

2020-08/005

13 Aug 2020

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Tēnā koe

Proposal to fund an additional brand of Budesonide with Eformoterol

Tōpūtanga Tapuhi Kaitiaki o Aotearoa, New Zealand Nurses Organisation (NZNO) welcomes the opportunity to comment on the above proposal.

NZNO has consulted its members and staff, in particular members of; College of Respiratory Nurses, College of Child and Youth Nurses, College of Primary Health Care Nurses, professional nursing and policy advisers. NZNO is the leading professional nursing association and union for nurses in Aotearoa New Zealand, representing 51,000 nurses, midwives, students, kaimahi hauora and health workers on professional and employment matters. NZNO embraces Te Tiriti o Waitangi and contributes to the improvements of the health status and outcomes of all people of Aotearoa New Zealand through influencing health, employment and social policy development.

The College of Respiratory Nurses committee is in favour of the proposal to fund the additional brand if it is equivalent in dosage and licensed for the same indication as Symbicort, i.e. single inhaler therapy and as required therapy (AIR). The committee feels that the brand has the potential to be a useful alternative option particularly if includes approval for use as maintenance and reliever therapy for asthma patients. Asthma guidelines and asthma management plans would need to be updated to use the drug name and not the trade name. The committee suggested that an alternative device to the Turbuhaler should be offered to patients with lower levels of dexterity, in particular, a device that required fewer steps to use. It would also be invaluable to have a licensed aerosol option as part of the SMART/AIR regimen such as Vannair as there are patients that prefer an aerosol to a dry powder.

Nāku noa nā

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