

05 September 2019

Dear Doctor

Chronic Disease Medication Update 2020

Discovery Health is committed to consultation with the profession regarding potential changes to the Drug benefits for 2020.

Over the last decade the emergence of new medical treatments and technologies has increased exponentially. Discovery Health Medical Scheme provides defined funding for high-cost medicines and medical technologies and procedures through the Specialised Medicine and Technology Benefit (SMTB). The Specialised Medicine and Technology Benefit is only available to members on the Executive Plan and Comprehensive plans.

This letter requests your input on proposed changes on the ***SMTB related to biologics used for Rheumatoid Arthritis.***

PROPOSED 2020 SMTB CHANGES

In 2020 scheme members would have access to funding for medications at fixed reference value set at the price applicable to items available as part of the SMTB. This would mean access to full cover for the published list of preferred products with flexibility to choose a higher priced product subject to a co-payment for costs above the reference value. Please note that the full cover list will include Humira® at the 2020 SEP and any other product that is at or below the Humira® price.

Regards



Darren Sweidan
**Head: Health Professional Unit
Strategic Risk Management
Discovery Health**