

Dear Pharmacist

## We're introducing a reference price on oncology medicine

Where generic alternatives are available for cancer treatment paid from oncology benefits, we will be introducing a reference price across all plans within Discovery Health Medical Scheme from **January 2025**.

Reference pricing ensures compliance with best-priced interchangeable medicine making the Oncology Benefit more affordable for members while optimising Oncology Benefit use.

The reference price is the maximum amount we will pay for medicine within a specific, generically substitutable group of medicine. This will apply to oncology supportive medicine, chemotherapy and hormone therapy. We will communicate this change to members well before the implementation date.

### How we will cover oncology treatment in future

- We will continue to pay formulary items in full.
- Where the price of alternative generic equivalents within a medicine class exceeds the reference price, we will pay up to the maximum of the reference price.
- Depending on the chosen item, the member may have to pay the balance as a co-payment.

We will make a tool available to assist and support members with this change.

### How you will know that a reference price applies

You will recognise the items with reference prices as they will be flagged as below:

#### Pharmacy message

Paid item at the reference price.

#### Member statement message

We paid this item at the reference price. This claim will accumulate to the limit of your 12-month cycle. Once you've reached your cycle limit, we'll pay claims at 80% of the reference price.

#### Member statement message for KeyCare Plans


We have paid for this item at the Reference Price from your Oncology Benefit.

Please assist your customers who are Discovery Health Medical Scheme members with choosing cost-efficient options so they can limit or avoid co-payments.

If you need more information about how we pay for supportive cancer medicine, please do not hesitate to email us at [healthpartners@discovery.co.za](mailto:healthpartners@discovery.co.za).

Thank you for your continued partnership in caring for Discovery Health Medical Scheme members!

Regards



Suzanne van der Walt  
Manager: Pharmacy Contract and Network Strategy  
**Discovery Health**