



Australian Government
Department of Health and Ageing

Ms Shelley Wilkins
Executive Director
Citizens Commission on Human Rights
PO Box 6402
North Sydney
NSW 2059

Dear Ms Wilkins

Thank you for your request for information on antidepressants subsidised under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) for the year ending 30 June 2008. The data requested is at Attachment A. Information on antidepressants subsidised under the Repatriation Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (RPBS) has also been included.

As requested, the age of patient has been calculated as the end of June 2008. Please note that clomipramine hydrochloride, which is listed under the 'Antidepressants' category of the PBS, is not approved for a PBS subsidy when used to treat depression. As such data on clomipramine hydrochloride has not been included in any of the information provided as part of this request.

In the year ending 30 June 2008, total expenditure on PBS/RPBS subsidised antidepressants for under 18 year olds was \$3.2m. This was 1.1% of the total PBS/RPBS expenditure on antidepressant drugs over the same period.

Yours sincerely

Stephen Dellar
Acting First Assistant Secretary
Pharmaceutical Benefits Division

Attachment A

Table 2 Continued

Drug name	Patient age	State								
		NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	TAS	NT	ACT	Australia
CITALOPRAM HYDROBROMIDE (cont.)	6 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	7 to 10 years	27	8	25	9	4	*	*	*	73
	11 to 15 years	131	92	131	55	63	4	*	23	499
	16 to 18 years	367	340	295	154	132	41	5	20	1354
	19 years+	50212	35399	33355	18169	14942	3808	717	2233	158835
	Age unknown	19	14	6	4	*	*	*	*	43
CITALOPRAM HYDROBROMIDE Total		50761	35853	33812	18391	15141	3853	722	2276	160809
DOTHIEPIN HYDROCHLORIDE	0 to 1 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	2 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	3 years	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	4 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	5 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	6 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	7 to 10 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	11 to 15 years	10	5	18	4	4	*	*	*	41
	16 to 18 years	21	23	38	10	14	*	*	*	106
	19 years+	15783	11498	14431	4393	5333	895	168	455	52956
	Age unknown	5	4	8	*	*	*	*	*	17
DOTHIEPIN HYDROCHLORIDE Total		15819	11530	14495	4407	5351	895	168	455	53120
DOXEPIN HYDROCHLORIDE	0 to 1 years	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2 years	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	3 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	4 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	5 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	6 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	7 to 10 years	*	*	4	*	*	*	*	*	4
	11 to 15 years	15	7	8	5	5	6	*	*	46
	16 to 18 years	33	16	12	9	8	*	*	*	78
	19 years+	17015	9785	8083	4424	3571	1870	88	518	45354
	Age unknown	7	7	*	*	*	*	*	*	14
DOXEPIN HYDROCHLORIDE Total		17070	9815	8107	4438	3584	1876	88	518	45496
DULOXETINE HYDROCHLORIDE (Ages not shown have 0 prescriptions)	19 years+	8	37	22	6	11	7	*	*	91
	Age unknown	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
DULOXETINE HYDROCHLORIDE Total		8	37	22	6	11	7	0	0	91
ESCITALOPRAM OXALATE	0 to 1 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	2 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	3 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	4 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	5 years	*	*	*	*	4	*	*	*	4
	6 years	*	4	*	*	*	*	*	*	4
	7 to 10 years	20	13	26	*	*	*	*	*	59
	11 to 15 years	108	71	157	17	68	7	*	10	438
	16 to 18 years	500	395	460	114	292	57	*	47	1865
	19 years+	37192	34823	32574	10583	20168	4078	235	1885	141538
	Age unknown	9	4	5	*	*	*	*	*	18
ESCITALOPRAM OXALATE Total		37829	35310	33222	10714	20532	4142	235	1942	143926

Attachment A

Table 2 Continued

Drug name	Patient age	State								
		NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	TAS	NT	ACT	Australia
FLUOXETINE HYDROCHLORIDE	0 to 1 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	2 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	3 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	4 years	6	*	5	*	*	*	*	*	11
	5 years	17	12	10	*	*	*	*	*	39
	6 years	21	20	20	*	6	*	*	*	67
	7 to 10 years	264	182	186	24	59	5	9	17	746
	11 to 15 years	1026	789	610	120	210	72	24	38	2889
	16 to 18 years	1350	1215	804	180	327	135	12	58	4081
	19 years+	33031	26080	21875	6050	10219	3922	274	1543	102994
Age unknown	12	5	4	*	*	*	*	*	21	
FLUOXETINE HYDROCHLORIDE Total		35727	28303	23514	6374	10821	4134	319	1656	110848
FLUVOXAMINE MALEATE	0 to 1 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	2 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	3 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	4 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	5 years	5	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	5
	6 years	5	4	10	*	*	*	*	*	19
	7 to 10 years	126	31	122	14	*	22	*	6	321
	11 to 15 years	488	170	468	51	50	107	*	16	1350
	16 to 18 years	597	311	562	108	105	110	5	30	1828
	19 years+	18877	14235	14096	5013	5140	2492	228	1096	61177
Age unknown	4	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	4	
FLUVOXAMINE MALEATE Total		20102	14751	15258	5186	5295	2731	233	1148	64704
IMIPRAMINE HYDROCHLORIDE	0 to 1 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	2 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	3 years	8	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	8
	4 years	6	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	6
	5 years	15	7	10	5	4	*	*	*	41
	6 years	34	15	15	9	11	*	*	*	84
	7 to 10 years	183	130	164	68	65	24	*	6	640
	11 to 15 years	262	177	211	89	115	23	7	7	891
	16 to 18 years	48	45	46	23	24	6	*	*	192
	19 years+	6136	4650	4614	2001	1643	748	46	282	20120
Age unknown	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
IMIPRAMINE HYDROCHLORIDE Total		6692	5024	5060	2195	1862	801	53	295	21982
LITHIUM CARBONATE	0 to 1 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	2 years	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	3 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	4 years	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	5 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	6 years	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	7 to 10 years	4	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	4
	11 to 15 years	49	18	8	*	13	*	*	6	94
	16 to 18 years	90	29	27	13	27	5	*	4	195
	19 years+	8828	7488	5093	2336	2499	590	87	480	27401

Attachment A

Table 2 Continued

Drug name	Patient age	State								
		NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	TAS	NT	ACT	Australia
LITHIUM CARBONATE (cont.)	Age unknown	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
LITHIUM CARBONATE Total		8971	7535	5128	2349	2539	595	87	490	27694
MIANSERIN HYDROCHLORIDE	0 to 1 years	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2 years	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	3 years	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	4 years	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	5 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	6 years	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	7 to 10 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	11 to 15 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	16 to 18 years	*	*	4	*	*	*	*	*	4
	19 years+	3430	1966	1864	322	476	115	4	45	8222
Age unknown	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
MIANSERIN HYDROCHLORIDE Total		3430	1966	1868	322	476	115	4	45	8226
MIRTAZAPINE	0 to 1 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	2 years	4	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	4
	3 years	6	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	6
	4 years	5	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	5
	5 years	*	*	4	*	*	*	*	*	4
	6 years	4	4	4	*	*	*	*	*	12
	7 to 10 years	31	6	36	6	5	*	*	*	84
	11 to 15 years	148	56	139	25	51	8	*	12	439
	16 to 18 years	447	339	348	126	207	38	*	27	1532
	19 years+	54283	46452	34010	14972	23094	5057	748	2651	181267
Age unknown	24	16	11	7	12	*	*	*	70	
MIRTAZAPINE Total		54952	46873	34552	15136	23369	5103	748	2690	183423
MOCLOBEMIDE	0 to 1 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	2 years	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	3 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	4 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	5 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	6 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	7 to 10 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	11 to 15 years	12	7	6	*	*	*	*	*	25
	16 to 18 years	43	34	32	7	4	11	*	*	131
	19 years+	8636	6469	5914	2461	1823	1112	129	535	27079
Age unknown	5	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	5	
MOCLOBEMIDE Total		8696	6510	5952	2468	1827	1123	129	535	27240
NORTRIPTYLINE HYDROCHLORIDE	0 to 1 years	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2 years	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	3 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	4 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	5 years	*	*	5	*	*	*	*	*	5
	6 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	7 to 10 years	8	*	18	*	*	*	*	*	26
11 to 15 years	22	*	42	*	*	*	7	*	71	

Attachment A

Table 2 Continued

Drug name	Patient age	State								
		NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	TAS	NT	ACT	Australia
NORTRIPTYLINE HYDROCHLORIDE (cont.)	16 to 18 years	20	12	11	*	5	*	*	*	48
	19 years+	4709	1588	1637	453	941	404	20	51	9803
	Age unknown	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
NORTRIPTYLINE HYDROCHLORIDE Total		4759	1600	1713	453	946	404	27	51	9953
PAROXETINE HYDROCHLORIDE	0 to 1 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	2 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	3 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	4 years	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	5 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	6 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	7 to 10 years	5	8	8	*	*	*	*	*	21
	11 to 15 years	39	24	36	11	15	8	*	*	133
	16 to 18 years	174	150	151	56	40	24	*	8	603
	19 years+	29060	27383	20655	9420	9325	3391	383	922	100539
Age unknown	7	4	4	*	4	*	*	*	19	
PAROXETINE HYDROCHLORIDE Total		29285	27569	20854	9487	9384	3423	383	930	101315
PHENELZINE SULFATE (Ages not shown have 0 prescriptions)	16 to 18 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	19 years+	387	186	128	73	180	54	*	13	1021
	Age unknown	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
PHENELZINE SULFATE Total		387	186	128	73	180	54	0	13	1021
REBOXETINE MESILATE	0 to 1 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	2 years	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	3 years	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	4 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	5 years	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	6 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	7 to 10 years	*	*	31	*	*	*	*	*	31
	11 to 15 years	13	*	84	*	8	*	*	*	105
	16 to 18 years	41	23	47	11	38	4	*	4	168
	19 years+	4748	4025	3763	1764	3708	514	38	305	18865
Age unknown	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
REBOXETINE MESILATE Total		4802	4048	3925	1775	3754	518	38	309	19169
SERTRALINE HYDROCHLORIDE	0 to 1 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	2 years	5	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	5
	3 years	5	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	5
	4 years	*	6	4	*	*	*	*	*	10
	5 years	9	7	*	*	*	*	*	*	16
	6 years	11	10	14	*	*	*	*	*	35
	7 to 10 years	123	83	134	8	20	4	4	5	381
	11 to 15 years	649	385	534	75	146	48	8	27	1872
	16 to 18 years	1069	1000	894	308	302	138	12	50	3773
	19 years+	73780	66061	50783	22016	20940	7359	1096	2711	244746
Age unknown	35	24	14	13	4				90	
SERTRALINE HYDROCHLORIDE Total		75686	67576	52377	22420	21412	7549	1120	2793	250933

Table 2 Continued

Drug name	Patient age	State								
		NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	TAS	NT	ACT	Australia
TRANLYCYPROMINE SULFATE	0 to 1 years	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	3 years	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	4 years	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	5 years	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	6 years	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	7 to 10 years	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	11 to 15 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	16 to 18 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	19 years+	647	530	319	89	80	80	*	34	1779
Age unknown	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
TRANLYCYPROMINE SULFATE Total		647	530	319	89	80	80	0	34	1779
VENLAFAXINE HYDROCHLORIDE	0 to 1 years	*	*	4	*	4	*	*	*	8
	2 years	5	*	5	*	*	*	*	*	10
	3 years	9	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	9
	4 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	5 years	6	4	5	*	*	*	*	*	15
	6 years	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	7 to 10 years	25	22	15	4	11	*	*	*	77
	11 to 15 years	148	101	159	26	40	9	*	5	488
	16 to 18 years	898	569	701	175	241	97	9	50	2740
	19 years+	87784	72737	65938	21252	27600	7442	1448	4131	288332
Age unknown	17	13	15	4	9	*	*	*	58	
VENLAFAXINE HYDROCHLORIDE Total		88892	73446	66842	21461	27905	7548	1457	4186	291737
Grand Total		457605	367614	316740	130818	146447	45014	6011	19648	1489897

(1) 'Age unknown' is where the Departments administrative systems do not contain enough information to accurately determine a patient's age.

(2) Patient State/Territory is the first State/Territory of the patient in the year. If a patient moves within a year then the data reflects their initial State/Territory.

(3) 'Grand Total' is not equal to the sum of individual drug totals as patients may have accessed more than one drug during the year. 'Grand Total' is a unique count of patients.

* indicates that a table cell was 3 or less and has been suppressed for confidentiality reasons. Suppressed cell values have not been included in totals.