18 June 2015

FOR ATTENTION OF THE ECONOMICS LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

RE: Hospira Inc submission to the Economics Legislation Committee - National Health Amendment (Pharmaceutical Benefits) Bill 2015 [Provisions]

Hospira recommendation on the PBAC decision on substitution of biosimilars: As a global leader in biosimilars, Hospira is watching biosimilar policy developments in Australia closely. We strongly urge Australia's Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC) to engage relevant stakeholders such as the TGA and others in opening up its policy on substitution to broader consultation.

Hospira also supports organisations, including the GMiA, publicly advocating a position that requires the PBAC decision to substitute biosimilars in Australia to be opened up to broader consultation.

The Hospira position on automatic pharmacy substitution (also called interchangeability in some jurisdictions) remains unchanged. Where ability for automatic pharmacy substitution is considered, it should be on a case by case basis and be based on robust scientific evidence as determined by the appropriate scientific body. Hospira supports a sound scientific approach to the determination of interchangeability.

Hospira also supports the prescriber's ability to scientifically evaluate a product and recommend what is in the best interest of their patients.

About Hospira: Hospira, Inc. is the world's leading provider of injectable drugs and infusion technologies, and a global leader in biosimilars. Hospira has extensive global experience in the field of biologics having launched the first monocolonal antibody biosimilar in the world, Inflectra™ (infliximab) and several other biosimilars in developed markets Nivestim™ (filgrastim) and Retacrit™ (epoetin-zeta).

We have a strong biosimilar pipeline with products that treat cancer, blood disorders, rheumatoid arthritis, inflammatory bowel disease, gastro-intestinal disorders and chronic kidney disease.

Hospira also has strong experience with biosimilars in Australia having launched the first biosimilar filgrastim (Nivestim™) in 2011 and been involved with biosimilar policy development.

Julie Reed
Vice President, Global Government Affairs

Mark Crotty
Vice President, ANZ Commercial

Hospira Inc.
275 North Field Drive
Lake Forest, IL 60045
www.hospira.com