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*Te Whare Tohu o
Te Hau Whakaora*

9 September 2025

PHARMAC

By email: tenderconsult@pharmac.govt.nz

Tēnā koe

DRAFT 2025/26 TENDER: INVITATION TO TENDER FOR HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS

ANZCA, the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists which includes the Faculty of Pain Medicine, and Chapter of Perioperative Medicine, thanks you for the opportunity to contribute to draft 2025/26 Tender. We have consulted with the chairs of our national committees and offer the following brief response with regard to the following medications:

- Alfentanil
- Atracurium
- Bupivacaine
- Morphine oral liquid
- Remifentanil
- Ropivacaine
- Tramadol (oral and injectable)

We can confirm that all the above medications are regularly used and that a constant, secure supply must be maintained because they are fundamental to the services we routinely provide for anaesthesia and pain medicine. We refer you to our previous response to potential brand name changes, that ampoules present a heightened risk of error if there is a change in formula, or the way that they are administered – intravenously or orally - because they are small and all look the same. Any means of differentiation and/or warning alerts is useful and appreciated. We strongly recommend you consider requirements around legible labelling, including font size, which is often miniscule, to reduce the risk of error, and save time. A long shelf life is another important consideration for these routine medications. Thankyou again for this opportunity to provide feedback.

Nāku noa, nā

Rachel Dempsey
Chair, New Zealand National Committee

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Australian and New Zealand
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