

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH,  
P.O. BOX 5013,  
WELLINGTON.

30 January 1970.

## **CLINICAL SERVICES LETTER NO. 95**

### **TO MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS**

Dear Doctor,

#### **TREATMENT OF DRUG ADDICTS\***

Persons who have become dependent on, or addicted to drugs, and who are likely to benefit from psychiatric treatment, can be received into any psychiatric hospital as voluntary patients under provisions of the Mental Health Act.

If the need for compulsory treatment arises the doctor may wish to advise recourse to the provisions of the Alcoholism and Drug Addiction Act 1966. Oakley, Kingseat, Tokanui, Porirua, Sunnyside, and Seacliff Hospitals are empowered to receive patients under the provisions of that Act.

Initially the admission of drug addicts was restricted to Oakley Hospital. Oakley is still the only hospital at which secure accommodation is available for those patients whose clinical condition requires that they be treated in such facilities. However, it has been found practicable to care for a small number of addicts at other hospitals without the necessity of transferring them to Oakley.

Any doctor wishing to arrange for the compulsory treatment of a drug addict at one of the other five hospitals listed should in the first instance discuss the case with the Medical Superintendent of the hospital concerned. Subject to the Superintendent's agreement, arrangements can be made for the admission of a patient if the necessary order under the Act is made.

It must be clearly understood in all such cases that, should the necessity arise, transfer to the special unit at Oakley Hospital may be arranged. The patient's initial admission will be subject to this condition.

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\*Inserted at the request of the Director, Division of Mental Health.



## **PART CHARGES**

Unless suitable price reductions are made, the following will be subject to a part charge to the patient from *1 April 1970*:

Ferrum Hausmann injection  
Jectofer injection  
Pregamal tablets

## **BLEPHAMIDE D**

Prednisolone acetate with phenylephrine hydrochloride and sulphacetamide sodium ear drops (Blephamide D) are accepted as a full charge under the Drug Tariff.

## **FULL CHARGE UNDER THE DRUG TARIFF**

The following will be a full charge under the Drug Tariff from *16 February 1970*:

Androphyllin tablets 125 mg.

Those asthma aerosol inhalants which are a part charge at present.

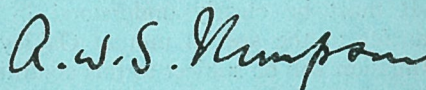
From that date all section 99 special approvals for these preparations will be cancelled and supplies may then be obtained from retail pharmacies.

## **THE SOCIAL SECURITY (PHARMACEUTICAL BENEFITS) REGULATIONS 1965, AMENDMENT NO. 1**

This amendment, effective 1 January 1970, enables the Minister of Health to refer a complaint to the Medical Practitioners Disciplinary Committee if he has reason to believe that any medical practitioner has been in the habit of prescribing or procuring pursuant to any provision of the Drug Tariff, without sufficient reason, pharmaceutical requirements in extraordinarily large or expensive quantities for the treatment of any patient or class of patients under his care.

Copies of this amendment are available from the Government Printing Office, Wellington.

Yours faithfully,



(A. W. S. Thompson)

Director, Division of Clinical Services.



### **GENERAL PRACTICE AVAILABLE: HIKURANGI**

Hikurangi is 9 miles from Whangarei, and is close to beaches. Fishing, shooting, and other sporting facilities are available. The climate is sub-tropical.

Surgery available at low rental—no need to purchase the available equipment. No goodwill is required. The Council would consider building a new house on a section held in trust. Rental would be no more than sufficient to meet loan charges, etc.

A good income is assured immediately. The town has a population of approximately 1,200, but is surrounded by an extensive country district.

An excellent base hospital in Whangarei serves this area.

For further information write to the Town Clerk, Hikurangi Town Council, Alfred Street, Hikurangi.

### **GENERAL PRACTICE: MOTUEKA**

There is an urgent need for two more doctors at Motueka. Excellent prospects in an attractive area.

Incoming doctors would be welcome in the holiday and weekend duty roster.

Inquiries: Dr J. T. Blois,  
Telephone Motueka 645.

### **GENERAL PRACTICE: LUMSDEN**

The sudden and untimely death of Dr W. H. Olds has left a thriving and well-organised practice vacant. Inquiries may be addressed to:

The Trust Department,  
N.Z. Insurance Co. Ltd.,  
Invercargill.