

## Update from the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee

November 2025

The latest meeting of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC) was held 5<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> November 2025. This update aims to enhance the Committee's communication to all stakeholders separate to the formal minutes of the meeting which will be published as usual.

### **Consumer and clinician input and involvement**

A final **total of 38 submissions** were on the November 2025 meeting agenda, of which 28 required external evaluation. The submissions requiring external evaluations included 20 cost effectiveness/cost utility analyses, and 8 cost minimization analyses.

In relation to the submissions, the Committee received over **1,681 inputs**, including inputs from 1,212 individuals, 320 comments provided by health care professionals, 82 submissions from health professional groups, and 67 submissions from patient organisations. The Committee acknowledged the importance of these contributions and thanks all contributors for their engagement and commitment to work with the PBAC to better support positive outcomes for patients.

### **PBAC considerations**

#### **Published Meeting Agenda**

The PBAC noted the enhancements to the PBAC Agenda published on the PBAC Website. These additional details are intended to support stakeholders understanding of the intended PBS listing as requested by the Sponsor of the submission, including the proposed prescribing restriction, and the purpose of the treatment. The PBAC noted that informal feedback to date indicated that these additions were being well received by stakeholders wishing to provide input related to PBAC Agenda items.

#### **Equitable Access to Obesity Treatments**

The PBAC finalised its deliberations regarding the equitable access to GLP-1 obesity treatments in Australia, to respond to the request in March 2025 from the Minister for Health and Ageing and the Minister for Disability and the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) - (The Minister) for this advice.

The PBAC considered matters such as patient population needs, place in therapy of the various obesity medicines currently registered in Australia for the treatment of obesity, and models of service delivery that provide holistic and wraparound care.

A comprehensive consultation was undertaken as part of the PBAC review, and PBAC noted that 540 public submissions were received through this process, including individuals who have used these medicines, health professionals, health and consumer organisations, and individuals who would like to access these medicines for their conditions.

The PBAC noted that there is a high unmet clinical need for obesity treatments, and that there is clinical evidence for potential uses of GLP-1 medicines for a range of weight related comorbidities, but uncertainty regarding which patients may benefit the most, and subsequently equity issues in prioritizing access to medicines as well as supportive services and other interventions across Australia. The PBAC advice will be finalised and referred to The Minister by the end of 2025.

### **LSDP Referrals**

The PBAC considered 2 specific referrals from the LSDP Expert Panel for consideration, relating to medicines currently listed on the LSDP but which may now be eligible for reconsideration for PBS listing. These related to medicines for the treatment of Gaucher Disease and medicines for the treatment of Hereditary Tyrosinaemia Type 1. The items were deferred from the July 2025 PBAC meeting to allow consultations with the relevant patient groups and clinicians to be held on various matters, including additional information regarding current dispensing and access arrangements for patients.

The PBAC considered the clinical and patient representative feedback from these consultations and matters arising, and noted the additional Sponsor inputs for this meeting. The input received from clinical specialists and the patient representatives for these conditions was noted by PBAC to be highly relevant to their deliberations, and we are grateful for these inputs.

The PBAC has referred advice back to the LSDP Expert Panel for their information, and now finalised these considerations.

### **Outcomes**

The Outcomes of the November 2025 PBAC Meeting will be published on the PBAC website on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2025, at

<https://www.pbs.gov.au/info/industry/listing/elements/pbac-meetings/pbac-outcomes>

### **Next PBAC meeting**

The PBAC held a 1 day PBAC Intracycle meeting on **10<sup>th</sup> December 2025**. The outcomes for this meeting will be published on 30 January 2026.

Following that, the next 3 day PBAC meeting is scheduled for **11-13<sup>th</sup> March 2026**. The public agenda and consumer portal were made available on 19<sup>th</sup> November 2025 for this meeting, providing opportunity for inputs to be received till **Midnight on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2026**.

Robyn Ward  
Chair, Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee

Jo Watson  
Deputy Chair, Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee