MSD Merck Sharp & Dohme (Australia) Pty Limited ABN: 14 000 173 508 Level 1 - Building A, 26 Talavera Road Macquarie Park NSW 2113 North Ryde Post Business Centre Locked Bag 2234 North Ryde, NSW, 1670 T 02 8988 8000 F 02 8988 8001 msd-australia.com.au



Ms Ivone Johnson Executive Officer ANZBMS / ESA 145 Macquarie Street SYDNEY NSW 2000

5<sup>th</sup> April 2016

## Notice of cessation of supply of FOSAMAX® (alendronate sodium) 40 mg tablets

Dear Ms Johnson,

We would like to inform you that MSD have decided to discontinue the supply of FOSAMAX<sup>®</sup> 40 mg in Australia. It is anticipated that there will continue to be supply of these tablets in Australia until mid-2016 but this may change if there is a significant increase in demand.

The company's decision to discontinue FOSAMAX<sup>®</sup> 40 mg is based on the fact that current usage has declined to only 5% of former usage and it is no longer sustainable to continue to supply in Australia. Please note that there is no impact to the quality or safety of the tablets currently in use by patients. FOSAMAX<sup>®</sup> 40 mg can continue to be used until all stock is depleted or has expired.

MSD apologises for the difficulties that this decision may cause your members and their patients and appreciates the complex range of issues that may need to be managed with some patients, especially those with limited treatment alternatives.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact MSD on 1800 818 553.

Yours sincerely

Gary Jankelowitz Medical Director