



Update on New Zealand standardised batch sheets for compounded oral liquid formulations – January 2023



HEALTH QUALITY & SAFETY
COMMISSION NEW ZEALAND
Kupu Taurangi Hauora o Aotearoa

The purpose of this update is to advise of four new standardised batch sheets for oral liquid formulations compounded in New Zealand (NZSOF) and one amendment to a current batch sheet.

Release of four new standardised batch sheets

The Compounding Working Group (CWG) is publishing four new NZ standardised batch sheets for oral liquid formulations:

- Lorazepam 1 mg/mL
- Melatonin 1 mg/mL
- Ondansetron 0.8 mg/mL
- Vancomycin 25 mg/mL NB: This is a different concentration to current Pharmac formula which is being phased out from 1 February 2023 – see further information below.

The batch sheets are now available on the [Pharmaceutical Society of New Zealand \(PSNZ\) website](#) and will be linked through from the relevant New Zealand Formulary (NZF) and New Zealand Formulary for Children (NZFc) monographs.

New standardised batch sheet for vancomycin

The new vancomycin standardised batch sheet for 25 mg/mL (using Ora-Sweet) will replace the previous Pharmac 50 mg/mL standard formula (using glycerol) and will be funded in the community from 1 February 2023. All dispensary/compounding leads should review and update their master batch sheets as necessary and ensure that all relevant staff are aware of any changes.

Amendment to current sildenafil standardised batch sheet

The sildenafil standardised batch sheet has been amended to remove the option of substituting with a sugar-free base. No issues have been reported but the available evidence uses the sugar-containing base. All dispensary/compounding leads should review and update their master batch sheets as necessary and ensure that all relevant staff are aware of any changes.

Brief background of standardised batch sheets and CWG

The CWG is a sub-committee of the Health Quality & Safety Commission's National Medication Safety Expert Advisory Group (NMSAG) and is made up of volunteer pharmacists with an interest in compounding (hospital, community and academic), PHARMAC and PSNZ representatives. This group writes and reviews NZSOF batch sheets.

NZSOF help to ensure consistent and best evidence-based information is available for pharmacists compounding these formulations and that the same concentration is prepared across all areas of the health sector to prevent medicine dosing errors occurring due to mix-ups.

The NZSOF are based on the best available evidence from recent/robust published studies. In situations where such evidence is weak or unavailable the recommendations are based on current best practice from New Zealand or overseas.

The NZSOF are hosted on the [PSNZ](#) website where you can also find '[general guidance on compounding oral liquids](#)' which addresses frequently asked questions about the batch sheets.

Kaajal Dijkstra (Chair), Chloë Campbell & Shaheeda Othman
on behalf of the Compounding Working Group, January 2023