

31st May 2021

[REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Official Information Act Request for – Counties Manukau DHB and the decision by Pharmac to change the Special Authority criteria for Empagliflozin and Dulaglutide

I write in response to your Official Information Act request received by us 28 April 2021, you requested the following information:

Counties Manukau DHB and the decision by Pharmac to change the Special Authority criteria for Empagliflozin and Dulaglutide. Please supply the following information under the Official Information Act (OIA):

1. Any reports, emails, correspondence, briefing documents and advice produced by and for Counties Manukau DHB between September 9 and December 21, 2020 relating to the decision to change the Special Authority criteria for Empagliflozin and Dulaglutide.
2. Also include any correspondence, emails and advice between Counties Manukau DHB and Pharmac and the Minister of Health during the same timeframe regarding the two drugs.

Counties Manukau Health Response:

For context Counties Manukau Health (CM Health) employs over 8,500 staff and provides health and support services to people living in the Counties Manukau region (approx. 601,490 people). We see over 118,000 people in our Emergency Department each year, and over 2,000 visitors come through Middlemore Hospital daily.

Our services are delivered via hospital, outpatient, ambulatory and community-based models of care. We provide regional and supra-regional specialist services i.e. for orthopaedics, plastics, burns and spinal services. There are also several specialist services provided including tertiary surgical services, medical services, mental health and addiction services.

1. Any reports, emails, correspondence, briefing documents and advice produced by and for Counties Manukau DHB between September 9 and December 21, 2020

relating to the decision to change the Special Authority criteria for Empagliflozin and Dulaglutide.

2. Also include any correspondence, emails and advice between Counties Manukau DHB and Pharmac and the Minister of Health during the same timeframe regarding the two drugs.

In response to questions one and two of your request, we have not found any communication produced by CM Health relating to the decision to change the Special Authority criteria for the medicines Empagliflozin and Dulaglutide. Appendix 1 reflects an email that was sent to CM Health by Pharmac on the 9th September 2020 advising of the release by Pharmac proposing to fund an SGLT-2 inhibitor and a GLP-1 agonist.

CM Health has not directly contacted Pharmac or the Minister of Health in relation to the decision to change the Special Authority criteria for medicines Empagliflozin and Dulaglutide. Some CM Health clinicians in their clinical professional capacity have contributed to feedback on the change as part of a wider network group provided to Pharmac. This summary feedback was not submitted on Counties Manukau Health's behalf.

I trust this information answers your request. You are entitled to seek a review of the response by the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or Freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response or an edited version of this may be published on the Counties Manukau Health website. If you consider there are good reasons why this response should not be made publicly available, we will be happy to consider this.

Yours sincerely



Fepulea'i Margie Apa
Chief Executive Officer
Counties Manukau Health

From: [Mayanna Lund \(CMDHB\)](#)
To: "Elena Saunders"
Subject: RE: PHARMAC - consultation regarding medicines in type 2 diabetes
Date: Wednesday, 09 September 2020 13:12:00

Kia ora Elena,

I'm always happy to have duplication of good news! Thank you so much for letting me know individually.

Ka nui te mihi
Mayanna

From: Elena Saunders [REDACTED] s9(2)(a)
Sent: Wednesday, 09 September 2020 12:03 p.m.
To: Mayanna Lund (CMDHB)
Subject: PHARMAC - consultation regarding medicines in type 2 diabetes

Dear Mayanna,

I'm really pleased to share with you a consult that PHARMAC has released today regarding a proposal to fund an SGLT-2 inhibitor and a GLP-1 agonist. You can read the details here:

<https://smex12-5-en-ctp.trendmicro.com:443/wis/clicktime/v1/query?url=www.pharmac.govt.nz%2fdiabetes&umid=508ac2fd-2d61-40cb-9366-532bafbb339a&auth=bb7c7bbf7acee6ae97e29073e34f3e8b1808c238-b61d1ab3c8b96e0374c3136ffda643837dfdd83f>

My apologies – I suspect this is probably a duplication for you, but I wanted to be sure you were aware of this.

Ngā mihi nui,

Elena

Elena Saunders | Therapeutic Group Manager

PHARMAC | Te Pātaka Whaioranga | PO Box 10 254 | Level 9, 40 Mercer Street, Wellington
[REDACTED] s9(2)(a) | <https://smex12-5-en-ctp.trendmicro.com:443/wis/clicktime/v1/query?url=www.pharmac.govt.nz&umid=508ac2fd-2d61-40cb-9366-532bafbb339a&auth=bb7c7bbf7acee6ae97e29073e34f3e8b1808c238-f19f76279059effa0b45caf4bc5967b7f37fef7c>