

# May 2016 purchase price analysis

## Dispensing GPs and the PI rollercoaster ride



PI buying prices can be a rollercoaster ride for dispensing doctors, with better-than-pharmacy prices on offer during March and April – but before that there was a three-month hiatus for preferential GP prices, and before that a six month period in which pharmacies enjoyed the better pricing deals.

Generics' purchase price are more reliably skewed towards dispensing GPs, however – with better-than-pharmacy prices on offer since September 2015, Wavedata analysis shows.

May's risers and fallers have proved a mixed bag, with no products featuring particularly strongly in each. Possible exceptions are: two strengths each of aripiprazole, digoxin, pioglitazone and prednisolone GR tabs amongst the fallers and, among the rises, fexofenadine, isosorbide mononitrate and temazepam tabs, and fluconazole caps.

### Fallers

Metronidazole tabs 200mg x21 fell on average by 76 per cent as dispensing doctors saw a continuation of the price slide initiated by April's drug tariff reduction – from £11.66 to £1.55. Almost all suppliers now sell at less than £1 with the best prices on offer from Munro, Ethigen, B&S, Lexon, OTC Direct, DE and Numark.

Trospium chloride Tabs 20mg x60 was similarly affected by a drug tariff reduction (from £18.35 to £5.78) in April, and prices slid as a result. Metronidazole prices also slumped, and offers are now generally above £5. The few offers below this level were from AAH, OTC Direct and Numark.

The drug tariff for pioglitazone tabs 30mg x28 has been stable since March at £34.99 and price slides have not been as extreme as for the other high fallers – although 49 per cent average reductions were available as manufactures and wholesalers cut prices. Prices below £10 were available to dispensing doctors and pharmacies from Eclipse, Mawdsleys, Ethigen, DE, Chemilines, Phoenix, Actavis and Numark.

### Risers

The dispensing GP price of isosorbide mononitrate tabs 40mg x56 rose dramatically in May as a number of suppliers increased prices to £20+. Good deals below £1 were, however, still available from Ethigen, Beta, DE, Mawdsleys, AAH, Eclipse, Amimed, Lexon, OTC Direct and Chemilines.

In May an NCSO price concession was granted to isosorbide mononitrate tabs 10mg x56 – and as a result, the market saw offers increase to up to £18.00. Low priced offers – of below £1 – were still available in May – from OTC Direct, Eclipse, Lexon, DE, Numark, Mawdsleys, Teva, AAH, Alliance and Numark.

Fluconazole caps 200mg x7 rose on average by 64 per cent as a number of suppliers increased their prices. Good offers below £1 were available from DE, Eclipse, Lexon, AAH and Alliance.

