Purpose
The purposes of this Circular are to inform the health industry that:
• The delegate of the Minister for Health and Ageing has made a determination giving effect to a new version of the Prostheses List (February 2006); and
• The February 2006 Prostheses List commences on 14 March 2006.

Variations from the previous Prostheses List – Part A
The February 2006 Prostheses List (Part A) contains the following changes:
• 210 products have been deleted at the request of the supplier (Attachment 3).
• 410 new products have been added; and
• Approximately 700 products have been changed at the request of the supplier (Attachment 4).

Variations from the previous Prostheses List – Part B (Human Tissues)
The February Prostheses List (Part B) contains the following changes:
• 4 new human tissues have been added;
• 10 human tissues have been deleted at the request of the supplier (Attachment 5); and
• 26 human tissues have been changed at the request of the supplier. (Attachment 6).

Gap permitted products
A list of the gap permitted products is set out at Attachment 7.

Corrections
Suppliers are asked to carefully check the listing of their new products and changes requested to previous listings, and report any errors to the PDC Secretariat as soon as possible. Advice of errors should be emailed to Prostheses@health.gov.au by no later than Tuesday 14 March 2006.

Any errors will be corrected in an amending determination that will be released on 1 April 2006 and will take effect from 15 April 2006.

Standard Freight and Loan Kit Costs
It should be noted that the cost of standard freight and loan kits is included in the benefits amounts for the following products:
• products that have been evaluated and grouped by Clinical Advisory Groups (ie cardiac stents, cardiac pacemakers and leads, cardiac defibrillators and leads, hip replacements, knee replacements and intraocular lenses);
• new products listed in February 2005;
• new products listed in August 2005; and
• new products listed in February 2006.
A field has been added to the Prostheses Database labelled “Freight/Loan Kit Fees Incl” to identify these products. If this field is checked, the cost of freight and loan kits has been included in the benefit amount/s for the product.

If this field is not checked, hospitals and health funds will need to check with the supplier whether the cost of freight or loan kits is included in the benefit amount/s. The field is visible in “Tables” and “Forms” views of the database.

Over time, as new products are added to the Prostheses List and benefit amounts for grandfathered products are negotiated, every product on the List will have freight and loan kit fees included in the benefit amount/s. Once that occurs, the field will be removed from the database.

**Choice of product**
The clinical choice of which product to use remains a matter between the doctor and the patient and it is not to be influenced by the manufacturer, supplier or health fund.

**New suppliers**
The following new suppliers have products listed on the Prostheses List:

- **Ackermann Australia Pty Ltd**
  Contact: Karin Krienke
  12 Famechon Road
  CHELSEA VIC 3196
  Ph: 03 9772 1755
  Fax: 03 9772 1756
  Email: kk@ackermann.com.au

- **Darco Australia**
  Contact: Amanda Hickey
  PO Box 28
  REGENTS PARK NSW 2143
  Ph: 02 8717 7991
  Fax: 02 8717 7999
  Email: amanda.hickey@optusnet.com.au

- **Edwards Medical Supplies**
  Contact: Eric Paulsen
  PO Box 3085
  NARELLAN NSW 2567
  Ph: 02 4647 1444
  Fax: 02 4647 9871
  Email: inmed@bigpond.net.au

- **Global Medical Solutions Australia Pty Ltd**
  Contact: Jason Beirne
  PO Box 115
  ARNCLIFFE NSW 2205
  Ph: 02 9567 4792
  Fax: 02 9012 0272
  Email: Jason.beirne@gms-aus.com

- **Sirtex Medical Limited**
  Contact: Dr Marius van den Berg
  Unit F6, Parkview
  Lane Cove Business Park
  16 Mars Road
  LANE COVE NSW 2066
  Ph: 02 9936 1431
  Fax: 02 9936 1404
  Email: mvandenberg@sirtex.com

- **Straumann Pty Ltd**
  Contact: Angela Young
  7 Gateway Court
  PORT MELBOURNE VIC 3207
  Ph: 03 9646 7060
  Fax: 03 9646 7232
  Email: angela.young@straumann.com

If you require further information please telephone: (02) 6289 9853/24 hr answering machine or email the enquiry to PrivateHealth@health.gov.au
Changing your e-mail address? No longer want circulars? Please notify Private Health Insurance Branch at PrivateHealth@health.gov.au