

## Update on Pharmac engagement and work

**Date:** 28 September 2022

**To:** Hon Peeni Henare (Associate Minister of Health)

**Copies to:** Minister of Health  
Director General of Health  
Pharmac Board  
Principal Advisor, Crown Entity Monitoring and Appointments, Ministry of Health

### Recommendations

It is recommended you:

**note** the contents of this report.

### Contact(s)

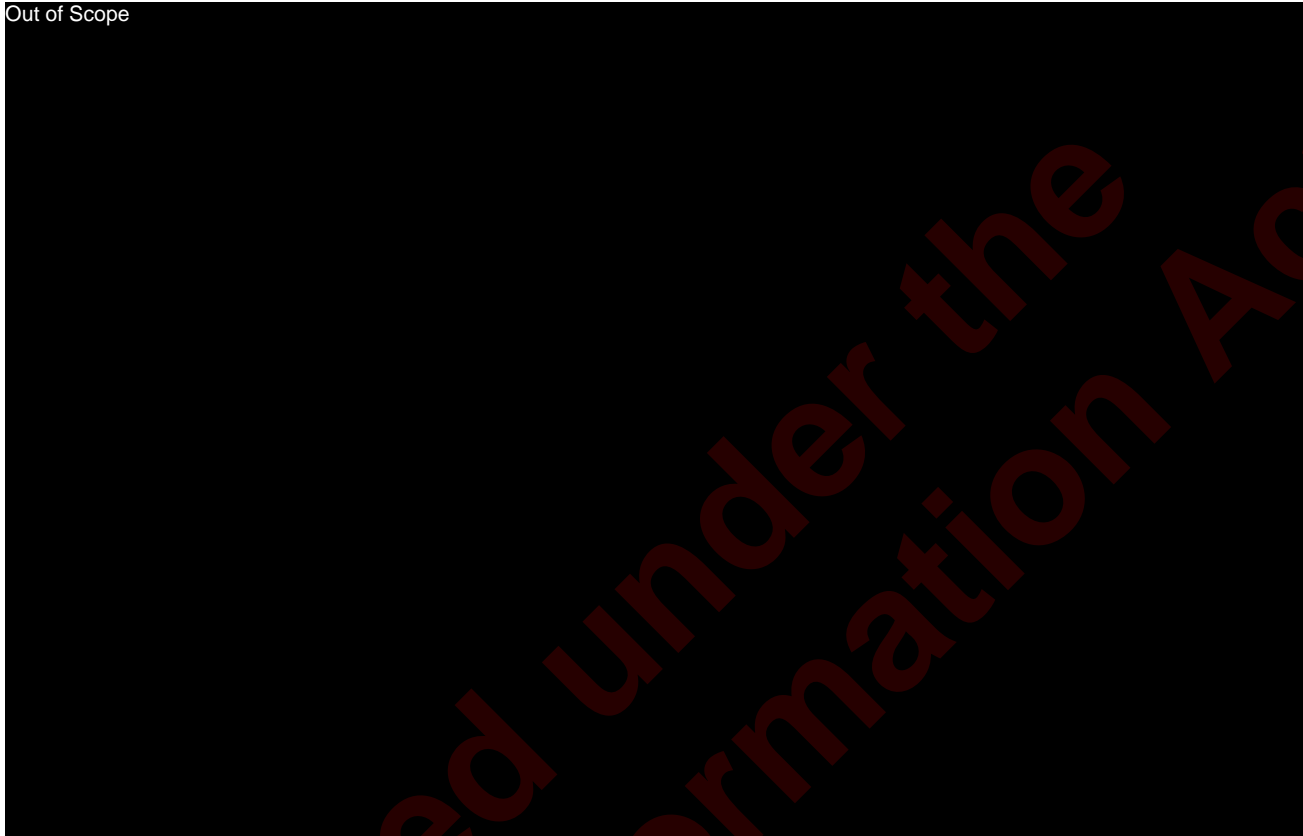
Trevor Simpson, Chief Advisor Māori

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## Purpose

You are meeting with Trevor Simpson, Chief Advisor Māori, Te Pātaka Whaioranga Pharmac on 28 September for your quarterly meeting. As requested, this briefing introduces some topics ahead of the korero.

Out of Scope



## Diabetes

### *Type 1*

We are actively assessing proposals for continuous glucose monitoring devices, including reviewing our modelling to incorporate new evidence. We are also reconsidering our insulin pump funding criteria with a view to improve equity of access.

### *Type 2*

Since early 2021, Pharmac have been funding two new diabetes medicines for New Zealanders who are at high risk of heart and kidney complications from type 2 diabetes. Empagliflozin and dulaglutide both have special authority criteria in place to ensure access for those most in need. Original estimates were that up to 50,000 people would be eligible for treatment. The table below shows the total number of people approved for funding to date, significantly higher than original estimates, and showing that that Māori make up approximately 25% and Pacific peoples 21% of the people approved to access these new treatments.

Pharmaceutical	SA criteria	% of applications per criteria[1]	Total number
SGLT2 Inhibitors & GLP-1 Agonists	Māori or Pacific ethnicity	45.85%	76508
	Pre-existing cardiovascular disease	22.35%	
	5-year cardiovascular disease risk	30.01%	
	High lifetime cardiovascular risk (childhood or young adult)	9.72%	
	Diabetic kidney disease	16.71%	

Out of Scope

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### Concluding comments

With our strategies, commitment to giving effect to te Tiriti, health reforms and the Pharmac review, this is a very exciting time for Te Pātaka Whaioranga Pharmac. We look forward to exploring topics of interest to you in our hui.



Trevor Simpson  
Chief Māori Advisor

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