

DRUG TARIFF PART II - REQUIREMENTS ENABLING PAYMENTS TO BE MADE FOR THE SUPPLY OF DRUGS, APPLIANCES AND CHEMICAL REAGENTS

CLAUSE 14 SERIOUS SHORTAGE PROTOCOL - REIMBURSEMENT AND REMUNERATION

- A) Any drugs, appliances or chemical reagents, which are supplied in line with a Serious Shortage Protocol (SSP), are to be reimbursed and remunerated as if they were dispensed in line with a prescription with the exception that items supplied in line with a SSP will attract an additional fee as per Part IIIA and the reimbursement price will account for VAT payment. To that end where a prescription or a prescription item is referred to in the Drug Tariff in the context of reimbursement or remuneration for dispensed drugs, appliances or chemical reagents, this is to be treated as applying to supply in line with a SSP.
- B) Where an SSP requires an alternative inhaler to be provided to a patient and the patient has been established on treatment with a spacer, the recommended spacer should be supplied with the alternative inhaler if the original spacer that the patient has is not compatible/licensed with the substituted inhaler. In this instance any drugs or appliances which are supplied in line with a Serious Shortage Protocol (SSP), are to be reimbursed and remunerated as if they were dispensed in line with a prescription. If a new spacer needs to be provided but is supplied without the correct endorsement (as per Clause 9 Part II of the Drug Tariff) – these will be reimbursed according to the cheapest spacer/holding chamber device as recommended in the SSP for the substituted inhaler.