

## Supply of Non PBS S100 Medicines PHC Remote Information Sheet

The majority of medicines prescribed are funded under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) / Section 100 (S100) arrangements and provided free of charge to clients of Primary Health Care (PHC) Remote. Where ever possible Rural Medical Practitioners (RMPs) should prescribe medicines funded through the PBS S100 arrangements, and preferably those listed on the [Standard Drug List](#). This promotes greater continuity for client access to medicines when travelling between health centres.

Occasionally medicines not funded under the PBS S100 arrangements may be required. Non PBS S100 medicines should only be prescribed where there is no appropriate PBS alternative medicine available. Where non PBS S100 medicines are required and they are not covered by an alternate funding arrangement these are to be provided by the issue of a private prescription. The client will need to make their own arrangements for supply, including delivery and payment, with a pharmacy of their choice. It is the responsibility of the RMP to inform the client fully about the supply arrangements for non PBS S100 medicines. Details of the pharmacies that have existing supply arrangements with PHC remote health centres are available from the health centre.

Where it is identified that a client will be unable to meet the cost of their treatment an application for PHC departmental funding may be made via the [Client Specific Department Funded Medicine Request Form](#). The RMP should include the rationale, including NHMRC level of evidence, and any supporting documentation for prescribing a non PBS S100 medicine within the 'Rationale / Justification' section of the form. See the [Client Specific Department Funded Medicine Request Form](#) for further information. If a specialist has recommended a medicine then department funding should be sought through the specialist.

Applications for PHC departmental funding require the approval of the PHC Director of Medical Services (DMS). The PHC DMS may liaise with the PHC Pharmacist as required to determine the appropriateness of requests. The outcome of a request will be communicated to the relevant medical practitioner, health centre and pharmacy by the PHC Pharmacist. If approved by the PHC DMS, the PHC Remote will meet the full cost.

### Supply under Departmental Funding Arrangements

- dispensed by the Regional Hospital Pharmacy
- the RMP must conduct an assessment of effectiveness of the treatment within initial approved period to establish if the treatment should be continued. Evidence of effectiveness should be provided with subsequent requests.
- where treatment is to be continued, additional reviews of effectiveness must be conducted within the approved period and an application resubmitted to the PHC DMS for approval
- approvals may be given for once only supply, 3, 6 or 12 months at the discretion of the PHC DMS
- treatments costing \$5000 per year or above must be approved by the relevant General Manager

### Pre-approved Department Funded Medicines

The following are considered pre-approved for departmental funding and do not require a Client Specific Department Funded Medicine Request Form to be completed and approved:

- All non PBS S100 medicines listed on the [Standard Drug List](#)
- All Schedule 8 medicines listed on the [NT Hospital Formulary](#)