



THE PAEDIATRIC SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND

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Caroline De Luca
Therapeutic Group Manager
PHARMAC
Po Box 10-254
Level 9, 40 Mercer St
WELLINGTON

Dear Caroline

Factors for Consideration

On behalf of the Paediatric and Therapeutics Special Interest Group of the NZ Paediatric Society, we would like PHARMAC to consider the following when reviewing and implementing the Factors for Consideration when making Decisions.

We would like to be assured that the change to the decision criteria to Factors for Consideration, will result in less time for medicines to become funded. We are concerned that with the current decision criteria, medicines which are deemed necessary for the paediatric population of New Zealand, are not given as much weight in consideration as eg: those of emotive value amongst the adult population. One example is medicines for constipation which are palatable and available in paediatric doses. These are readily available in Australia but not for children in New Zealand.

These new criteria, list "costs and savings" as one quarter of the pie diagram. We would ask PHARMAC to make explicit in writing that health benefits to children result in health and economic savings that continue over decades and generations.

We would also like the decisions made regarding special authorities etc to be reflected in ongoing monitoring for paediatric patients. Criteria for ongoing monitoring should be able to be fulfilled by a child.

We look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely

Louise McDermott
Chairperson
Pharmacist and Therapeutics SIG
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This letter is supported by:

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