



12 May 2015

Osteoporosis Patients need PBS clarity ASAP

“Osteoporosis Australia is concerned about likely PBS budget cuts and what this could mean for the 1.2 million Australians suffering daily with osteoporosis”, said Gail Morgan, CEO of Osteoporosis Australia.

“New osteoporosis medicines are on their way and I do not want to see Australian patients denied access to the latest medicines that will stop bones breaking.

“Tonight the government has left industry and patients in limbo. We don’t know how the cuts will affect the launch of new medicines in Australia.

“We can’t have a situation where the Government pays rock bottom prices for new medicines and companies decide not to launch in Australia. That means patients either won’t have access to them or will have to re-mortgage their house to pay for them.

“Medicines are critical in the treatment of osteoporosis. 1.2 million Australians have osteoporosis and a further 6 million have poor bone health. Medicines help stop bones breaking, which cost the health system billions and are debilitating for patients.

“Osteoporosis Australia has been waiting for new osteoporosis medicines to be brought to Australian patients. They are critical. Our patients need choice and they need access.

“I encourage everyone to sit down, look at the patient impact and work out a fair deal.”

Contact: Gail Morgan, CEO, Osteoporosis Australia, phone 0412 926 348