

19 May 2015

Dear Laydan Mortensen

## REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Thank you for your request dated 10 May 2015 under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) for information relating to the World Health Organisation's Model Lists of Essential Medicines (WHO-EM). You asked for:

1. Are there any medicines listed on the WHO-EM that are not listed on the Pharmaceutical Schedule?
2. Approximately how much (as a number and as a percentage) of the Combined Pharmaceutical Budget is spent on funding medicines listed on the WHO-EM

I'm sorry that we cannot help you with your request; PHARMAC does not hold the information you are seeking. This means we must refuse your request under section 18(e) of the OIA.

While both the WHO-EM list and the Pharmaceutical Schedule are publicly available documents, PHARMAC does not hold any documentation that compares each list. You can find the Pharmaceutical Schedule [here](#).

You may consider researching the answer to your first question using the publicly available information. Please note that the WHO-EM list includes medicines used solely within a hospital environment. However, the Combined Pharmaceutical Budget does not cover medicines funded in District Health Board hospitals. Medicines that are funded for use in DHB Hospitals are found in our Hospital Medicines List [here](#).

If you are not already aware, PHARMAC does publish an annual review which provides annual costs for commonly used medicines. You can find the annual review [here](#)

Please note you have the right, by way of complaint under section 28(3) of the OIA to an Ombudsman, to seek an investigation and review of our decision.

We are sorry that we are unable to provide the documents that would answer your queries. However, if you have any further questions, please contact us again.

Yours sincerely



Jude Ulrich  
Director, Engagement & Implementation