphylaxis and anaphylactoid reactions have been reported following first or subsequent administration of omalizumab (see Product Information). Patients should be monitored post-injection, and medications for the treatment of anaphylactic reactions should be available for immediate use following administration of omalizumab. Patients should be informed that such reactions are possible and prompt medical attention should be sought if allergic reactions occur.

Note For copies of the ACQ please contact Novartis Medical Information on 1800 671 203 or medinfo.phauno@novartis.com

Note Formal assessment and correction of inhaler technique should be performed in accordance with the National Asthma Council (NAC) Information Paper for Health Professionals on Inhaler Technique (available at www.nationalasthma.org.au); the assessment and adherence to correct technique should be documented in the patient's medical records. Patients can obtain support with inhaler technique through their local Asthma Foundation (1800 645 130).

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

Note No increase in the maximum number of repeats may be authorised.

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

Uncontrolled severe allergic asthma

Treatment Phase: Continuing treatment

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have a documented history of severe allergic asthma, **AND**
- Patient must have demonstrated or sustained an adequate response to PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition, **AND**
- Patient must not receive more than 24 weeks of treatment under this restriction.

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a medical practitioner who is either a: (i) paediatric respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) paediatrician or general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma, in consultation with a respiratory physician.

An adequate response to omalizumab treatment is defined as:

(a) a reduction in the Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) or ACQ-IA score of at least 0.5 from baseline, OR

(b) maintenance oral corticosteroid dose reduced by at least 25% from baseline, and no deterioration in ACQ-5 or ACQ-IA score from baseline, OR

(c) a reduction in the time-adjusted exacerbation rates compared to the 12 months prior to baseline.

A measurement of response to the prior course of therapy must be provided at the time of application and should be used to determine eligibility for continuing treatment. The Asthma Control Questionnaire (5 item version) or Asthma Control Questionnaire interviewer administered version (ACQ-IA) assessment of the patient's response to the prior course of treatment, the assessment of systemic corticosteroid dose, and the assessment of time-adjusted exacerbation rate should be made from 20 weeks after the first dose of PBS-subsidised omalizumab so that there is adequate time for a response to be demonstrated. The first assessment should, where possible, be completed by the same physician who initiated treatment with omalizumab.

Where a response assessment is not undertaken and provided at the time of application, the patient will be deemed to have failed to respond to treatment with omalizumab.

A patient who fails to respond to a course of PBS-subsidised omalizumab for the treatment of uncontrolled severe allergic asthma will not be eligible to receive further PBS-subsidised treatment with omalizumab for this condition within 6 months of the date on which treatment was ceased.

At the time of the authority application, medical practitioners should request the appropriate quantity and number of repeats to provide for a continuing course of omalizumab consisting of the recommended number of doses for the baseline IgE level and body weight of the patient (refer to the TGA-approved Product Information), sufficient for 24 weeks of therapy.

The following information must be provided at the time of application and must be documented in the patient's medical records:

- (a) If applicable, the baseline and maintenance oral corticosteroid dose; and
- (b) baseline and current Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) date and score; or
- (c) baseline and current Asthma Control Questionnaire interviewer administered version (ACQ-IA) date and score; and
- (d) if applicable, confirmation that the time-adjusted exacerbation rate has reduced.

The most recent Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) score or Asthma Control Questionnaire interviewer administered version (ACQ-IA) score must be no more than 4 weeks old at the time of application.

omalizumab 75 mg/0.5 mL injection, 0.5 mL syringe

11946R	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	5	..	205.00	Xolair [NV]

omalizumab 150 mg/mL injection, 1 mL syringe

11945Q	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	5	..	410.00	Xolair [NV]

■ OMALIZUMAB

Note TREATMENT OF ADULT AND ADOLESCENT PATIENTS WITH UNCONTROLLED SEVERE ASTHMA

The following information applies to the prescribing under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) of the biological medicines for uncontrolled severe asthma. Where the term biological medicine appears in the following notes and restrictions it refers to all PBS benefits with the specific PBS indication of 'uncontrolled severe asthma'.

A patient is eligible for PBS-subsidised treatment with only 1 biological medicine for uncontrolled severe asthma at any one time.

A patient receiving PBS-subsidised treatment for uncontrolled severe asthma is able to commence a treatment cycle where they may trial a biological medicine without having to experience a disease flare when swapping to an alternate biological medicine within the same treatment cycle.

Under these arrangements, within a treatment cycle, a patient may receive long-term treatment with a biological medicine as long as they sustain a response to therapy.

A patient currently receiving PBS-subsidised treatment as of 1 April 2021 is considered to have started a cycle of treatment. Within the same treatment cycle, a patient cannot trial and fail, or cease to respond to, the same PBS-subsidised biological medicine more than once.

Therefore, once a patient fails to meet the response criteria for a PBS-subsidised biological medicine, they must change to an alternate biological medicine if they wish to continue PBS-subsidised biological treatment.

Once a patient has either failed to achieve or sustain a response to treatment 4 times, they are deemed to have completed a single treatment cycle. They must have at least a 12-month break in PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy before they are eligible to recommence another new treatment cycle [further details are under 'Recommencement of treatment after a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy' below].

The length of the break in therapy is measured from the date the most recent treatment with a PBS-subsidised biological medicine is ceased until the date of the first application for recommencement of treatment with a biological medicine under the new treatment cycle.

There is no limit to the number of treatment cycles that a patient may undertake in their lifetime.

How to prescribe PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment for uncontrolled severe asthma.

(1) Initial treatment:

Applications for initial treatment should be made where:

- a patient has not received prior PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment and wishes to commence such therapy (Initial 1 restriction); or
- a patient has received prior PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine and wishes to recommence a new treatment cycle with this biological medicine following a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy (Initial 1 restriction); or
- a patient has received prior PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy and wishes to trial an alternate biological medicine within the same treatment cycle (Initial 2 restriction) - [further details are under 'Swapping therapy' below].

All applications for initial treatment will be limited to provide for a maximum of up to 32 weeks of therapy of a biological medicine. It is recommended that a patient be reviewed in the month prior to completing their course of initial treatment to ensure uninterrupted biological medicine supply.

(2) Continuing treatment:

Following the completion of an initial treatment course with a specific biological medicine, a patient may qualify to receive up to 24 weeks of continuing treatment with that biological medicine providing they have demonstrated an adequate response to treatment. The patient remains eligible to receive continuing biological medicine treatment with the same drug in courses of up to 24 weeks providing they continue to sustain the response. It is recommended that a patient be reviewed the month prior to completing their current course of treatment to ensure uninterrupted biological medicine supply.

(3) Baseline measurements to determine response:

Baseline measurements of the Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ; 5 item version) or oral corticosteroid dose submitted with the Initial authority application for a biological medicine must be used to determine whether an adequate response to treatment has been achieved or sustained.

For patients transitioned from the paediatric to the adolescent/adult restriction, the exacerbation history may also be used to determine response.

However, prescribers may provide new baseline measurements when a new Initial treatment authority application is submitted and these new baseline measurements may be used to assess response.

(4) Swapping therapy within the same treatment cycle.

Once initial treatment with the first PBS-subsidised biological medicine is approved, a patient may swap to an alternate biological medicine at any time by qualifying under an Initial 2 restriction.

However, they cannot swap to a particular biological medicine if they have failed to respond to prior treatment with that drug within the same treatment cycle.

Within the same treatment cycle a patient may alternate between therapy with any biological medicine of their choice (1 at a time) providing:

- they have not received PBS-subsidised treatment with that particular biological medicine previously; or
- they have demonstrated an adequate response to that particular biological medicine if they have previously trialed it on the PBS; and
- they have not previously failed to respond to treatment with all 4 biological medicines in this treatment cycle.

(5) Re-commencement of a new treatment cycle after a treatment break in PBS-subsidised therapy:

A patient who wishes to trial a second or subsequent new treatment cycle, following a break in PBS-subsidised therapy of at least 12 months (in patients who have failed to achieve or ceased to sustain a response to treatment 4 times within a

treatment cycle), must re-qualify through an Initial 1 restriction.

(6) Monitoring of patients:

Omalizumab only:

Anaphylaxis and anaphylactoid reactions have been reported following first or subsequent administration of omalizumab (see Product Information). Patients should be monitored post-injection, and medications for the treatment of anaphylactic reactions should be available for immediate use following administration of omalizumab. Patients should be informed that such reactions are possible and prompt medical attention should be sought if allergic reactions occur.

Note For copies of the ACQ and the calculation sheets please contact Novartis Medical Information on 1800 671 203 or medinfo.phauno@novartis.com

Note Any queries concerning the arrangements to prescribe may be directed to Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

Prescribing information (including Authority Application forms and other relevant documentation as applicable) is available on the Services Australia website at www.servicesaustralia.gov.au

Applications for authority to prescribe should be submitted online using the form upload facility in Health Professional Online Services (HPOS) at www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/hpos

Or mailed to:

Services Australia

Complex Drugs

Reply Paid 9826

HOBART TAS 7001

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

Uncontrolled severe asthma

Treatment Phase: Initial treatment - Initial 1 (New patients; or Recommencement of treatment in a new treatment cycle following a break in PBS subsidised biological medicine therapy)

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a medical practitioner who is either a: (i) respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma.

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must be under the care of the same physician for at least 6 months; OR
- Patient must have been diagnosed by a multidisciplinary severe asthma clinic team, **AND**
- Patient must not have received PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine for severe asthma; OR
- Patient must have had a break in treatment of at least 12 months from the most recently approved PBS-subsidised biological medicine for severe asthma, **AND**
- Patient must have a diagnosis of asthma confirmed and documented in the patient's medical records by either a: (i) respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma, defined by at least one of the following standard clinical features: (a) forced expiratory volume (FEV1) reversibility greater than or equal to 12% and greater than or equal to 200 mL at baseline within 30 minutes after administration of salbutamol (200 to 400 micrograms), (b) airway hyperresponsiveness defined as a greater than 20% decline in FEV1 during a direct bronchial provocation test or greater than 15% decline during an indirect bronchial provocation test, (c) peak expiratory flow (PEF) variability of greater than 15% between the two highest and two lowest peak expiratory flow rates during 14 days; OR
- Patient must have a diagnosis of asthma from at least two physicians experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma with the details documented in the patient's medical records, **AND**
- Patient must have a duration of asthma of at least 1 year, **AND**
- Patient must have past or current evidence of atopy that is no more than 1 year old at the time of application that is documented by either: (i) skin prick testing, (ii) an in vitro measure of specific IgE, **AND**
- Patient must have total serum human immunoglobulin E of at least 30 IU/mL, measured no more than 12 months prior to the time of application, **AND**
- Patient must have failed to achieve adequate control with optimised asthma therapy, despite formal assessment of and adherence to correct inhaler technique, which has been documented in the patient's medical records, **AND**
- Patient must not receive more than 32 weeks of treatment under this restriction, **AND**
- The treatment must not be used in combination with and within 4 weeks of another PBS-subsidised biological medicine prescribed for severe asthma.

Population criteria:

- Patient must be aged 12 years or older.

Optimised asthma therapy includes:

(i) Adherence to maximal inhaled therapy, including high dose inhaled corticosteroid (ICS) plus long-acting beta-2 agonist (LABA) therapy for at least 12 months, unless contraindicated or not tolerated; **AND**

(ii) treatment with oral corticosteroids, either daily oral corticosteroids for at least 6 weeks, OR a cumulative dose of oral corticosteroids of at least 500 mg prednisolone equivalent in the previous 12 months, unless contraindicated or not tolerated.

If the requirement for treatment with optimised asthma therapy cannot be met because of contraindications according to the relevant TGA-approved Product Information and/or intolerances of a severity necessitating permanent treatment withdrawal, details of the contraindication and/or intolerance must be provided in the Authority application.

The following initiation criteria indicate failure to achieve adequate control and must be demonstrated in all patients at the time of the application:

- (a) an Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) score of at least 2.0, as assessed in the previous month, **AND**

(b) while receiving optimised asthma therapy in the past 12 months, experienced at least 1 admission to hospital for a severe asthma exacerbation, OR 1 severe asthma exacerbation, requiring documented use of systemic corticosteroids (oral corticosteroids initiated or increased for at least 3 days, or parenteral corticosteroids) prescribed/supervised by a physician.

The Asthma Control Questionnaire (5 item version) assessment of the patient's response to this initial course of treatment, and the assessment of oral corticosteroid dose, should be made at around 28 weeks after the first PBS-subsidised dose of this drug under this restriction so that there is adequate time for a response to be demonstrated and for the application for the first continuing therapy to be processed.

This assessment, which will be used to determine eligibility for the first continuing treatment, should be conducted within 4 weeks of the last dose of biological medicine. Where a response assessment is not undertaken and provided, the patient will be deemed to have failed to respond to treatment with this drug.

If a patient fails to demonstrate a response to treatment with this drug they will not be eligible to receive further PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for severe asthma within the same treatment cycle.

A treatment break in PBS-subsidised biological medicine therapy of at least 12 months must be observed in a patient who has either failed to achieve or sustain a response to treatment with 4 biological medicines for severe asthma within the same treatment cycle.

The length of the break in therapy is measured from the date the most recent treatment with a PBS-subsidised biological medicine was administered until the date of the first application for recommencement of treatment with a biological medicine under the new treatment cycle.

There is no limit to the number of treatment cycles that a patient may undertake in their lifetime.

At the time of the authority application, medical practitioners should request the appropriate maximum quantity and number of repeats to provide for an initial course of omalizumab consisting of the recommended number of doses for the baseline IgE level and body weight of the patient (refer to the TGA-approved Product Information) to be administered every 2 or 4 weeks.

A multidisciplinary severe asthma clinic team comprises of:

- (i) A respiratory physician; and
- (ii) A pharmacist, nurse or asthma educator.

The authority application must be made in writing and must include:

- (1) a completed authority prescription form; and
- (2) a completed authority application form relevant to the indication and treatment phase (the latest version is located on the website specified in the Administrative Advice).

The following must be provided at the time of application and documented in the patient's medical records:

- (a) details of prior optimised asthma drug therapy (dosage, date of commencement, duration of therapy); and
- (b) If applicable, details of contraindications and/or intolerances of a severity necessitating permanent treatment withdrawal to standard therapy according to the relevant TGA-approved Product Information; and
- (c) details of severe exacerbation/s experienced in the past 12 months while receiving optimised asthma therapy (date and treatment); and
- (d) the IgE result and date; and
- (e) Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) score.

Note The Services Australia website (www.servicesaustralia.gov.au) has details of the accepted toxicities, including severity, which will be accepted for the purposes of exempting a patient from the requirement of treatment with optimised asthma therapy.

Note Formal assessment and correction of inhaler technique should be performed in accordance with the National Asthma Council (NAC) Information Paper for Health Professionals on Inhaler Technique (available at www.nationalasthma.org.au); the assessment and adherence to correct technique should be documented in the patient's medical records. Patients can obtain support with inhaler technique through their local Asthma Foundation (1800 645 130).

Authority required

Uncontrolled severe asthma

Treatment Phase: Initial treatment - Initial 2 (Change of treatment)

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a medical practitioner who is either a: (i) respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma.

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must be under the care of the same physician for at least 6 months; OR
- Patient must have been diagnosed by a multidisciplinary severe asthma clinic team, **AND**
- Patient must have received prior PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine for severe asthma in this treatment cycle, **AND**
- Patient must not have failed, or ceased to respond to, PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for severe asthma during the current treatment cycle, **AND**
- Patient must have past or current evidence of atopy, documented by skin prick testing or an in vitro measure of specific IgE in the past 12 months or in the 12 months prior to initiating PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine for severe asthma, **AND**
- Patient must have total serum human immunoglobulin E of at least 30 IU/mL, measured no more than 12 months prior to initiating PBS-subsidised treatment with a biological medicine for severe asthma, **AND**
- Patient must not receive more than 32 weeks of treatment under this restriction, **AND**
- The treatment must not be used in combination with and within 4 weeks of another PBS-subsidised biological medicine prescribed for severe asthma.

Population criteria:

- Patient must be aged 12 years or older.

An application for a patient who has received PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment for this condition who wishes to change therapy to this biological medicine, must be accompanied by the results of an ACQ-5 assessment of the patient's most recent course of PBS-subsidised biological medicine treatment. The assessment must have been made not more than 4 weeks after the last dose of biological medicine. Where a response assessment was not undertaken, the patient will be deemed to have failed to respond to treatment with that previous biological medicine.

An ACQ-5 assessment of the patient may be made at the time of application for treatment (to establish a new baseline score), but should be made again around 28 weeks after the first PBS-subsidised dose of this biological medicine under this restriction so that there is adequate time for a response to be demonstrated and for the application for the first continuing therapy to be processed.

This assessment, which will be used to determine eligibility for the first continuing treatment, should be conducted within 4 weeks of the last dose of biological medicine. Where a response assessment is not undertaken and provided, the patient will be deemed to have failed to respond to treatment with this biological medicine.

At the time of the authority application, medical practitioners should request an appropriate maximum quantity based on IgE level and body weight (refer to the TGA-approved Product Information) to be administered every 2 to 4 weeks and up to 7 repeats to provide for an initial course sufficient for up to 32 weeks of therapy.

A multidisciplinary severe asthma clinic team comprises of:

- (i) A respiratory physician; and
- (ii) A pharmacist, nurse or asthma educator.

The authority application must be made in writing and must include:

- (1) a completed authority prescription form; and
- (2) a completed authority application form relevant to the indication and treatment phase (the latest version is located on the website specified in the Administrative Advice).

The following must be provided at the time of application and documented in the patient's medical records:

- (a) Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5 item version) score (where a new baseline is being submitted or where the patient has responded to prior treatment); and
- (b) details (date and duration of treatment) of prior biological medicine treatment; and
- (c) the IgE results and date; and
- (d) if applicable, the dose of the maintenance oral corticosteroid (where the response criteria or baseline is based on corticosteroid dose); and
- (e) the reason for switching therapy (e.g. failure of prior therapy, partial response to prior therapy, adverse event to prior therapy).

omalizumab 75 mg/0.5 mL injection, 0.5 mL syringe

10118M	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	7	..	205.00	Xolair [NV]

omalizumab 150 mg/mL injection, 1 mL syringe

10109C	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	7	..	410.00	Xolair [NV]

■ OMALIZUMAB

Note TREATMENT OF PAEDIATRIC PATIENTS WITH UNCONTROLLED SEVERE ALLERGIC ASTHMA

Patients are eligible to commence an 'omalizumab treatment cycle' (initial treatment course with or without continuing treatment course/s) if they satisfy the eligibility criteria as detailed under the initial treatment restriction.

Once a patient has either failed to achieve or maintain a response to omalizumab, they are deemed to have completed a treatment cycle and they must have, at a minimum, a 6 month break in PBS-subsidised omalizumab therapy before they are eligible to commence the next cycle. The length of a treatment break is measured from the date the most recent treatment with PBS-subsidised omalizumab treatment is stopped to the date of the first application for initial treatment with omalizumab under the new treatment cycle.

There is no limit to the number of treatment cycles a patient may undertake in their lifetime.

(1) How to prescribe PBS-subsidised omalizumab therapy.

(a) Initial treatment:

Applications for initial treatment should be made where a patient has received no prior PBS-subsidised omalizumab treatment in this treatment cycle and wishes to commence such therapy.

All applications for initial treatment will be limited to provide for a maximum of 28 weeks of therapy for omalizumab.

(b) Continuing treatment:

Following the completion of the initial treatment course with omalizumab, a patient may qualify to receive up to a further 24 weeks of continuing treatment with omalizumab providing they have demonstrated an adequate response to treatment. The patient remains eligible to receive continuing omalizumab treatment in courses of up to 24 weeks providing they continue to sustain the response.

(2) Baseline measurements to determine response:

Services Australia will determine whether a response to treatment has been demonstrated based on the baseline measurements of the Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ; 5 item version) or ACQ-IA, systemic corticosteroid dose and time-adjusted exacerbation rate, submitted with the Initial authority application for omalizumab. However, prescribers may provide new baseline measurements when a new Initial treatment authority application is submitted and Services Australia will assess response according to these revised baseline measurements.

(3) Re-commencement of treatment after a 6 month break in PBS-subsidised therapy:

A patient who wishes to trial a second or subsequent treatment cycle following a break in PBS-subsidised omalizumab therapy of at least 6 months, must re-qualify for initial treatment with respect to the indices of disease severity (systemic corticosteroid dose, Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) score or ACQ-IA, and relevant exacerbation history). Patients must have received optimised standard therapy, at adequate doses and for the minimum period specified, immediately prior

to the time the new baseline assessments are performed.

(4) Monitoring of patients:

Anaphylaxis and anaphylactoid reactions have been reported following first or subsequent administration of omalizumab (see Product Information). Patients should be monitored post-injection, and medications for the treatment of anaphylactic reactions should be available for immediate use following administration of omalizumab. Patients should be informed that such reactions are possible and prompt medical attention should be sought if allergic reactions occur.

Note The Services Australia website (www.servicesaustralia.gov.au) has details of the accepted toxicities, including severity, which will be accepted for the purposes of exempting a patient from the requirement of treatment with optimised asthma therapy.

Note For copies of the ACQ please contact Novartis Medical Information on 1800 671 203 or medinfo.phauno@novartis.com

Note Formal assessment and correction of inhaler technique should be performed in accordance with the National Asthma Council (NAC) Information Paper for Health Professionals on Inhaler Technique (available at www.nationalasthma.org.au); the assessment and adherence to correct technique should be documented in the patient's medical records. Patients can obtain support with inhaler technique through their local Asthma Foundation (1800 645 130).

Note Any queries concerning the arrangements to prescribe may be directed to Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday). Prescribing information (including Authority Application forms and other relevant documentation as applicable) is available on the Services Australia website at www.servicesaustralia.gov.au. Applications for authority to prescribe should be submitted online using the form upload facility in Health Professional Online Services (HPOS) at www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/hpos

Or mailed to:
Services Australia
Complex Drugs
Reply Paid 9826
HOBART TAS 7001

Note No increase in the maximum number of repeats may be authorised.

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

Uncontrolled severe allergic asthma

Treatment Phase: Initial treatment

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have a diagnosis of asthma confirmed and documented in the patient's medical records by either: a (i) paediatric respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) paediatrician or general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma in consultation with a respiratory physician, defined by at least one of the following standard clinical features: (a) forced expiratory volume (FEV₁) reversibility, (b) airway hyperresponsiveness, (c) peak expiratory flow (PEF) variability, **AND**
- Patient must have a duration of asthma of at least 1 year, **AND**
- Patient must have past or current evidence of atopy, documented by either: (i) skin prick testing, (ii) an in vitro measure of specific IgE, **AND**
- Patient must have total serum human immunoglobulin E of at least 30 IU/mL, measured no more than 12 months prior to the time of application, **AND**
- Patient must have failed to achieve adequate control with optimised asthma therapy, despite formal assessment of and adherence to correct inhaler technique, which has been documented in the patient's medical records, **AND**
- Patient must not receive more than 28 weeks of treatment under this restriction.

Population criteria:

- Patient must be aged 6 to less than 12 years.

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a medical practitioner who is either a: (i) paediatric respiratory physician, (ii) clinical immunologist, (iii) allergist, (iv) paediatrician or general physician experienced in the management of patients with severe asthma, in consultation with a respiratory physician.

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must be under the care of the same physician for at least 6 months.

Optimised asthma therapy includes:

(i) Adherence to optimal inhaled therapy, including high dose inhaled corticosteroid (ICS) and long-acting beta-2 agonist (LABA) therapy for at least six months. If LABA therapy is contraindicated, not tolerated or not effective, montelukast, cromoglycate or nedocromil may be used as an alternative; **AND**

(ii) treatment with at least 2 courses of oral or IV corticosteroids (daily or alternate day maintenance treatment courses, or 3-5 day exacerbation treatment courses), in the previous 12 months, unless contraindicated or not tolerated.

If the requirement for treatment with optimised asthma therapy cannot be met because of contraindications (including those specified in the relevant TGA-approved Product Information) and/or intolerances of a severity necessitating permanent treatment withdrawal, details of the contraindication and/or intolerance must be provided in the Authority application.

The following initiation criteria indicate failure to achieve adequate control and must be demonstrated in all patients at the time of the application:

(a) An Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) score of at least 2.0, as assessed in the previous month (for children aged 6 to 10 years it is recommended that the Interviewer Administered version - the ACQ-IA be used), **AND**

(b) while receiving optimised asthma therapy in the previous 12 months, experienced at least 1 admission to hospital for a severe asthma exacerbation, OR 1 severe asthma exacerbation, requiring documented use of systemic corticosteroids (oral corticosteroids initiated or increased for at least 3 days, or parenteral corticosteroids) prescribed/supervised by a physician.

The Asthma Control Questionnaire (5 item version) or ACQ-IA assessment of the patient's response to this initial course of treatment, the assessment of oral corticosteroid dose, and the assessment of exacerbation rate should be made at around

24 weeks after the first dose so that there is adequate time for a response to be demonstrated and for the application for continuing therapy to be processed.

This assessment, which will be used to determine eligibility for continuing treatment, should be conducted within 4 weeks of the last dose of biological medicine. Where a response assessment is not undertaken and provided, the patient will be deemed to have failed to respond to treatment with omalizumab.

A patient who fails to respond to a course of PBS-subsidised omalizumab for the treatment of uncontrolled severe allergic asthma will not be eligible to receive further PBS-subsidised treatment with omalizumab for this condition within 6 months of the date on which treatment was ceased.

At the time of the authority application, medical practitioners should request the appropriate maximum quantity and number of repeats to provide for an initial course of omalizumab of up to 28 weeks, consisting of the recommended number of doses for the baseline IgE level and body weight of the patient (refer to the TGA-approved Product Information) to be administered every 2 or 4 weeks.

The authority application must be made in writing and must include:

- (1) a completed authority prescription form; and
- (2) a completed authority application form relevant to the indication and treatment phase (the latest version is located on the website specified in the Administrative Advice).

The following must be provided at the time of application and documented in the patient's medical records:

- (a) details of prior optimised asthma drug therapy (dosage, date of commencement and duration of therapy); and
- (b) details of severe exacerbation/s experienced in the past 12 months while receiving optimised asthma therapy (date and treatment); and
- (c) the IgE result and date; and
- (d) Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) score; or
- (e) Asthma Control Questionnaire interviewer administered version (ACQ-IA) score.

omalizumab 75 mg/0.5 mL injection, 0.5 mL syringe

10967F	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	6	..	205.00	Xolair [NV]

omalizumab 150 mg/mL injection, 1 mL syringe

10973M	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	6	..	410.00	Xolair [NV]

■ SELINEXOR

Caution This drug is a Category D drug and must not be given to pregnant women. If this drug is taken during pregnancy, a teratogenic effect in humans cannot be ruled out.

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

Note No increase in the maximum quantity or number of units may be authorised.

Note No increase in the maximum number of repeats may be authorised.

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

Relapsed and/or refractory multiple myeloma

Treatment Phase: Initial treatment - Dose requirement of 80 mg, 60 mg or 40 mg per week

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be confirmed by a histological diagnosis, **AND**
- Patient must be undergoing triple combination therapy limited to: (i) this drug, (ii) bortezomib, (iii) dexamethasone; OR
- Patient must be undergoing dual combination therapy limited to: (i) this drug, (ii) dexamethasone, **AND**
- Patient must have progressive disease after at least one prior therapy, **AND**
- Patient must not have previously received this drug for this condition.

Progressive disease is defined as at least 1 of the following:

- (a) at least a 25% increase and an absolute increase of at least 5 g per L in serum M protein (monoclonal protein); or
- (b) at least a 25% increase in 24-hour urinary light chain M protein excretion, and an absolute increase of at least 200 mg per 24 hours; or
- (c) in oligo-secretory and non-secretory myeloma patients only, at least a 50% increase in the difference between involved free light chain and uninvolved free light chain; or
- (d) at least a 25% relative increase and at least a 10% absolute increase in plasma cells in a bone marrow aspirate or on biopsy; or
- (e) an increase in the size or number of lytic bone lesions (not including compression fractures); or
- (f) at least a 25% increase in the size of an existing or the development of a new soft tissue plasmacytoma (determined by clinical examination or diagnostic imaging); or
- (g) development of hypercalcaemia (corrected serum calcium greater than 2.65 mmol per L not attributable to any other cause).

Oligo-secretory and non-secretory patients are defined as having active disease with less than 10 g per L serum M protein.

Details of: the histological diagnosis of multiple myeloma; prior treatments including name(s) of drug(s) and date of most recent treatment cycle; the basis of the diagnosis of progressive disease or failure to respond; and which disease activity parameters will be used to assess response, must be documented in the patient's medical records.

Confirmation of eligibility for treatment with current diagnostic reports of at least one of the following must be documented in the patient's medical records:

- (a) the level of serum monoclonal protein; or
- (b) Bence-Jones proteinuria - the results of 24-hour urinary light chain M protein excretion; or
- (c) the serum level of free kappa and lambda light chains; or
- (d) bone marrow aspirate or trephine; or
- (e) if present, the size and location of lytic bone lesions (not including compression fractures); or
- (f) if present, the size and location of all soft tissue plasmacytomas by clinical or radiographic examination i.e. MRI or CT-scan; or
- (g) if present, the level of hypercalcaemia, corrected for albumin concentration.

As these parameters must be used to determine response, results for either (a) or (b) or (c) should be documented for all patients. Where the patient has oligo-secretory or non-secretory multiple myeloma, either (c) or (d) or if relevant (e), (f) or (g) must be documented in the patient's medical records. Where the prescriber plans to assess response in patients with oligo-secretory or non-secretory multiple myeloma with free light chain assays, evidence of the oligo-secretory or non-secretory nature of the multiple myeloma (current serum M protein less than 10 g per L) must be documented in the patient's medical records.

Refractory disease is defined as less than or equal to a 25% response to therapy, or progression during or within 60 days after completion of therapy

Authority required

Relapsed and/or refractory multiple myeloma

Treatment Phase: Continuing treatment - Dose requirement of 80 mg, 60 mg or 40 mg per week

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have previously received PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition, **AND**
- Patient must be undergoing triple combination therapy limited to: (i) this drug, (ii) bortezomib, (iii) dexamethasone; OR
- Patient must be undergoing dual combination therapy limited to: (i) this drug, (ii) dexamethasone, **AND**
- Patient must not have developed disease progression while receiving treatment with this drug for this condition.

Progressive disease is defined as at least 1 of the following:

- (a) at least a 25% increase and an absolute increase of at least 5 g per L in serum M protein (monoclonal protein); or
- (b) at least a 25% increase in 24-hour urinary light chain M protein excretion, and an absolute increase of at least 200 mg per 24 hours; or
- (c) in oligo-secretory and non-secretory myeloma patients only, at least a 50% increase in the difference between involved free light chain and uninvolved free light chain; or
- (d) at least a 25% relative increase and at least a 10% absolute increase in plasma cells in a bone marrow aspirate or on biopsy; or
- (e) an increase in the size or number of lytic bone lesions (not including compression fractures); or
- (f) at least a 25% increase in the size of an existing or the development of a new soft tissue plasmacytoma (determined by clinical examination or diagnostic imaging); or
- (g) development of hypercalcaemia (corrected serum calcium greater than 2.65 mmol per L not attributable to any other cause).

Oligo-secretory and non-secretory patients are defined as having active disease with less than 10 g per L serum M protein.

selinexor 20 mg tablet, 16

13085Q	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	2	..	9360.00	Xpovio [TG]

▪ **SELINEXOR**

Caution This drug is a Category D drug and must not be given to pregnant women. If this drug is taken during pregnancy, a teratogenic effect in humans cannot be ruled out.

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

Note No increase in the maximum quantity or number of units may be authorised.

Note No increase in the maximum number of repeats may be authorised.

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

Relapsed and/or refractory multiple myeloma

Treatment Phase: Initial treatment - Dose requirement of 100 mg per week

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be confirmed by a histological diagnosis, **AND**
- Patient must be undergoing triple combination therapy limited to: (i) this drug, (ii) bortezomib, (iii) dexamethasone; OR
- Patient must be undergoing dual combination therapy limited to: (i) this drug, (ii) dexamethasone, **AND**
- Patient must have progressive disease after at least one prior therapy, **AND**
- Patient must not have previously received this drug for this condition.

Progressive disease is defined as at least 1 of the following:

- (a) at least a 25% increase and an absolute increase of at least 5 g per L in serum M protein (monoclonal protein); or
- (b) at least a 25% increase in 24-hour urinary light chain M protein excretion, and an absolute increase of at least 200 mg per 24 hours; or

- (c) in oligo-secretory and non-secretory myeloma patients only, at least a 50% increase in the difference between involved free light chain and uninvolved free light chain; or
- (d) at least a 25% relative increase and at least a 10% absolute increase in plasma cells in a bone marrow aspirate or on biopsy; or
- (e) an increase in the size or number of lytic bone lesions (not including compression fractures); or
- (f) at least a 25% increase in the size of an existing or the development of a new soft tissue plasmacytoma (determined by clinical examination or diagnostic imaging); or
- (g) development of hypercalcaemia (corrected serum calcium greater than 2.65 mmol per L not attributable to any other cause).

Oligo-secretory and non-secretory patients are defined as having active disease with less than 10 g per L serum M protein. Refractory disease is defined as less than or equal to a 25% response to therapy, or progression during or within 60 days after completion of therapy

Authority required

Relapsed and/or refractory multiple myeloma

Treatment Phase: Continuing treatment - Dose requirement of 100 mg per week

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have previously received PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition, **AND**
- Patient must be undergoing triple combination therapy limited to: (i) this drug, (ii) bortezomib, (iii) dexamethasone; OR
- Patient must be undergoing dual combination therapy limited to: (i) this drug, (ii) dexamethasone, **AND**
- Patient must not have developed disease progression while receiving treatment with this drug for this condition.

Progressive disease is defined as at least 1 of the following:

- (a) at least a 25% increase and an absolute increase of at least 5 g per L in serum M protein (monoclonal protein); or
- (b) at least a 25% increase in 24-hour urinary light chain M protein excretion, and an absolute increase of at least 200 mg per 24 hours; or
- (c) in oligo-secretory and non-secretory myeloma patients only, at least a 50% increase in the difference between involved free light chain and uninvolved free light chain; or
- (d) at least a 25% relative increase and at least a 10% absolute increase in plasma cells in a bone marrow aspirate or on biopsy; or
- (e) an increase in the size or number of lytic bone lesions (not including compression fractures); or
- (f) at least a 25% increase in the size of an existing or the development of a new soft tissue plasmacytoma (determined by clinical examination or diagnostic imaging); or
- (g) development of hypercalcaemia (corrected serum calcium greater than 2.65 mmol per L not attributable to any other cause).

Oligo-secretory and non-secretory patients are defined as having active disease with less than 10 g per L serum M protein.

selinexor 20 mg tablet, 20

13086R	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	2	..	11700.00	Xpovio [TG]

▪ **SELINEXOR**

Caution This drug is a Category D drug and must not be given to pregnant women. If this drug is taken during pregnancy, a teratogenic effect in humans cannot be ruled out.

Note Applications for authorisation under this restriction may be made in real time using the Online PBS Authorities system (see www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/HPOS) or by telephone by contacting Services Australia on 1800 700 270 (hours of operation 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday).

Note No increase in the maximum quantity or number of units may be authorised.

Note No increase in the maximum number of repeats may be authorised.

Note Special Pricing Arrangements apply.

Authority required

Relapsed and/or refractory multiple myeloma

Treatment Phase: Initial treatment - Dose requirement of 160 mg per week

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be confirmed by a histological diagnosis, **AND**
- Patient must be undergoing dual combination therapy limited to: (i) this drug, (ii) dexamethasone, **AND**
- Patient must have progressive disease after at least one prior therapy, **AND**
- Patient must not have previously received this drug for this condition.

Progressive disease is defined as at least 1 of the following:

- (a) at least a 25% increase and an absolute increase of at least 5 g per L in serum M protein (monoclonal protein); or
- (b) at least a 25% increase in 24-hour urinary light chain M protein excretion, and an absolute increase of at least 200 mg per 24 hours; or
- (c) in oligo-secretory and non-secretory myeloma patients only, at least a 50% increase in the difference between involved free light chain and uninvolved free light chain; or
- (d) at least a 25% relative increase and at least a 10% absolute increase in plasma cells in a bone marrow aspirate or on biopsy; or
- (e) an increase in the size or number of lytic bone lesions (not including compression fractures); or
- (f) at least a 25% increase in the size of an existing or the development of a new soft tissue plasmacytoma (determined by clinical examination or diagnostic imaging); or

(g) development of hypercalcaemia (corrected serum calcium greater than 2.65 mmol per L not attributable to any other cause).

Oligo-secretory and non-secretory patients are defined as having active disease with less than 10 g per L serum M protein. Refractory disease is defined as less than or equal to a 25% response to therapy, or progression during or within 60 days after completion of therapy

Authority required

Relapsed and/or refractory multiple myeloma

Treatment Phase: Continuing treatment - Dose requirement of 160 mg per week

Clinical criteria:

- Patient must have previously received PBS-subsidised treatment with this drug for this condition, **AND**
- Patient must be undergoing dual combination therapy limited to: (i) this drug, (ii) dexamethasone, **AND**
- Patient must not have developed disease progression while receiving treatment with this drug for this condition.

Progressive disease is defined as at least 1 of the following:

- (a) at least a 25% increase and an absolute increase of at least 5 g per L in serum M protein (monoclonal protein); or
- (b) at least a 25% increase in 24-hour urinary light chain M protein excretion, and an absolute increase of at least 200 mg per 24 hours; or
- (c) in oligo-secretory and non-secretory myeloma patients only, at least a 50% increase in the difference between involved free light chain and uninvolved free light chain; or
- (d) at least a 25% relative increase and at least a 10% absolute increase in plasma cells in a bone marrow aspirate or on biopsy; or
- (e) an increase in the size or number of lytic bone lesions (not including compression fractures); or
- (f) at least a 25% increase in the size of an existing or the development of a new soft tissue plasmacytoma (determined by clinical examination or diagnostic imaging); or
- (g) development of hypercalcaemia (corrected serum calcium greater than 2.65 mmol per L not attributable to any other cause).

Oligo-secretory and non-secretory patients are defined as having active disease with less than 10 g per L serum M protein.

selinexor 20 mg tablet, 32

13104Q	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	1	2	..	18720.00	Xpovio [TG]

Highly Specialised Drugs Program (Community Access)

▪ BUPRENORPHINE

Note Care must be taken to comply with the provisions of State/Territory law when prescribing this drug.

Note Shared Care Model:

For prescribing by nurse practitioners where care of a patient is shared between a nurse practitioner and medical practitioner in a formalised arrangement with an agreed management plan. Further information can be found in the Explanatory Notes for Nurse Practitioners.

Note No increase in the maximum number of repeats may be authorised.

Authority required (STREAMLINED)


15355

Opioid dependence


Clinical criteria:

- The treatment must be within a framework of medical, social and psychological treatment.
- A medical practitioner must request a quantity sufficient for up to 28 days of supply per dispensing according to the patient's daily dose. Up to 5 repeats will be authorised. A medical practitioner must not request the maximum listed quantity or number of repeats if lesser quantity or repeats are sufficient for the patient's needs.


buprenorphine 400 microgram sublingual tablet, 7

13310M	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
 13310M	4	5	..	*35.96	31.60	Subutex [IR]

buprenorphine 2 mg sublingual tablet, 7

13336X	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
 13336X	12	5	..	*119.88	31.60	Subutex [IR]

buprenorphine 8 mg sublingual tablet, 7

13337Y	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
 13337Y	16	5	..	*413.24	31.60	Subutex [IR]

▪ BUPRENORPHINE

Note Care must be taken to comply with the provisions of State/Territory law when prescribing this drug.

Note Shared Care Model:

For prescribing by nurse practitioners where care of a patient is shared between a nurse practitioner and medical practitioner in a formalised arrangement with an agreed management plan. Further information can be found in the Explanatory Notes for Nurse Practitioners.

Note No increase in the maximum quantity or number of units may be authorised.

Note No increase in the maximum number of repeats may be authorised.

Authority required (STREAMLINED)

15356

Opioid dependence


Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a health care professional.

Clinical criteria:

- The treatment must be within a framework of medical, social and psychological treatment, **AND**
 - Patient must be stabilised on one of the following prior to commencing treatment with this drug for this condition: (i) weekly prolonged release buprenorphine (Buvidal Weekly) (ii) sublingual buprenorphine (iii) buprenorphine/naloxone.
- A medical practitioner must not request the maximum listed quantity or number of repeats if lesser quantity or repeats are sufficient for the patient's needs.

buprenorphine 160 mg/0.45 mL modified release injection, 0.45 mL syringe

13303E	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
 13303E	1	5	..	379.20	31.60	Buvidal Monthly [UR]

buprenorphine 128 mg/0.36 mL modified release injection, 0.36 mL syringe

	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
13302D	1	5	..	379.20	31.60	Buvidal Monthly [UR]

NP

buprenorphine 64 mg/0.18 mL modified release injection, 0.18 mL syringe

	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
13298X	1	5	..	379.20	31.60	Buvidal Monthly [UR]

NP

buprenorphine 96 mg/0.27 mL modified release injection, 0.27 mL syringe

	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
13309L	1	5	..	379.20	31.60	Buvidal Monthly [UR]

NP

▪ BUPRENORPHINE

Note Care must be taken to comply with the provisions of State/Territory law when prescribing this drug.

Note Shared Care Model:

For prescribing by nurse practitioners where care of a patient is shared between a nurse practitioner and medical practitioner in a formalised arrangement with an agreed management plan. Further information can be found in the Explanatory Notes for Nurse Practitioners.

Note No increase in the maximum quantity or number of units may be authorised.

Note No increase in the maximum number of repeats may be authorised.

Authority required (STREAMLINED)**15439**

Opioid dependence

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a health care professional.

Clinical criteria:

- The treatment must be within a framework of medical, social and psychological treatment, **AND**
- Patient must be stabilised on sublingual buprenorphine or buprenorphine/naloxone prior to commencing treatment with this drug for this condition.

A medical practitioner must not request the maximum listed quantity or number of repeats if lesser quantity or repeats are sufficient for the patient's needs.

buprenorphine 100 mg/0.5 mL modified release injection, 0.5 mL syringe

	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
13320C	‡1	5	..	379.20	31.60	Sublocade [IR]

NP

buprenorphine 300 mg/1.5 mL modified release injection, 1.5 mL syringe

	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
13327K	‡1	5	..	379.20	31.60	Sublocade [IR]

NP

▪ BUPRENORPHINE

Note Care must be taken to comply with the provisions of State/Territory law when prescribing this drug.

Note Shared Care Model:

For prescribing by nurse practitioners where care of a patient is shared between a nurse practitioner and medical practitioner in a formalised arrangement with an agreed management plan. Further information can be found in the Explanatory Notes for Nurse Practitioners.

Note No increase in the maximum quantity or number of units may be authorised.

Note No increase in the maximum number of repeats may be authorised.

Authority required (STREAMLINED)**15385**

Opioid dependence

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a health care professional.

Clinical criteria:

- The treatment must be within a framework of medical, social and psychological treatment.

A medical practitioner must not request the maximum listed quantity or number of repeats if lesser quantity or repeats are sufficient for the patient's needs.

buprenorphine 16 mg/0.32 mL modified release injection, 0.32 mL syringe

	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
13297W	4	5	..	*379.20	31.60	Buvidal Weekly [UR]

NP

buprenorphine 24 mg/0.48 mL modified release injection, 0.48 mL syringe

	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
13296T	4	5	..	*379.20	31.60	Buvidal Weekly [UR]

NP

buprenorphine 8 mg/0.16 mL modified release injection, 0.16 mL syringe

	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
13328L	4	5	..	*379.20	31.60	Buvidal Weekly [UR]

NP

■ BUPRENORPHINE

Note Care must be taken to comply with the provisions of State/Territory law when prescribing this drug.

Note Shared Care Model:

For prescribing by nurse practitioners where care of a patient is shared between a nurse practitioner and medical practitioner in a formalised arrangement with an agreed management plan. Further information can be found in the Explanatory Notes for Nurse Practitioners.

Note No increase in the maximum number of repeats may be authorised.

Note No increase in the maximum quantity or number of units may be authorised.

Authority required (STREAMLINED)**15385**

Opioid dependence

Treatment criteria:

- Must be treated by a health care professional.

Clinical criteria:

- The treatment must be within a framework of medical, social and psychological treatment.

A medical practitioner must not request the maximum listed quantity or number of repeats if lesser quantity or repeats are sufficient for the patient's needs.

buprenorphine 32 mg/0.64 mL modified release injection, 0.64 mL syringe

	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
13314R	4	5	..	*379.20	31.60	Buvidal Weekly [UR]

NP

■ BUPRENORPHINE + NALOXONE

Note Care must be taken to comply with the provisions of State/Territory law when prescribing this drug.

Note Shared Care Model:

For prescribing by nurse practitioners where care of a patient is shared between a nurse practitioner and medical practitioner in a formalised arrangement with an agreed management plan. Further information can be found in the Explanatory Notes for Nurse Practitioners.

Note No increase in the maximum number of repeats may be authorised.

Authority required (STREAMLINED)**15355**

Opioid dependence

Clinical criteria:

- The treatment must be within a framework of medical, social and psychological treatment.

A medical practitioner must request a quantity sufficient for up to 28 days of supply per dispensing according to the patient's daily dose. Up to 5 repeats will be authorised. A medical practitioner must not request the maximum listed quantity or number of repeats if lesser quantity or repeats are sufficient for the patient's needs.

buprenorphine 2 mg + naloxone 500 microgram sublingual film, 28

	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
13322E	3	5	..	*158.19	31.60	Suboxone Film 2/0.5 [IR]

NP

buprenorphine 8 mg + naloxone 2 mg sublingual film, 28

	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
13321D	4	5	..	*509.92	31.60	Suboxone Film 8/2 [IR]

NP

■ METHADONE

Note Care must be taken to comply with the provisions of State/Territory law when prescribing this drug.

Note Shared Care Model:

For prescribing by nurse practitioners where care of a patient is shared between a nurse practitioner and medical practitioner in a formalised arrangement with an agreed management plan. Further information can be found in the Explanatory Notes for Nurse Practitioners.

Note No increase in the maximum number of repeats may be authorised.

Authority required (STREAMLINED)**15358**

Opioid dependence

Clinical criteria:

- The treatment must be within a framework of medical, social and psychological treatment.

A medical practitioner must request a quantity (in millilitres) sufficient for up to 28 days of supply per dispensing according to the patient's daily dose. Up to 5 repeats will be authorised. A medical practitioner must not request the maximum listed quantity or number of repeats if lesser quantity or repeats are sufficient for the patient's needs.

methadone hydrochloride 5 mg/mL oral liquid, 1 L

13333R	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	0.84	5	..	*44.72	31.60	^a Aspen Methadone Syrup [AS]	^a Biodone Forte [MW]

methadone hydrochloride 5 mg/mL oral liquid, 200 mL

13334T	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	4.2	5	..	*50.58	31.60	^a Aspen Methadone Syrup [AS]	^a Biodone Forte [MW]

Repatriation Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme

■ ALFUZOSIN

Authority required

Benign prostatic hyperplasia

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be stable for the prescriber to consider the listed maximum quantity of this medicine suitable for this patient, **AND**
- Patient must have lower urinary tract symptoms.

alfuzosin hydrochloride 10 mg modified release tablet, 30

14183L	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	2	5	..	*141.95	7.70	Xatral SR [SW]

■ CALCIUM

Restricted benefit

Hyperphosphataemia

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be stable for the prescriber to consider the listed maximum quantity of this medicine suitable for this patient, **AND**
- The condition must be associated with chronic renal failure.

calcium carbonate 1.5 g (calcium 600 mg) tablet, 120

14175C	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	4	1	..	*35.75	7.70	^a Cal-care 600 mg [CR]
			..	*41.03	7.70	^a CAL-600 [PP]

calcium carbonate 1.25 g (calcium 500 mg) chewable tablet, 120

14217G	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	4	1	..	*45.63	7.70	Cal-500 [PP]

■ CALCIUM

Restricted benefit

Hypocalcaemia

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be stable for the prescriber to consider the listed maximum quantity of this medicine suitable for this patient.

Restricted benefit

Osteoporosis

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be stable for the prescriber to consider the listed maximum quantity of this medicine suitable for this patient.

Restricted benefit

Proven calcium malabsorption

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be stable for the prescriber to consider the listed maximum quantity of this medicine suitable for this patient.

calcium carbonate 1.5 g (calcium 600 mg) tablet, 120

14174B	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	2	1	..	*24.61	7.70	^a Cal-care 600 mg [CR]
			..	*27.25	7.70	^a CAL-600 [PP]

calcium carbonate 1.25 g (calcium 500 mg) chewable tablet, 120

14176D	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	2	1	..	*29.55	7.70	Cal-500 [PP]

■ CHLORAMPHENICOL**chloramphenicol 0.5% eye drops, 10 mL**

14180H	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	±1	2	..	17.57	7.70	Chlorsig [AS]

■ DUTASTERIDE**Authority required**

Benign prostatic hyperplasia

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be stable for the prescriber to consider the listed maximum quantity of this medicine suitable for this patient, **AND**
- Patient must have lower urinary tract symptoms.

dutasteride 500 microgram capsule, 30

14210X	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	2	5	..	*46.19	7.70	^a APO-Dutasteride [TX]
			..	*60.19	7.70	^a Avodart [GK]

■ DUTASTERIDE + TAMSULOSIN**Authority required**

Benign prostatic hyperplasia

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be stable for the prescriber to consider the listed maximum quantity of this medicine suitable for this patient, **AND**
- Patient must have lower urinary tract symptoms.

dutasteride 500 microgram + tamsulosin hydrochloride 400 microgram modified release capsule, 30

14184M	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	2	5	..	*56.27	7.70	Duodart 500ug/400ug [GK]

■ FINASTERIDE**Authority required**

Benign prostatic hyperplasia

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be stable for the prescriber to consider the listed maximum quantity of this medicine suitable for this patient, **AND**
- Patient must have lower urinary tract symptoms.

finasteride 5 mg tablet, 28

14191X	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	2	5	..	*170.43	7.70	Finpro [RZ]

finasteride 5 mg tablet, 30

14199H	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	2	5	..	*144.51	7.70	^a Finasteride GH 5 [GQ]	^a Finasteride Mylan 5 [AF]
			..	*182.01	7.70	^a Finide [AL]	
			..	*191.13	7.70	^a Finnacar [RW]	
						^a APO-Finasteride [TX]	^a Finasta [SZ]
						^a Finasteride-GA 5 [GN]	^a Pharmacor Finasteride 5 [CR]
						^a Proscar [OQ]	

■ RISEDRONATE**Authority required**

Preservation of bone mineral density

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be stable for the prescriber to consider the listed maximum quantity of this medicine suitable for this patient, **AND**
- Patient must be on long-term glucocorticoid therapy, **AND**
- Patient must be undergoing continuous treatment with a dose equal to or greater than 7.5 mg of prednisone or equivalent per day, **AND**
- Patient must be osteopenic (bone mineral density t-score of less than -1.0). Prescribers need to demonstrate that the patient has been on continuous therapy for 3 months or more.

risedronate sodium 35 mg tablet, 4

14197F	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	2	5	..	*54.31	7.70	^a APO-Risedronate [TX] ^a Risedronate Sandoz [SZ]	^a Risedronate-GA [GN]

risedronate sodium 35 mg enteric tablet, 4

14198G	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	2	5	..	*54.31	7.70	Actonel EC [TT]

risedronate sodium 5 mg tablet, 28

14209W	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	2	5	..	*61.49	7.70	Actonel [TT]

■ SILODOSIN**Authority required**

Benign prostatic hyperplasia

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be stable for the prescriber to consider the listed maximum quantity of this medicine suitable for this patient, **AND**
- Patient must have lower urinary tract symptoms.

silodosin 8 mg capsule, 30

14192Y	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	2	5	..	*76.55	7.70	Urorec [YN]

silodosin 4 mg capsule, 30

14185N	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	2	5	..	*67.05	7.70	Urorec [YN]

■ TAMSULOSIN**Authority required**

Benign prostatic hyperplasia

Clinical criteria:

- The condition must be stable for the prescriber to consider the listed maximum quantity of this medicine suitable for this patient, **AND**
- Patient must have lower urinary tract symptoms.

tamsulosin hydrochloride 400 microgram modified release tablet, 30

14200J	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	2	5	..	*117.15	7.70	^a Apo-Tamsulosin SR [TX] ^a BTC Tamsulosin SR [BG] ^a Flosix [AF]	^a Blooms the Chemist Tamsulosin SR [IB] ^a Flomaxtra [LS] ^a Tamsulosin Sandoz SR [SZ]

■ THIAMINE**Restricted benefit**

The condition must be stable for the prescriber to consider the listed maximum quantity of this medicine suitable for this patient.

thiamine hydrochloride 100 mg tablet, 100

14182K	Max.Qty Packs	No. of Rpts	Premium \$	DPMQ \$	MRVSN \$	Brand Name and Manufacturer
	2	2	..	*21.25	7.70	Betavit [PP]