



Acute Health Services Division

Hospital Circular

Distribution: Public Hospitals

Subject: Highly Specialised Drugs Program - Saquinavir

Purpose The purpose of this circular is to advise hospitals involved with the Highly Specialised Drugs Program of a variety of changes with respect to a number of drugs on the Program.

1. ***Interferon Alpha 2A - New Strength***
Solution for injection, 6 million units in 1 mL, single use vial, 3 items per pack \$174.96

Clinical Indications

As currently listed in Appendix 2 of the Guidelines.

Effective Date: 1 November 1996

2. ***Filgrastim - Additional Indication***

Mobilisation of peripheral blood progenitor cells, alone or following myelosuppressive chemotherapy.

Effective Date: 1 October 1996

3. ***Cyclosporin (Neoral) - Revised Prices***

Capsule 25 mg, 50 items per pack	\$ 82.52
Capsule 50 mg, 50 items per pack	\$165.00
Capsule 100 mg, 50 items per pack	\$330.00
Oral liquid, 100 mg/mL, 50 mL	\$347.38

Effective Date: 1 October 1996

You should also note that the Sandimum Brand of Cyclosporin will not be available from 1 February 1997.

Please find attached the relevant pages to revise Appendices 2, 3 and 8 of the Commonwealth/State Highly Specialised Drugs Program Guidelines which are included in *Conditions for Commonwealth/State Programs (October 1993; Publication 93/0068)* and as a revised stand alone document dated December 1994 (Publication no: 94/0154). Please update your documents as necessary.


DR MICHAEL WALSH
DIRECTOR, ACUTE HEALTH SERVICES

Drug	Date Subsidised	PBAC Clinical indications and other restrictions
Filgrastim (Neupogen)	<p>1 September 1993</p> <p>* 1 December 1993</p> <p>#1 January 1996</p> <p>** 1 April 1994 (paediatric use will also commence 1 April 1994)</p> <p>1 October 1995</p> <p>1 October 1996</p>	<p>Patients being treated with aggressive chemotherapy with the intention of achieving a cure or substantial remission in;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> . non-Hodgkin's lymphoma (intermediate or high grade), . relapsed Hodgkin's disease, . germ cell tumours, . acute lymphoblastic leukaemia, . *Ewing's sarcoma, . *rhabdomyosarcoma, . *neuroblastoma, and . #infants and children with CNS tumours. <p>**For use in patients with:</p> <p>severe congenital neutropenia (absolute neutrophil count less than 0.1×10^9 cells per litre measured on three occasions, with readings at least two weeks apart, and in whom a bone marrow examination has shown evidence of maturational arrest of the neutrophil lineage);</p> <p>severe chronic neutropenia (absolute neutrophil count less than 1×10^9 cells per litre measured on three occasions, with readings at least two weeks apart, or evidence of neutrophil dysfunction, <u>and</u> either having experienced a life threatening infectious episode requiring hospitalisation and treatment with intravenous antibiotics in the previous twelve months, or having recurrent clinically significant infections (a minimum of three in the previous twelve months);</p> <p>Chronic cyclic neutropenia (absolute neutrophil count less than 0.5×10^9 cells per litre measured on three occasions, with readings at least two weeks apart, or evidence of neutrophil dysfunction, <u>and</u> either having experienced a life threatening infectious episode requiring hospitalisation and treatment with intravenous antibiotics in the previous twelve months, or having recurrent clinically significant infections (a minimum of three in the previous twelve months).</p> <p>Treatment of patients with breast cancer receiving standard dose adjuvant chemotherapy and patients receiving first line chemotherapy for Hodgkin's disease:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Who have had a prior episode of severe febrile neutropenia or prolonged severe neutropenia (neutrophil count below 1×10^9 per litre); - For whom there is clinical justification for wishing to continue therapy with the same drug combination, dosage and treatment schedule; and - A good response to treatment is anticipated providing chemotherapy can be delivered as planned. <p>Mobilisation of peripheral blood progenitor cells, alone or following myelosuppressive chemotherapy.</p>
Ganciclovir (Cymevene)	1 April 1993	Sight threatening cytomegaloviral retinitis in severely immunocompromised patients.

Appendix 3:

Agreed Prices

Drug & dose form information	Pack size	Agreed Price	
		1995/96	
		Per Pack	Per Item
Interferon Alpha 2A			
3, 4.5 & 9 million iu will only be available until 1 November 1996			
Vials, 3,000,000iu	5	\$145.80	\$29.1600
Vials, 4,500,000iu	5	\$218.70	\$43.7400
Vials, 9,000,000iu	5	\$437.40	\$87.4800
Vials, 18,000,000iu	5	\$874.80	\$174.9600
Sol for inj. 3,000,000 iu/mL sin use	3	\$87.48	\$29.1600
Sol for inj. 4.5,000,000 iu/mL sin use	3	\$131.22	\$43.7400
Sol for inj. 6,000,000 iu/mL sin use	3	\$174.96	\$58.3200
Sol for inj. 9,000,000 iu/mL sin use	3	\$262.44	\$87.4800
Interferon Alpha 2B			
Vials, 3,000,000iu	5	\$145.80	\$29.1600
Vials, 5,000,000iu	5	\$243.00	\$48.6000
Vials, 9,000,000iu	5	\$437.40	\$87.4800
Vials, 10,000,000iu	5	\$486.00	\$97.2000
Sol for inj, 10,000,000iu/ml	5	\$486.00	\$97.2000
Sol for inj, 25,000,000iu/5ml	5	\$1,215.00	\$243.0000
Interferon Gamma 1B			
Soln for subcut inj. 3,000,000iu 100 micrograms/0.5mL	6	\$991.00	\$165.1667
Lamivudine (3TC)			
Tablet, 150mg	60	\$314.00	\$5.2333
Oral solution 10mg/mL, 240mL	1	\$83.73	\$83.7300
Lenograstim			
Vial, 263mcg/1 ml	1	\$128.36	\$128.3600
Neoral (Cyclosporin)			
Capsule, 25mg,	50	\$82.52	\$1.6504
Capsule, 50mg	50	\$165.00	\$3.3000
Capsule, 100mg	50	\$330.00	\$6.6000
Solution, 100mg/mL, 50mL	1	\$347.38	\$347.3800
Rifabutin			
Capsule, 150mg	30	\$147.00	\$4.9000
Saquinavir Mesylate (Invirase)			
Capsule, 200mg	270	\$602.00	\$2.2296
Sodium Foscarnet			
Infusion, 2.4%, 250ml	6	\$395.00	\$65.8333
Infusion, 2.4%, 500ml	6	\$660.00	\$110.0000
Stavudine (Zerit)			
Capsule, 15mg	60	\$250.00	\$4.1667
Capsule, 20mg	60	\$280.00	\$4.6667
Capsule, 30mg	60	\$333.68	\$5.5613
Capsule, 40mg	60	\$444.90	\$7.4150
Zalcitabine (DDC)			
Tablet 375 micrograms	100	\$193.75	\$1.9375
Tablet 750 microgram	100	\$242.18	\$2.4218
Zidovudine (AZT)			
Capsules, 100mg	100	\$247.24	\$2.4724
Capsules, 250mg	40	\$247.24	\$6.1810
Syrup, 200ml	1	\$49.45	\$49.4500

HIGHLY SPECIALISED DRUGS PROGRAM

Claim Form
For the Period from to

Interferon Alpha-2A (Roferon A)

1. Chronic Active Hepatitis B

Patient Information		Number of Patients*	
Community Patients			
Dispensing Information			
Dosage Form, Strength	Number of Items Dispensed	Cost per Item	Expenditure
Sol for inj, 3M iu/1mL, single use vial		\$29.1600	
Sol for inj, 4.5M iu/1mL, single use vial		\$43.7400	
Sol for inj, 6M iu/1mL, single use vial		\$58.3200	
Sol for inj, 9M iu/1mL, single use vial		\$87.4800	
Vials, 18,000,000u/ml		\$174.9600	
Total Expenditure			

2. Chronic Myelogenous Leukaemia

Patient Information		Number of Patients*	
Community Patients			
Dispensing Information			
Dosage Form, Strength	Number of Items Dispensed	Cost per Item	Expenditure
Sol for inj, 3M iu/1mL, single use vial		\$29.1600	
Sol for inj, 4.5M iu/1mL, single use vial		\$43.7400	
Sol for inj, 9M iu/1mL, single use vial		\$87.4800	
Sol for inj, 6M iu/1mL, single use vial		\$58.3200	
Vials, 18,000,000u/ml		\$174.9600	
Total Expenditure			

3. Hepatitis C

To be completed by designated Hepatitis C Centres only

Patient Information		Number of Patients*	
Community Patients			
Dispensing Information			
Dosage Form, Strength	Number of Items Dispensed	Cost per Item	Expenditure
Sol for inj, 3M iu/1mL, single use vial		\$29.1600	
Sol for inj, 4.5M iu/1mL, single use vial		\$43.7400	
Sol for inj, 9M iu/1mL, single use vial		\$87.4800	
Sol for inj, 6M iu/1mL, single use vial		\$58.3200	
Vials, 18,000,000u/ml		\$174.9600	
Total Expenditure			

I certify that the Interferon Alpha - 2A claimed was dispensed to community patients who met the Highly Specialised Drugs Program's criteria, including PBAC clinical indications and that the amount claimed is correct.

AUTHORISING SIGNATURE:

DATE:

NAME OF SIGNATORY:

CONTACT PHONE NO:

POSITION:

HOSPITAL:

CAMPUS:

*Number of patients represents total number of individual patients who received supply of highly specialised drugs in quarter, NOT number of occasions of dispensing.