

## Dispensing GPs smile at generics' price offers



Generics prices have been kind to dispensing GPs this Spring. In May GP generics prices were on average 24 per cent cheaper than those available to pharmacies, and PIs 2 per cent. Among the generics, levofloxacin tabs featured strongly among the purchase price fallers, as did pioglitazone and temazepam tabs. Among the risers, however, are ropinirole and fluvoxamine tabs. Cimetidine and moxonidine tabs have a foot in both camps, with packs of each showing purchase price rises and falls.

### Fallers

The dispensing GP naproxen tabs 500mg x28 price offer fell on average by 70 per cent in June as the English drug tariff fell to £1.22 and suppliers reduced prices to follow suit. Prices below £1.00 were available in June from Beta, Elite, OTC, AAH, Mawdsleys, Zecare, Ethigen and Teva.

June saw a 40 per cent reduction in the prices of levofloxacin tabs 250mg x5, led by Actavis. Offers below £1.00 were available from DE, Numark, Teva, Eclipse and Elite.

Reduction in the Drug Tariffs prices for pioglitazone tabs 15mg x28 prompted an average 34 per cent reduction in purchase prices. Offers below £5.00 remained in the market from Beta, Cavendish, Chemilines, Actavis, OTC Direct and Northwest Healthcare.

### Risers

The average price of isosorbide mononitrate Tabs 20mg x56 rose in June by 1879 per cent as an NCSO concession price was applied, and the number of market offers tracked by Wavedata reduced by almost a quarter. Stock priced at below £10.00 in June was available from Islestone, Lexon, Beta, DE and Pharmaceutical Direct, but this may not last.

Ropinirole tabs 5mg x84 rose by an average 1772 per cent in June due to the effect of one supplier confusing the market with an massively inflated out of stock price of well over £100. However, deals of below £10.00 were still available from Lexon, Ethigen, DE, Eclipse, Beta, Mawdsleys, OTC Direct and Alliance.

Similarly inflated prices were also seen for ropinirole tabs 2mg x84. However the rest of the supplier market failed to take the bait and good prices of below £5.00 were still on offer from Ethigen DE, Lexon, OTC Direct, Mawdsleys, Alliance and Eclipse.