

3 September 2014

Bronwyn Hale
Therapeutic Group Manager
PHARMAC
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By email: bronwyn.hale@pharmac.govt.nz

Proposal for a sole subsidised supply of a contraceptive implant

Dear Bronwyn

The New Zealand Medical Association (NZMA) wishes to provide feedback to PHARMAC on its proposal to continue with a sole supply agreement with Bayer New Zealand Limited for levonorgestrel 75mg (Jadelle), a subdermal implant hormonal long acting reversible contraceptive (LARC).

We note that the proposal would result in Jadelle continuing to be listed in Section B and Part II of Section H of the Pharmaceutical Schedule. This proposal would see Jadelle being the only LARC brand funded in the community and the only available brand in DHB hospitals. We note that the ongoing listing of a LARC implant for contraception would not affect the current listings for non-hormonal Intra-Uterine Devices, medroxyprogesterone acetate injection or the levonorgestrel intrauterine system.

The NZMA is aware that Jadelle has had good uptake (approximately 12,000 women, annually, accessed this in the three years from 2010) and is well tolerated. While it is not the easiest implant to insert or remove, the NZMA is supportive of this proposal which would see the continuation of at least one LARC being available fully funded.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on this proposal.

Yours sincerely



Dr Mark Peterson
NZMA Chair