MEMORANDUM

From: Director, CAH and Director, MPS a.i.  
To: Secretary, Expert Committee on the Selection and Use of Essential Medicines  
Date: 22 September 2010

Our ref:  
Attention:  
Your ref:  
Through:  

Originator: MM/km  
Subject: REVIEW OF OXYTOCIN FORMULATION IN WHO MODEL LIST

Reference is made to your memo of 7 May 2010 to Director, MPS and to earlier discussions between MPS and EMP on oxytocin formulations.

The WHO model list specifies oxytocin injection as 10 IU in 1-ml ampoule. Currently oxytocin is also available as a single use compact pre-filled autodisable device (Uniject) containing 10 IU in 1 ml. This packaging is reportedly more convenient to use routinely for prevention of postpartum haemorrhage.

Given the changing practices with wider availability of the compact pre-filled autodisable device we would be grateful if the Expert Committee would consider deletion of "in 1 ml ampoule" from the specification in the new WHO model list.

Dr Elizabeth Mason