



13 September 2021

RE: PBAC submission supporting PBS listing of ABROCITINIB Tablet 100 mg Tablet 200 mg Cibinqo® for severe atopic dermatitis

Severe atopic dermatitis (AD) greatly affects quality of life. Until recent times, many had given up hope on there ever being a medication they could take long term that would improve their AD, not need ongoing monitoring (i.e. blood tests) and not have the potential to cause serious harm.

An injected biologic treatment launched on the PBS earlier in 2021 has changed the lives of many and given others hope however there are some people with severe AD that may not be in a position to use the injected biologic. Where possible, it is important for people with severe AD and their treating dermatologist/allergist to choose a treatment that best suits their needs.

Medications administered through an alternate route that work via a different pathway and have been proven to decrease severity of AD and improve quality of life must be considered for PBS listing.

Those with severe AD have had little hope for any improvement in their chronic skin condition and having two different treatments available on the PBS means consumers (including parents of those 12 years and over) will have a choice of treatments if daily skin applications used for at least a month do not significantly improve their debilitating skin condition.

WHEN ABROCITINIB IS PBS LISTED:

As Abrocitinib and Dupilumab, both medications that can be prescribed for severe AD, have different routes of administration, different frequency of administration and different side effects, it is important that a dermatologist/allergist review the patient and together with the patient, decide on a long-term medication/treatment to be used as well as ongoing topical care of AD. Some may prefer oral medication as they dislike injections while other may prefer an injection once a fortnight because it may be more onerous to remember to take a tablet every day. A person who travels often may prefer to take a tablet rather than be concerned about refrigeration/injection while away from home. The medications have different side effects. If someone does not tolerate one medication, they have another option.

It is important that those with AD have options to improve their quality of life. Severe AD greatly impacts quality of life. Severe AD impacts on sleep, socialising, school life/work life(productivity), mood, self-esteem, self-confidence, intimacy and more. It is not only one aspect of life that is impacted by AD. People are often on a rollercoaster that has no end in sight and this in itself is debilitating with many feeling alone and isolated because of the severe AD.

Allergy & Anaphylaxis Australia supports the PBS listing of Abrocitinib so that people with chronic AD that can be severe and ongoing can have a discussion with their treating dermatologist/allergist on what treatment might best

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suit their needs. Just like Dupilumab has given some people with severe AD hope for a more normal, enjoyable life, Abrocitinib can give others with severe AD hope for a more normal, enjoyable life. It is important that consumers and their treating doctors have a choice of treatments now that we have options that have been well researched and proven to improve quality of life with minimal adverse effects.

Yours faithfully,

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