

24 January 2024

Professor Andrew Wilson
Chair, Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC)
MDP 952, GPO Box 9848
Canberra, ACT 2601
Email: pbac@health.gov.au

Dear Professor Wilson,

Re: Neocate® Syneo Amino Acid Formula

On behalf of the Australasian Society of Clinical Immunology and Allergy (ASCIA), we write in support of the application from Nutricia to request that Neocate® Syneo with new formulation continues to be listed on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) under the existing conditions.

Neocate® Syneo Amino Acid Formula supplemented with prebiotics, probiotics and long chain polyunsaturated fatty acids is currently PBS listed for treatment of:

- Cows' milk protein enteropathy
- Severe cows' milk protein enteropathy with failure to thrive
- Combined intolerance to cows' milk protein, soy protein and protein hydrolysate formulae
- Proven combined immunoglobulin E (IgE) mediated allergy to cows' milk protein and soy protein
- Cows' milk anaphylaxis
- Severe intestinal malabsorption including short bowel syndrome
- Eosinophilic oesophagitis (EOE)

ASCIA supports the request from Nutricia to continue the listing of Neocate® Syneo Amino Acid Formula under existing conditions for the following reasons:

- There is an important clinical need for medical nutrition products, including Neocate® Syneo, for the management of infants and children with cow's milk allergy, EOE, related conditions and multiple food protein allergy. To ensure equitable access and mitigate the risk of supply issues, it is critical to have multiple brands of clinically indicated medical nutrition products available on the PBS.
- Any changes to the current PBS listing conditions, such as cost reduction of amino acid formula, will result in brands of medical nutrition products on the PBS no longer being financially viable for suppliers in Australia. This will have a significant impact on the nutrition and health outcomes for children with cow's milk allergy, EOE, related conditions and multiple food protein allergy, and their families.

We hope that the PBAC will take into account the reasons listed above, in support of the application for continued PBS listing of Neocate® Syneo Amino Acid Formula under the existing conditions.

Yours sincerely,

A/Professor Theresa Cole
ASCIA President

Jill Smith
ASCIA CEO

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