
12 December 2007

Standing Offer Arrangements for the Supply of Imported Intravenous Immunoglobulin (IVIg)

The National Blood Authority (NBA) has established two Standing Offer arrangements for the supply of imported Intravenous Immunoglobulin (IVIg). IVIg is a critical plasma derived blood product for an increasing number of indications. Valued at over \$25m per year, the arrangements will continue to guarantee an adequate, safe and secure supply of this important blood product.

The first Standing Offer arrangement has been established with Octapharma Australia for the supply of Octagam for both the National Blood Supply (NBS) and Jurisdictional Direct Orders (JDO). These arrangements commenced on 1 December 2007. The NBS is covered by shared funding arrangements between the Australian Government and the State or Territory Governments. JDOs are funded by individual health providers or State or Territory jurisdictions directly. Octapharma was one of the suppliers under previous standing offer arrangements and has demonstrated a strong commitment to the Australian market through the provision of competitive blood products and associated services.

A second Standing Offer has been established with CSL Bioplasma for the supply of Sandoglobulin NF Liquid for JDO only and commences on 1 January 2008. CSL Bioplasma was also a supplier under previous standing offer arrangements and has a long record of commitment to Australia and the domestic manufacture and delivery of high quality blood products and associated services.

The Standing Offers, combined, satisfy all Jurisdictional Blood Committee (JBC) mandated parameters and offer Governments exceptional value for money and a range of significant improvements, including:

- a highly competitive price compared to current and forecast global prices;
- a choice of two imported products for JDO;
- the transfer of the overhead and risk for NBS inventory management from the NBA to the supplier;
- delivery to any Approved Recipient anywhere in Australia within 24 hours for urgent requirements; and

- the maintenance of a three month in-country reserve for NBS at the supplier's cost.

A copy of the deeds and other documentation associated with the operation of the new arrangements will be placed on the NBA website at www.nba.gov.au shortly. Ordering and delivery arrangements associated with the new Standing Offers will remain identical to those currently in place for the immediate future. Changes to these arrangements will be posted on the NBA website as they occur.

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