



6 April 2023

1st May for Trikafta PBS listing

Today we can celebrate progress for the CF community. The Minister for Health, the Honorary Mark Butler, has announced that Trikafta will be subsidised on the PBS from 1st May 2023, for 6-11-year-olds with at least one F508del mutation.

There are more than 500 Australian children that will benefit from this monumental announcement.

We know in recent weeks it has been an emotional roller-coaster with the unexpected referral back to the PBAC in the March meeting regarding the compliance and adherence metrics. Today we can be assured that soon more people will be eligible for Trikafta.

Thank you to everyone in the CF community, including the Federation Members, who have been advocating relentlessly to help drive this outcome, and everyone who wrote to their local member.

Your voice has been heard.

Thank you as well to the Health Minister, the Department of Health, and Vertex Pharmaceuticals for accelerating these discussions. This was our request. Thank you.

In the December 2022 PBAC minutes it was clear that Trikafta was not on an accelerated pathway, unlike the Trikafta listing last year in 2022 for the older age group. We were deeply worried it could be 6 months or longer until Trikafta would be subsidised. While there have been frustrating delays, it is good news that soon eligible 6-11-year-olds will not have to wait any longer.

May 1st cannot come soon enough!

We recognise while this is positive progress, there is still a long way we need to go to ensure everyone can have access to effective therapies and this includes people with rare mutations, people who are not eligible for current therapies, or who do not respond to modulators. No one is forgotten. Our advocacy work continues in this space, alongside our investment in research and clinical and quality care to ensure the best outcomes for all Australians living with cystic fibrosis.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jo Armstrong". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jo Armstrong
CEO
Cystic Fibrosis Australia