

22 July 2025

By email: Tenderconsult@ pharmac.govt.nz

Tēnā koutou

## Second consultation on possible brand name changes through the annual tender

ANZCA, the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists, which includes the Faculty of Pain Medicine and Chapter of Perioperative Medicine, welcomes the opportunity to provide feedback on the above. We have consulted with the Chairs of ANZCA's National Committee New Zealand (NCNZ), and Faculty of Pain Medicine New Zealand National Council (FPM NCNZ).

We have identified the following medicines as relevant to ANZCA's areas of interest:

- iron
- cyclizine
- calcium gluconate
- pantoprazole
- loratadine

Brand changes are common with most of these, and we have not noticed appreciable differences between the brands.

We are, however, interested in the packaging. Ampoules present a heightened risk as they all look the same and can be given in error.

Iron has the most potential for variability and differences in side effect profiles, so it is important to ensure that the iron preparation remains constant between brands. We understand that the form and strength of iron (Ferric Carboxymaltose 500mg/10ml) would remain the same, though there may be changes to the excipients and other characteristics such as colour. Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback.

Nāku noa, nā

Rachel Dempsey

Chair, New Zealand National Committee

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