

Level 9, 40 Mercer Street, Wellington PO Box 10254, Wellington 6143, New Zealand P: +64 4 460 4990 | F: +64 4 460 4995 www.pharmac.govt.nz

21 March 2023

Ms Faulkner

Via email: fyi-request-22091-cd2a2f20@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Ms Faulkner

Request for information: Funding of ixekizumab

Thank you for your request dated 13 March 2023 under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) for information relating to funding of ixekizumab. You requested:

I am requesting information about the funding of ixekizumab (brand name Taltz). Specifically, I would like to know if:

- a) This medication is currently being considered for funding, has been considered for funding in the past, or if there is any indication it will be considered in the near future?
- b) If the medication is being considered for funding, I would like to know which autoimmune conditions it is being considered as a treatment option for.

Ixekizumab is not currently approved for use in New Zealand by Medsafe, the medicines and medical devices safety authority. It is important that medicines are approved by Medsafe to ensure they are of required quality, safety, and efficacy. Any questions regarding the medicine approval process are best directed to Medsafe.

We would welcome a funding application to consider including ixekizumab on the Pharmaceutical Schedule once approved by Medsafe. Please visit <u>our website</u> for information about this process and access to our online application system, PharmConnect.

You might be interested to know that a similar medicine, secukinumab is funded in New Zealand for severe chronic plaque psoriasis, ankylosing spondylitis and psoriatic arthritis.

We trust that this information answers your queries. Please get in touch with us if you have any questions about this.

Please note, you have the right to make a complaint to the Ombudsman about our response to your OIA, under section 28(3) of the OIA. Details of how to make a complaint are on the Ombudsman's website.

Nāku noa, nā

Allanah Andrews

Manager, Policy and Government Services