

**NOVEMBER 2023 PBAC MEETING – CONSIDERATION OF THE REPORT OF THE  
DRUG UTILISATION SUB-COMMITTEE**

**PBAC CONSIDERATION OF THE REPORT OF THE  
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The PBAC noted reports with associated stakeholder responses from the September 2023 Drug Utilisation Sub-Committee (DUSC) meeting, which were provided in Items 10.03, 10.04, 10.05, and 10.06 of the PBAC Agenda. DUSC minutes relating to these items were provided to the PBAC. The outcomes of the DUSC consideration of these items are available in the [September 2023 DUSC outcome statement](#).

**APREMILAST FOR SEVERE CHRONIC PLAQUE PSORIASIS**

*Outcome*

The PBAC noted the growth of the overall chronic plaque psoriasis market over time, particularly in biologic medicines. The PBAC noted actual utilisation of apremilast for severe chronic plaque psoriasis was different from estimated. The PBAC noted that apremilast had a steady incident and slowly growing prevalent population. The PBAC noted in 2022, 4,908 patients were supplied 25,248 apremilast prescriptions.

**ATTENTION DEFICIT HYPERACTIVITY DISORDER (ADHD) MEDICINES REVIEW:  
LISDEXAMFETAMINE EXTENSION AND THE ADHD MARKET**

*Outcome*

The PBAC noted the high demand for ADHD treatment, in particular the utilisation of lisdexamfetamine in the adult population. The PBAC considered the regional variation in utilisation may partly reflect historical outliers of a higher level of prescribing to children in some states, and that these children are now supplied ADHD medicines as adults.

The PBAC noted advice from clinicians that the prevalence of ADHD medicine use was approaching the prevalence of the condition in people under 18 years of age and that the adult prescribing rate was still below prevalence estimates for the adult population.

**DUPILUMAB FOR SEVERE ATOPIC DERMATITIS**

*Outcome*

The PBAC noted that in 2022, 12,523 patients were supplied 104,967 prescriptions of dupilumab for severe atopic dermatitis. The PBAC noted that dupilumab was more commonly supplied than upadacitinib.

**VENETOCLAX FOR FIRST-LINE TREATMENT OF CHRONIC LYMPHOCYTIC  
LEUKAEMIA (CLL) OR SMALL LYMPHOCYTIC LYMPHOMA (SLL)**

*Outcome*

The PBAC considered advice on the predicted versus actual utilisation of venetoclax for the first-line treatment of chronic lymphocytic leukaemia (CLL) or small lymphocytic lymphoma (SLL). The PBAC noted that the actual uptake of venetoclax in combination

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with obinutuzumab for first-line treatment of CLL/SLL was different over the first two years of listing than predicted. The PBAC considered that there would have been some usage of venetoclax for first-line therapy in those patients who would normally have been considered fit for chemo-immunotherapy, prior to the changes to the restrictions of PBS listed therapies for first- and second- line (relapsed/refractory) treatments for CLL/SLL that commenced on 1 September 2023.

The PBAC considered that another review of venetoclax usage in CLL/SLL in 24 months would be of value.