

## URGENT PRODUCT RECALL

### SILICONE BARRIER CREAM 555

Because of microbial contamination, Douglas Pharmaceuticals Ltd (the distributor) is recalling SILICONE BARRIER CREAM 555 manufactured by Stevens-Chem Industries (NZ) Ltd.

If you have one of the following pack sizes, presentations and batch numbers, please contact the retailer from which the product was purchased or DOUGLAS PHARMACEUTICALS LTD Auckland at Phone (09) 837-5446 collect to arrange the return of your purchase for a refund.

Pack Size	Presentation	Batch
100g	tube	31801
400g	jar	31802
400g	jar	31803
400g	jar	32231
400g	jar	32232
100g	tube	32421
400g	jar	32422

The batch number is found embossed on the sealed end of the tube or printed on the label of the jar. If you have difficulty reading the number your local pharmacist will help.

This recall is issued after consultation with the Department of Health. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

*Ch-Ch Star*  
*29/8/90*

*Ch-Ch Star 2.9.90*

# Drop fees or else, GPs told

By Marta Steeman

**Doctors must now drop their fees for children and the elderly or they may face disciplinary action.**

Rises in Government subsidies for children, the elderly and the chronically ill took effect from Saturday and doctors are under obligation to pass them on to patients.

"You must see cheaper fees, otherwise it's a disciplinary matter," Jorgen Schousboe, chairman of the Christchurch General Practitioners' Guild said today.

The increased subsidies for children, the elderly and chronically ill mean that

- Visits for children under 5 years should be free or a few dollars. The fee should drop by \$13.
- Fees for children over five years should drop by \$8.
- Fees for the elderly and the chronically ill should drop by \$5.

"If anyone finds their fees have not been reduced by that amount they should contact the New Zealand medical Association's complaints officer, Dr John Elliott," Dr Shousboe said.

The new government subsidies were announced by the Government in the Budget as part of its strategy to make primary health care more affordable for those on lower incomes.

Subsidies for adults and beneficiaries (excluding the elderly) have not increased so their charges should not drop.

Meanwhile, the contract option offered by the Government appears not to have been taken up by any Christchurch doctors.

The contract fixes charges for adults at no more than \$10, at a maximum of \$5 for children over five, the elderly, chronically ill and beneficiaries, and makes visits for children under 5 free in return for giving doctors higher subsidies.

Two city practices have been seriously considering the contract option but have not yet signed up.

Don McLeod, owner of the New Regent Medical Centre, said he still had concerns about the permitted after-hours fees in the contract and about the amount of paperwork required.

Those concerns had to be satisfied before he signed, he said.

The Trade Union Medical Centre is now under a capitation contract to the Government where it receives a certain amount for each patient registered with it.

The centre's secretary, Philip Cheyne, said the centre was still waiting to see if there were to be increases in capitation payments. The centre would then have to judge whether it was better off under a capitation contract or the new contract option.

The NZMA has filed a High Court action challenging the Government's plans to place some doctors under contract.