



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: denise@paediatrics.org.nz
Website: www.paediatrics.org.nz

27 February, 2018

Michelle Mazzaferro
Senior Regulatory Affairs Associate
Sanofi Consumer Healthcare
Building D, 12-24 Talavera Rd, Macquarie Park, NSW, 2113
Michelle.Mazzaferro@Sanofi.com

Dear Michelle,

As the regulatory affairs associate at Sanofi Australia, I am writing to request a priority review for the registration of Dulcolax SP drops in New Zealand.

We, as paediatric pharmacists, have been asking for this product to be registered (and funded) IN New Zealand since 2014. The gastrointestinal subcommittee of Pharmac, noted the following in 2014:

4.15 The Subcommittee recommended that if a registered sodium picosulfate oral liquid product became available in New Zealand, it should be listed in the Pharmaceutical Schedule with a high priority subject to Special Authority criteria.

Since that time, the 7.5mg/ml strength has become available. My understanding is because this is a different strength to that listed in the 2014 recommendation, the process has to start again. However, from the minutes back in 2014, the recommendation is to fund a sodium picosulphate product.

As healthcare professionals, we are frustrated by the lack of urgency this request is receiving. Families who have children with developmental difficulties are struggling to keep their children out of hospital due to non-compliance with large volume products.

Here are some comments from Paediatricians:

'I have the one patient who had hospital-funded picoprep and then a 3 day admission for Klenprep that could have been avoided. Also may need repeat admission as maintenance not really holding when these drops might avoid that. Parents not prepared to order from Australia as tried and lost money with no product arriving.'

'We have used it a couple of times here, and would definitely do so more often if it was funded'

Families are currently importing Dulcolax SP drops from Australia or buying it at approx. \$40 per bottle in NZ, only when their community pharmacy can order it in.

Could you please look at registration of sodium picosulphate drops (Dulcolax SP drops) in New Zealand as a high priority. The availability of this product will decrease the number of children in NZ requiring hospital admission for dis-impaction – a huge cost-saving as well as increase in quality of life for the child and their whanau.

Yours sincerely,

Louise McDermott
Chairperson,
Pharmacist and Therapeutics Group
Paediatric Society of New Zealand