

Secretary of the Board
Patented Medicine Prices Review Board
Box L40
Standard Life Centre
333 Laurier Avenue West
14th Floor
Ottawa, Ontario
K1P 1C1

May 9, 2005

RE: Comments on *PMPRB Notice and Comment on Price Increases for Patented Medicines: Discussion Paper*

Thank you for the opportunity to comment upon questions raised throughout the document released in March 2005 entitled: *Price Increases for Patented Medicines: Discussion Paper*.

ALTANA Pharma supports the comments and feedback put forward by Rx&D™ in their submission.

The PMPRB has reported that patented medicine prices have been stable, however when rates of inflation (as measured by the cumulative CPI) are considered, prices have actually declined. We support a continuation of the balance between corporate objectives and consumer protection that was inherent in the establishment of the PMPRB and its mandate in 1987.

Kind regards,

Trish Petersen
Manager, Government and External Affairs
ALTANA Pharma

Cc: Wai-Man Kwan
Vice President, Regulatory and External Affairs
ALTANA Pharma Inc.

Marc Desmarais
Vice President, Federal Government Affairs
Rx&D™