

Medicine Use Outside PHARMAC Hospital Medicines List (HML) Restrictions including NPPA

Check whether a medicine is on the HML for the relevant indication using the link [here](#).

Tip: Check the HML link to be sure – to avoid wasting unnecessary effort and time.

If not on the HML, consider other HML treatment options. If no HML options are suitable, a Named Patient Pharmaceutical Assessment (NPPA) application is required.

Tip: Take note of the funded treatment options and include the reason that these are not suitable for your patient in the NPPA application – this avoids wasted effort and time answering questions later about why these were not used instead.

Is the treatment urgent?

Definition: use within five working days, or the patient would be expected to experience either significant deterioration, or miss the opportunity for a significant improvement in clinical outcomes (length or quality of life).

YES

Hospital rapid NPPA application

YES

Is the medicine infliximab, rituximab, tocilizumab or any pharmaceutical cancer treatment (PCT)?

These medicines cannot be used via this process. See Pharmac NPPA application process.

NO

Urgent hospital treatment with unlisted medicines or indications (other than infliximab, rituximab and tocilizumab) can occur via the hospital application process. SMO application with CD approval is required in an electronic form accessed within the HCS patient record. Choose *Add documents > Urgent Non HML Medicine > the relevant inpatient (current) encounter, and complete the form.*

Tip: if the medicine for acute care may also be required for chronic treatment, seek advice from [Clinical Pharmacology](#) or [Pharmacy](#).

NO

Pharmac NPPA application

Complete a NPPA application and submit to Pharmac.

Apply using a [paper form](#) or [electronically](#).

A decision from Pharmac is expected in approximately five working days.

Tip: No hospital rapid NPPA approvals for unlisted indications of infliximab, rituximab, tocilizumab or PCT will be made prior to an application to Pharmac. Apply via the Pharmac NPPA process. If the patient is in hospital and meets the definition of urgent, tick 'rapid NPPA'. Pharmac have committed to same day decisions for these patients.

Tip: Pharmac will not provide rapid NPPA assessments for patients in the community. Do not tick rapid assessment for patients in the community.

Following Pharmac NPPA approval, please:

- Add a copy of the letter to the patient's profile in HCS
- Inform the pharmacy providing the medicine of the NPPA approval and the number
- Inform the patient and prescribe as appropriate

Following hospital rapid application via HCS, please:

- Inform the hospital pharmacy providing the medicine of the NPPA approval
- Inform the patient and prescribe as appropriate

If approval is not given, discuss options with your ward pharmacist or the Chief Pharmacist

Tip: If the medicine in your application is not commonly used for other indications, discuss your application with the relevant Pharmacy so planning for acquiring the medicine can commence if required.

Te Whatu Ora
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Waitaha Canterbury

