

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017, 1 March 2017

Ref No: SQ17-000223

OUTCOME: 4 - Individual Health Benefits

Topic: Biologic Drugs

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Griff, Stirling

Question:

What generic (biosimilar) drugs are available in Australia?

Answer:

There are nine biosimilar medicine brands approved for the Australian market by the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA), across six active ingredients (excluding the older medicine somatropin). Seven of these biosimilar brands (across five active ingredients) are listed on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme.

Please refer to the attached table.

Table 1 Biosimilar medicines approved by the Therapeutic Goods Administration

Biological Medicine	Indications	Reference brand	Biosimilar brand/s
epoetin lambda	Anaemia Chronic kidney failure	#Eprex® [epoetin alfa] (Jansen-Cilag)	#Novicrit® (Sandoz)
filgrastim	Haematopoietic stem cell transplantation Chemotherapy induced Neutropenia	#Neupogen® (Amgen)	#Nivestim® (Hospira)
			#Tevagrastim® (Aspen Pharmacare Australia)
			#Zarzio®(Sandoz)
insulin glargine	Diabetes	#Lantus® (Sanofi-Aventis)	Basaglar® (Eli Lilly Australia)
infliximab	Ankylosing spondylitis Crohn’s disease Psoriatic arthritis Psoriasis Rheumatoid arthritis Ulcerative colitis	#Remicade®(Jansen-Cilag)	# Inflectra® (Hospira/Pfizer)
			Renflexis® (Merck Sharpe and Dhome)
follitropin alfa	Infertility treatment	#Gonal F® (Merck Serono)	#Bemfola® (Finox Biotech)
etanercept	Ankylosing spondylitis Psoriatic arthritis Psoriasis Rheumatoid arthritis	#Enbrel® (Pfizer)	#Brenzys®(Merck Sharpe and Dhome)

PBS listed.