

2020/12

18 December 2020

PHARMAC
PO Box 10254
The Terrace
WELLINGTON 6143

By email: consult@pharmac.govt.nz

Tēnā koe

Proposal to widen access to rituximab for treatment of membranous nephropathy

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

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.

Furthermore, we share the intent of the Ministry of Health's definition of equity which equally applies to NZNO work across professional, industrial and member activities.

NZNO supports PHARMAC's proposal to widen access to rituximab for treatment of membranous nephropathy in patients at high risk of progression to end-stage kidney disease despite conservative measures.

Māori and Pasifika are over-represented in those experiencing end-stage kidney disease and to widen access will contribute to improved health outcomes for this group.

Nāku noa nā



Lucia Bercinkas
Senior Policy Analyst
(04) 912 1099