

2 March 2006

To All Pharmaceutical Suppliers, Hospital Pharmacists, Medical Groups and Interested Parties

### **Proposal to list temozolomide in the Pharmaceutical Schedule**

PHARMAC and Schering-Plough have entered into a provisional agreement for the listing of temozolomide (Temodal) in Sections B and H of the Pharmaceutical Schedule from 1 May 2006. Details of the proposal are as follows:

- Temozolomide would be listed Sections B and H of the Pharmaceutical Schedule from 1 May 2006 at the following prices and subsidies (ex-manufacturer, excluding GST):

<b>Chemical</b>	<b>Formulation</b>	<b>Strength</b>	<b>Pack size</b>	<b>Price / subsidy</b>
Temozolomide	Capsule	5 mg	5	\$50.00
Temozolomide	Capsule	20 mg	5	\$170.00
Temozolomide	Capsule	100 mg	5	\$840.00
Temozolomide	Capsule	250 mg	5	\$2,100.00

- Listing in Section B would be subject to the following Special Authority restrictions:

Special Authority - Hospital Pharmacy - Specialist

Special Authority for Subsidy.

Initial application only from a relevant specialist. Approvals valid for 10 months for applications meeting the following criteria:

1. Patient has newly diagnosed glioblastoma multiforme; and
2. Temozolomide is to be (or has been) given concomitantly with radiotherapy; and
3. Following concomitant treatment temozolomide is to be used for a maximum of six cycles of 5 days treatment, at a maximum dose of 200 mg/m<sup>2</sup>.

Note: Temozolomide is not subsidised for the treatment of relapsed glioblastoma multiforme. Reapplications will not be approved.

Studies of temozolomide show that its benefit is predominantly in those patients with a good performance status (WHO grade 0 or 1 or Karnofsky score >80), and in patients who have had at least a partial resection of the tumour.

- Temodal would be protected from delisting or reference pricing until 1 May 2010.
- Temodal would be subject to a financial risk-sharing arrangement between PHARMAC and Schering-Plough.

It is anticipated that the proposed changes, if accepted by PHARMAC's Board, would take effect from 1 May 2006. If you wish to make comments for the PHARMAC Board to consider when making its decision on whether to accept this proposal, please forward them to PHARMAC by **5:00 pm, 16 March 2006**.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sean Dougherty', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Sean Dougherty  
Therapeutic Group Manager