

8 March 2016

To All New Zealand Pharmacies

Subject **Sumatriptan inj 12 mg per ml, 0.5 ml vial, soon to be made available through general practice**

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Dear Pharmacist

**Sumatriptan inj 12 mg per ml, 0.5 ml vial, soon to be made available through general practice.**

Actavis has informed us that the alternative sumatriptan injection, Sun-Pharma sumatriptan pre-filled pen, is anticipated to arrive in New Zealand in late March 2016.

In the mean-time Actavis has been able to secure a short term supply of sumatriptan vials, (section 29) manufactured by Fresenius Kabi which we anticipate will arrive in New Zealand in the next 7 to 10 days.

For patients who are familiar with using the Arrow-Sumatriptan injection, using a vial and syringe will be significantly different. As this is only intended for short term supply and because of the additional support required to safely administer sumatriptan vials we have made arrangements for Actavis to deliver the sumatriptan vials directly to GP practices. More information regarding this can be found on the PHARMAC website [www.pharmac.govt/sumatriptan](http://www.pharmac.govt/sumatriptan).

We recommend that patients contact their doctor to discuss what funded options, including sumatriptan vials, may be appropriate for them during this global supply issue.

PHARMAC will keep you informed of the expected delivery date of Sun-Pharma sumatriptan pre-filled pens.

If you have any questions please contact PHARMAC on 0800 66 00 50, [enquiry@pharmac.govt.nz](mailto:enquiry@pharmac.govt.nz) or Actavis on 0800 800 097.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Fitt  
Director of Operations