



Australian Government

Department of Health

The Hon Greg Hunt MP
Minister for Health
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Minister,

I would like to provide you with an update on the implementation status of Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC) recommendations.

By law the Government cannot list a medicine on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) unless it has been recommended by the PBAC. Following a positive PBAC recommendation, there are several activities that require completion prior to listing on the PBS. These include:

- negotiation and agreement of price in line with the PBAC recommendation;
- agreement on the expected utilisation and cost to Government with pharmaceutical company and Government agencies;
- finalisation of any eligibility restriction wording to assist administration by Services Australia;
- provision of all required listing documentation – including supply assurance by the pharmaceutical company;
- risk share legal agreement and deed of agreement, as necessary; and
- government processes relating to the listing, including financial approval and legislation.

Where the PBAC makes a recommendation for PBS listing, the Department works to finalise these arrangements with the company and relevant agencies and proceed to a listing as quickly as possible. In doing so, the Department relies on sponsors to offer a price consistent with PBAC's recommendation.

The Schedule of Pharmaceutical Benefits will shortly be updated to reflect a number of additional medicines that will be listed on the PBS on 1 November 2019.

As of 14 October, there are no other positive PBAC recommendations for which the sponsors have indicated that they wish to proceed and which have met and completed all the listing requirements.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Adriana Platona'.

Adriana Platona PSM
First Assistant Secretary
Technology Assessment and Access Division

14 October 2019