



27 September 2024

Pharmac
Simple House
Level 9/40 Mercer Street
WELLINGTON 6011

By email: consult@pharmac.govt.nz

Tēnā koe

Proposal to fund lisdexamfetamine for Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a submission on the proposal to fund lisdexamfetamine for Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD).

The Royal New Zealand College of General Practitioners (the College) is the largest medical college in New Zealand. Our membership of over 6,000 specialist GPs and rural hospital doctors comprises 40 percent of New Zealand's specialist medical workforce. The Medical Council of New Zealand accredits the College to deliver vocational training to the specialist General Practitioner and Rural Hospital Doctor workforce. Our kaupapa aspires to improve equity by upholding principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi and supporting members to be culturally safe and competent through our training, CPD and Quality¹ programmes.

Our members provide care to their wider community by undertaking 23 million patient contacts each year. Our workforce is the first point of contact for most health concerns, dealing with 90 percent of these concerns in 1,077 practices across the motu.

Our submission

The College acknowledges the response by Pharmac to fund lisdexamfetamine for people with ADHD who meet the eligibility criteria outlined in your consultation document for the reasons below:

1. Trials have shown that lisdexamfetamine has better effectiveness for management of ADHD than methylphenidate which is currently available, therefore we support its funding in New Zealand as an improvement to available options.
2. We note the supply issues for CR methylphenidate and support the availability and funding of lisdexamfetamine because it will allow more options for prescribers and for patients when shortages arise.

Public funding of this medication will enable more equitable access for the 6,000 people who currently pay for their treatment.

Conclusion

The College fully supports the roll out of public funding for lisdexamfetamine. Although the medication will be rolled out without renewal criteria, we note that Pharmac is consulting separately on this matter.

If you require further clarification, please contact Maureen Gillon, Manager Policy, Advocacy, Insights – Maureen.Gillon@rnzcgp.org.nz.

Nāku noa, nā

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