

MEDI BRIEF

JUNE 2015

AGM feedback

The 46th Annual General Meeting held on 20 May 2015 was well attended. We would like to thank all members who were present as well as those who submitted their proxies. We are pleased to have received positive feedback from members during the meeting.

The Chairman stated that the Scheme had performed well during the period under review and had again operated in line with budget.

Clare Demetriou, Carol Dixon and Lin Sanford were duly elected as members of the Disputes Committee for the ensuing year and the Chairman thanked Jaco Henning for making himself available during the last term.

KPMG was appointed as the Scheme's audit firm for 2015/6 and the Chairman thanked Deloitte for their service to the Scheme.



The new Board elected its Chairman and Vice-Chairman at the Board of Trustees meeting following the AGM, and we are pleased to introduce them to you in this issue.



Chairman – Colleen C Elliott

Colleen is the Anglo American Head of Human Resources SA. She has filled this role since 2009. Prior to this, she held a number of senior management positions in the Human Resources Department with Anglo American, focusing on reward and employee benefits. Colleen is the Principal Officer of all retirement funds administered by the Johannesburg Corporate Office, as well as a Trustee of several external retirement funds. She has been an employer appointed Trustee at Anglo Medical Scheme since 2010.



Vice-Chairman – Darren Ghavalas

B.Sc (Hons) University of Witwatersrand, B.Com Acc (Hons) University of Natal, CA (SA), CFP ®
After completing his articles with KPMG in 2000, Darren joined Sasol Limited, holding various roles in the financial reporting environment before being appointed General Manager Finance of Sasol Solvents. He was involved in various committees in the group, and served as an employer-appointed Trustee of the Sasol Pension Fund and as a member of its operations and audit committees. In 2010 he joined Mondi Limited as Group Financial Controller, responsible for all aspects of group financial reporting. Darren has been an employer appointed Trustee at Anglo Medical Scheme since 2011.

Please join us in thanking Dave Barber (outgoing Chairman) and Medwyn du Bois (outgoing Vice-Chairman) for their leadership and valued contribution to the Scheme over many years. Both will continue to serve as Trustees for the next term bringing extensive experience to the Board.

Further change to the Board: James Liston will replace Joanna Stanley as an Alternate employer appointed Trustee.

Are generic medicines the same as the brand/originator drug?

Doctors and patients often question the comparative safety and effectiveness of generic replacement drugs versus their brand-name drugs.



What are generic drugs?

A generic drug refers to products with exactly the same active ingredient/s and salt combination, the same strength of the active ingredient/s, the same dosage form as the original brand-name drug, and the same quality and efficacy.

Are generic drugs as effective as brand-name drugs?

There are stringent regulations around the registration of generic medicine in South Africa. The South African Medicine Control Council (MCC) requires that generic drugs have the same high quality, strength, purity and stability as brand-name drugs. They also require post-registration testing and assurance of maintained stability and as such quality, safety and efficacy over the entire shelf-life period of the product. The MCC inspects the manufacturing and packaging facilities of generic companies for compliance to international standards. This means that generics sold in South Africa will comply with good manufacturing practices.

Why do generics cost less?

Creating a drug is very expensive. Since generic drug makers do not develop a drug from scratch, the costs to bring the drug to the market are less; therefore, generic drugs are usually less expensive than brand-name drugs. But remember, generic drug makers must show that their product performs in the same way as the brand-name drug.

What are the major differences allowed between a generic drug and a brand-name drug?

The generic drug can have a different shape, colour, coating or flavouring than the brand-name version.

How do I switch to a generic drug?

If you would like to save money by buying generic medicines instead of branded medicines, ask your doctor or pharmacist

if there are generic medicines that can be used to substitute your current medication. Any time you replace one medicine with another, for any reason, make sure you learn what the new medicine looks like and which branded medication it is replacing. This is important because it will help you avoid accidentally taking the same medicine twice (because the brand-name and generic pills look different).

Do non-prescription medicines also have brand- and generic names?

Yes. A medicine you buy without a prescription can be sold under many different brand names and many different store brands, even though it contains the same medicine. For example: Aspirin can be sold as Disprin® or Ecotrin®.

Visit www.angloms.co.za > Plans & Products > Standard or Managed Care Plan > Medicines to check which generics are available to you and at what cost.

Certificate of Existence

If you are a pensioner, you will soon receive a 'Certificate of Existence' form to complete. As you are not in regular contact with your employer any more, this process is necessary to ensure correct payment of claims and contributions for valid members only. Please complete it according to the requirements stated in the form and return it to us.

Visit www.angloms.co.za to learn more about your Scheme and benefits.

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