



The Royal New Zealand
College of General Practitioners
Te Whare Tohu Rata o Aotearoa

20 October 2025

Pharmac
PO Box 10254
The Terrace
WELLINGTON 6143

By email: consult@pharmac.govt.nz

Tēnā koe,

Funding criteria for HIV medications

About us

The Royal New Zealand College of General Practitioners (the College) is the largest medical college in Aotearoa New Zealand, representing 6,018 members. Through our General Practice Education Programme (GPEP) and Rural Hospital Medicine Training Programme (RHMTTP), we train the specialist General Practitioner (GP) and Rural Hospital Doctor workforce. The Medical Council of New Zealand accredits the College to deliver a Vocationally Registered workforce via our Continuing Professional Development Programme, making up 40 percent of the specialist medical workforce.

The College is committed to reducing health inequities experienced by Māori, honouring Te Tiriti o Waitangi, and upholding the rights of Māori. To achieve this, we prioritise initiatives that support members to develop cultural safety capability through our training, professional development and quality, programmes.

Our members are the first point of contact for medical care and manage 90 percent of all healthcare concerns of patients and their whānau in the community. Each year, approximately 24 million² patient contacts are recorded by 1,085 general practice teams across Aotearoa.

Our Submission

The Royal New Zealand College of General Practitioners supports Pharmac's proposal to remove funding restrictions and enable more flexible supply arrangements for antiretroviral medicines.

These changes will:

- Improve timely access to HIV treatment and prevention.
- Reduce administrative barriers for clinicians and patients.
- Support equity by making medicines more accessible across diverse communities.
- Enable urgent access to PEP through PSO, improving responsiveness in primary care.

We welcome these steps toward better HIV care and public health outcomes.

For further clarification, please contact Maureen Gillon, Manager - Policy, Advocacy and Insights.
maureen.gillon@rnzcgp.org.nz.

Nāku noa, nā

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