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Open Letter to Australian Cystic Fibrosis Patient Groups: 27 March 2022

Today is a landmark day for Australians living with cystic fibrosis (CF). On Sunday, the Minister for Health and Aged Care, The Hon. Greg Hunt MP, announced that from 1st April 2022, Trikafta® (elexacaftor/tezacaftor/ivacaftor and ivacaftor) would be listed on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) for people living with CF ages 12 years and older, with at least one F508del mutation in the CFTR gene. This is an incredible achievement, and we thank the Australian government for recognising the significant need for Trikafta and the value it brings to Australians living with CF.

From the time we made our first submission to the PBAC more than 12 months ago Vertex has been advocating for PBS-funded access to Trikafta for *all* 2,200 Australians who are eligible. We are therefore pleased that *every eligible patient* who could benefit from Trikafta is now included in this PBS listing.

While Trikafta is the fourth treatment we have brought to Australians over the past eight years, our work does not stop with this PBS-listing. Vertex will seek to expand access to Trikafta for more of the CF community, including younger patients, as new data emerges. Vertex is committed to continue our investment into our clinical trials program, which includes sites throughout Australia. Our ambition is to discover and develop transformative medicines for all people with CF, regardless of genotype or age, with our end mission being to find a cure.

For now, let's reflect on this important announcement and the impact it will have on the lives of the 2,200 eligible Australians with CF, as well as their carers and families.

Kind regards

Sabrina Barbic, Senior Country Manager, Australia & New Zealand & the Vertex Team