

Quinapril-hydrochlorothiazide (Accuretic®) withdrawal on 31 Oct 2022

Quinapril-hydrochlorothiazide 10/12.5mg and 20/12.5mg combination tablets are being withdrawn from distribution on 31 October 2022 and will be delisted on 1 December 2022.

Approximately 2,800 individuals are taking quinapril-hydrochlorothiazide in the Pegasus Health PHO region.

If the clinical need for the combination remains, patients will need to be switched to an alternative. Either

1. Switch to a separate ACE inhibitor and a thiazide diuretic, or
2. If the patient does not wish to take two separate tablets, consider a combination angiotensin-II receptor blocker (ARB) with a thiazide diuretic. The only funded combination product is losartan- hydrochlorothiazide 50/12.5mg tablets.

Currently funded ACE inhibitors are enalapril, lisinopril, perindopril and quinapril (not affected by withdrawal). There is also a PHARMAC proposal to fund ramipril. It is anticipated ramipril maybe available from November 2022¹.

Please remember cilazapril is NOT a suitable alternative as it is being delisted in mid-2023². There are still over 18,000 individuals taking cilazapril in the Pegasus Health PHO region.

Switching Considerations:

The new medication can be started the day after stopping quinapril-hydrochlorothiazide. For the new ACE inhibitor or ARB the general advice is to look at the current dose (low, medium or maximum) and then use a dose at a similar point in the dose range for the new medicine. The doses can then be titrated based on patient response (e.g. blood pressure and adverse effects)³.

Consider recalling patients to switch early if they are likely to run out over the Christmas/New Year holiday period when access to GP appointments may be difficult. Consider proactively identifying those patients needing to switch by querybuild and/or communicating and working with your local pharmacist.

Further information can be found at:

Prescriber:

- Christchurch Medicines Information Service – [Accuretic withdrawal](#)
- PHARMAC – [Accuretic \(quinapril and hydrochlorothiazide\) tablets](#)
- He Ako Hiringa – [Transitioning people off Accuretic](#)
- Medsafe – [Accuretic found to contain nitrosamines](#)
- BPAC – [Prescribing ACE inhibitors](#)
- Canterbury Community HealthPathways – [Hypertension](#) and [Heart Failure](#)

Patient

- HealthNavigator – [Disrupted supply of Accuretic patient leaflet](#)

References:

1. PHARMAC: [Proposal to fund ramipril, 6 July 2022](#)
2. PHARMAC – [Cilazapril: No new patients from 1 May 2021](#)
3. Christchurch Medicines Information: [Accuretic \(quinapril/hydrochlorothiazide\) withdrawal, July 5 2022](#)

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