



**Principal officers
Boards of Trustees
Healthcare providers
Other stakeholders**

Ref: PMB technical workshops
Enq: N. Mlaba
t: 012 431 0417
f: 012 431 0636
e: b.selebi@medicalschemes.com
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Circular 15 of 2009

Invitation to participate in clinical advisory committees on the revision of specific PMBs and to submit proposals

1. Introduction

The Prescribed Minimum Benefit (PMB) Review Steering Committee, consisting of officials from the Council for Medical Schemes and the Department of Health, expresses its appreciation to healthcare providers, medical schemes, patient groups, and other stakeholders for comments received on the third draft of the PMB consultation document.

The purpose of this Circular is to invite stakeholders to participate in clinical advisory committees comprising of academics, expert opinion leaders in different fields, and other stakeholders to examine in detail proposals pertaining to the diagnosis and treatment pairs (DTPs) and chronic disease list (CDL) algorithms that were submitted. The aim of these committees is to recommend final revisions that must be made to the DTPs and CDL algorithms in the current PMB package.

Note that these recommendations will be in the context of the existing regulations and will not include the comprehensive review of the PMB construct as proposed in the PMB review consultation documents.

2. Process

1. Twelve (12) advisory committees are being established to advise the Steering Committee on changes to specific CDL algorithms and DTPs (See Annexure A below).
2. Specific applications to serve on these advisory committees must contain full contact details and a short CV (not exceeding two pages), and state on which committee(s) the applicant wishes to serve. Considering the exposure, experience

A statutory body established in terms of the
Medical Schemes Act, 1998 (Act 131 of 1998)

Chairperson: Prof. W Pick Acting Registrar & CEO: P Matshidze



and technical ability of applicants, the PMB Review Steering Committee will establish the committees and publish the final list of committee members and chairpersons by 4 August 2009. The committees will be established to ensure that there is balanced representation from patient groups, manufactures, providers, and funders. Applicants must ensure that they are available for the scheduled meeting dates. All meetings will be held at the offices of the Council for Medical Schemes (CMS) in Hatfield, Pretoria.

3. Considering submissions previously made by other stakeholders¹, stakeholders must make final proposals to the specific clinical advisory committees as specified in Annexure A below. These proposals will be published on the CMS website. Proposals must specifically provide clinical evidence-based arguments indicating why an algorithm or DTP should be changed, and provide information on the financial impact of the proposal. The cost-effectiveness of these proposals must also be evaluated.
4. Both the applications to serve on the advisory committees and the submission of final proposals to the respective committees must be sent to Baanetse Selebi b.selebi@medicalschemes.com by 21 July 2009.
5. The chairperson of each advisory committee must make final recommendations to the PMB Review Steering Committee by 29 September 2009. The PMB Review Steering Committee will consider the recommendations and make recommendations to the CMS and the Department of Health.



Boshoff Steenekamp
REF Project Specialist

¹Submissions on the PMB review consultation documents are available at

<http://www.medicalschemes.com/publications/publications.aspx?catid=33>



Annexure A: Clinical Advisory Committee agenda items, meeting dates, and relevant comments on the PMB review consultation documents

<i>Committee agenda items</i>	<i>Comments for consideration²</i>
Meeting with chairpersons of advisory committees, Wed 12 August 2009	
A PMB Review Steering Committee representative will meet with the advisory committee chairpersons to discuss the terms of reference of the committees and the process and procedure associated with the work that needs to be performed	
Cardiology advisory committee, Tue 18 Aug 09	
Cardiac failure algorithm Cardiomyopathy algorithm Coronary artery disease algorithm Dysrhythmias algorithm Cardiovascular DTPs, including rheumatic fever	MSD, Providence, Momentum Medical Schemes Administrators, Mediscor, SA Heart Association, Medikredit
Endocrinology advisory committee, Thu 20 Aug 09	
Addison's disease algorithm Diabetes Insipidus algorithm Diabetes mellitus algorithm Hypothyroidism algorithm	Momentum Medical Scheme Administrators, AstraZeneca, Mediscor, Sanofi-Aventis, Novo Nordisk, SEMDSA, Mediscor
General medicine and paediatrics advisory committee, Mon 24 Aug 09	
Crohn's disease algorithm Epilepsy algorithm Haemophilia algorithm SLE algorithm Ulcerative colitis algorithm Hypertension algorithm Multiple sclerosis algorithm Parkinson's disease algorithm	Mediscor, Dr S Lison, TEVA, Multiple Sclerosis SA (MASSA), Medscheme, Medikredit, Pfizer, Department of Neurology (Tygerberg Hospital and Stellenbosch University), Mediscor, Boeringer-Ingelheim, MSD, Janssen-Cilag, Insight Medicine, Providence Healthcare Risk Managers, Vmed, Dr ND Burman, Epilepsy South Africa, Heart and stroke foundation
Metabolic and lipid advisory committee, Wed 26 Aug 09	
Hyperlipidaemia algorithm	AstraZeneca, Medscheme, MSD, Schering Plough, SA Heart Foundation, SA Heart Association, Pfizer, Medihelp, Medikredit, Mediscor, Insight Medicine, Vmed.
Nephrology advisory committee, Fri 28 Aug 09	
Chronic Renal Failure algorithm	Wits University Donald Gordon Medical Centre, Roche, National Renal Care (UCT), Dept of Nephrology (UCT), SA Transplant Society, DHS, Novartis, Medikredit, Mediscor, MSD
Ophthalmology advisory committee, Tue 01 Sep 09	
Glaucoma algorithm Ophthalmology DTPs	BHF, Ophthalmological Society of SA
Psychiatry advisory committee, Thu 03 Sep 09	
Bipolar Mood Disorder algorithm Schizophrenia algorithm Psychiatric DTPs	Medihelp, SASOP, SA Depression and Anxiety Group, SA Society of Psychiatrist(SASOP), Psychiatrists in Private Practice (P3), DHS, Momentum Medical Scheme Administrators, Polmed, MHG, Medikredit, Mediscor, Lily SA, Insight Medicine, Medihelp

²Submissions on the PMB review consultation documents are available at <http://www.medicalschemes.com/publications/publications.aspx?catid=33>



<i>Committee agenda items</i>	<i>Comments for consideration²</i>
<i>Respiratory advisory committee, Mon 07 Sep 09</i>	
Asthma algorithm Bronchiectasis algorithm Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease algorithm	Allergy Society of SA (ALLSA), SAPA, SAMA, South African Thoracic Society (SATS), Physiotherapy Association, DHS, Medikredit, Mediscor, Insight Medicine, Boehringer Ingelheim, SA society of Physiotherapy
<i>Rheumatology advisory committee, Wed 09 Sep 09</i>	
Rheumatoid arthritis algorithm	South African Rheumatism and Arthritis Association (SARAA), Arthritis Foundation of SA, Roche, Dept of Rheumatology (UKZN), Dept of Rheumatology (UCT), DHS, Medscheme, Vmed, DHS, Rheumatic Disease Unit (University of Witwatersrand), Mediscor, Insight Medicine, Providence Healthcare Risk Managers
<i>Oncology advisory committee, Fri 11 Sep 09</i>	
Oncology DTPs	SpesNet, CANSA, Roche, Pfizer, SA Oncology Consortium (SAOC), Campaigning for cancer, Lily SA
<i>Reproductive health advisory committee, Tue 15 Sep 09</i>	
DTPs relating to the female reproductive system	Momentum Medical Scheme Administrators, Novartis, Gynaecology management group, JH Coltman, HOLD consulting
<i>Other DTPs advisory committee, Thursday 17 Sep 09 and possibly Monday 21 Sep 09</i> <i>(Depending on the number and nature of submissions, this committee be split in two and meet on separate dates)</i>	
Dental DTPs Musculoskeletal DTPs Tuberculosis Cystic fibrosis Neonatal care (ELBW<600g)	Dental Information Systems (DENIS), Dr LA Moses, Vmed, Metropolitan Health Group, Polmed, Lords Consulting, DHS, SAMA, Medical and Scientific Advisory Committee of Cystic Fibrosis in SA, Biokinetic association, BHF, SEMDSA, Medscheme, PHANGO, Netcare, Mediclinic, National Pathology group, PISAS, PSSA, SA Society of nuclear physicians, SA Heart Association, United South African Neonatal Association