

I should have also included there is no problems with these biosimilars being available in the market and on the PBS the main issue is the wording of the Legislation that they can be substituted however the issue is they should only be substituted under the patient's Specialists supervision. The way the Bill reads to me is that pharmacists can do the substitution - there are just too many things about autoimmune disease that many pharmacists may not be aware of that may impact on our treatment if there is substitution for no reason. It should be up to the Specialist and the patient to make the decision if changing to a biosimilar and there should be little issue if someone starting on biological medication were to commence on the biosmiliar first.

The legislation is being written for many future medications not just those biologicals and their biosimilars now but also for future ones and there is no guarantee's that they would be interchangeable in the future either.

Thanks again.

Katherine Stewart (Kathy)