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PHARMAC
PO Box 10254
The Terrace
WELLINGTON 6143

By email: consultation@PHARMAC.govt.nz

Tēnā koe

Jadelle Contraceptive Implant Proposal

The New Zealand Nurses Organisation welcomes the opportunity to provide feedback on the above proposal. We have consulted with members and staff, including members of the Women's Health Section, College of Primary Health Care Nurses, College of Child & Youth Nurses, Te Rūnanga o Aotearoa and the Pacific Nurses Section, and professional nursing and policy advisers.

NZNO warmly welcomes and **supports** the proposal to add levonorgestrel subdermal implants to the list of subsidised medicines on a Practitioner's Supply Order (PSO). We are confident that this will improve access and health equity by removing cost and other barriers to the timely supply of contraceptive implants. It is also consistent with the way other subsidised contraception eg oral contraceptives, Cu-IUDs and condoms, is managed. Nurses working in this area say that the ability to stock and have Jadelle implants on hand is "...ideal, as we can insert at no cost to young clients, particularly as there is no script to pay". However they question limiting supply to only three packs (of two rods) per PSO, when in some services, eg Family Planning and Sexual Health clinics, considerably more are inserted each day. We recommend that number of packs able to be ordered at one time needs to be increased to reduce unnecessary duplication and enable efficient management of supply. We believe that with this minor amendment, the proposal will enable more women, particularly those at high risk of unintended pregnancy or who are disadvantaged, to have a realistic choice about the subsidised contraception they access. NZNO supports the proposal.

Nākū noa, nā

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NEW ZEALAND NURSES ORGANISATION (NZNO)

NZNO is the leading professional nursing association and union for nurses in Aotearoa New Zealand. NZNO represents over 47,000 nurses, midwives, students, kaimahi hauora and health workers on professional and employment related matters. NZNO is affiliated to the International Council of Nurses and the New Zealand Council of Trade Unions.

NZNO promotes and advocates for professional excellence in nursing by providing leadership, research and education to inspire and progress the profession of nursing. NZNO represents members on employment and industrial matters and negotiates collective employment agreements.

NZNO embraces te Tiriti o Waitangi and contributes to the improvement of the health status and outcomes of all peoples of Aotearoa New Zealand through influencing health, employment and social policy development enabling quality nursing care provision. NZNO's vision is *Freed to care, Proud to nurse*.