



# THE PAEDIATRIC SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND

Secretariat: Denise Tringham  
P O Box 22 234  
Wellington 6441  
Tel: (04) 938 4827  
Fax: (04) 976 4827  
Email: psnz@paradise.net.nz

18<sup>th</sup> June, 2013.

Ms Christine Chapman,  
Therapeutic Group Manager,  
Pharmac,  
PO Box 10 254, Wellington 6143.

Dear Ms Chapman,

## **Re: Proposal for funding Mesalazine modified-release granules**

I write as the Chair of the Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition Special Interest Group of the Paediatric Society of New Zealand.

We were very pleased to note the proposal for funding of *Mesalazine modified-release granules* (Granules) and are pleased to write in support of this.

Many of our younger children with Crohn disease or Ulcerative colitis are unable to take tablets, and consequently require other ways to administer oral therapies. The availability of this drug in the form of granules will be of great advantage for these children.

We are aware that Granules have been available overseas for some time, where they have been used with great success. I have personal experience with this drug format in Australia, and found it to be a most helpful and useful product to ensure compliance in younger children.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on, and to write in support of, this funding proposal.

Yours sincerely,

Andrew S Day  
**Chair**  
**Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition Special Interest Group**