

27 October 2017

New Zealand Anaesthetic Technicians Society  
Level 1,  
26 Brandon St,  
Wellington, 6011

By email: [info@nzats.co.nz](mailto:info@nzats.co.nz)

Dear NZATS Members

### **Update on PHARMAC's activity: Upcoming procurement process for Needles and Syringes**

As you may know, PHARMAC is taking a phased approach as it extends its activity into medical devices. Following consultation feedback received in September 2016, PHARMAC has decided to expand its medical devices scope to include 11 new categories, one of which is Needles and Syringe products.

PHARMAC will be issuing a Request for Proposals (RFP) within in the next two weeks, seeking proposals from suppliers for non-exclusive national agreements. This scope of the RFP would also include some specialty needle and syringe products such as those used in administration of regional anaesthesia. We have noted feedback that there are different considerations for specialty needles. As this RFP would not impact on DHBs product choice, we consider including specialty products in this process to be appropriate.

Contracted products and prices would be listed in Part III of Section H of the Pharmaceutical Schedule. National contract prices would be available to all DHBs that chose to purchase listed products.

Under national contracts, DHB choice of medical device is not restricted. DHBs can choose to purchase any of the medical devices listed in Part III of Section H of the Pharmaceutical Schedule; and conversely, similar medical devices not listed in Part III of Section H of the Pharmaceutical Schedule may still be purchased.

The RFP would expand the range of medical devices under PHARMAC national contract, and support the PHARMAC objective of improving the cost-effectiveness of public spending to generate savings for re-investment.

Consultation will be undertaken as each provisional contract is agreed with the supplier and the sector will have a further opportunity to provide feedback to PHARMAC during this process.

For more information, or if you have any questions, please contact Chloë Dimock (Device Category Manager).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Wyeth', written in a cursive style.

John Wyeth  
Medical Director PHARMAC

**Device Category Manager Contact details**

Chloë Dimock

Email: [chloe.dimock@pharmac.govt.nz](mailto:chloe.dimock@pharmac.govt.nz)

For more information about this programme of work, you can visit our website:  
[www.pharmac.health.nz/medicines/hospital-devices](http://www.pharmac.health.nz/medicines/hospital-devices)

You can receive our regular newsletter, *Device Advice*, by emailing to:  
[devices@pharmac.govt.nz](mailto:devices@pharmac.govt.nz)