

Extended data reveals quiet December

With important new generics entering the marketplace all the time, our 'fast movers' table was beginning not to reflect accurately what was going on in the market. As we start the New Year, this has been corrected with an overhaul of the table. Six new generics have been included for the first time, while room has been made for fluoxetine. The new products are clopidogrel, finasteride, losartan, pantoprazole, topiramate and venlafaxine in two presentations.

Space considerations mean, however, that other items have had to be dropped. No active ingredients have been removed as omissions have been restricted to excluding different strengths of the same ingredient. These will now appear in the 'biggest fallers' and 'biggest risers' tables should their price movements warrant their inclusion.

Enalapril is just such an example. The 20mg strength shows the

biggest average price fall in the 'fast movers' table (see Figure 1) with a 9% drop to £0.38 (US\$0.59). Meanwhile, 28-tablet packs of enalapril 2.5mg and 10mg appear in the 'biggest fallers' table (see Figure 2) with average price falls of 14% and 12% respectively.

In a quiet December, only sertraline 100mg, mirtazapine 30mg and citalopram 20mg among 'fast movers' had double-digit average price rises. The lowest price offered to independent pharmacists and dispensing doctors for mirtazapine also rose by 19% to £0.94.

This increase was relatively modest, however, compared with the average price increase for 100-capsule packs of gabapentin 100mg (see Figure 3). A 72% average price rise to £11.50 was partially reflected in a 15% uplift in the lowest price quoted in the market for the epilepsy treatment.

BIGGEST FALLERS				
Product/Strength/Pack size	Lowest price	Change (%)	Average price	Change (%)
Metformin tabs 500mg 28	£0.22	±0	£0.29	-26
Bendroflumethiazide tabs 2.5mg 28	£0.14	-22	£0.28	-19
Ciprofloxacin tabs 750mg 10	£0.60	-2	£1.55	-17
Enalapril tabs 2.5mg 28	£0.17	-15	£0.30	-14
Amiodarone tabs 100mg 28	£0.55	±0	£0.88	-14
Enalapril tabs 10mg 28	£0.24	+20	£0.33	-12

BIGGEST RISERS				
Product/Strength/Pack size	Lowest price	Change (%)	Average price	Change (%)
Gabapentin caps 100mg 100	£3.57	+15	£11.50	+72
Tamoxifen tabs 20mg 30	£2.32	+17	£5.69	+56
Clotrimazole cream 1% 20g	£0.49	±0	£0.90	+27
Prednisolone tabs 5mg 28	£0.23	+15	£0.53	+23
Bisoprolol tabs 10mg 28	£0.32	±0	£0.61	+21
Propranolol tabs 10mg 28	£0.16	±0	£0.29	+21

Figure 1 (below): Comparison between the periods 1-30 November 2010 and 1-31 December 2010 of the lowest and average UK trade prices of fast-moving generics. Each average price was calculated from at least 15 data points. Figure 2 (above) and Figure 3 (above right): Biggest changes recorded between the periods 1-30

November 2010 and 1-31 December 2010 in lowest and average UK trade prices of about 120 commonly-dispensed generics. The basket specifically excludes the 'fast movers' shown below, but includes other presentations of the same products. Each average price was calculated from at least 20 data points (Source - WaveData).

FAST MOVERS				
Product/Strength/Pack size	Lowest price	Change (%)	Average price	Change (%)
Alendronate tabs 70mg 4	£0.35	+17	£0.60	+7
Amlodipine tabs 10mg 28	£0.24	-4	£0.36	-5
Carvedilol tabs 12.5mg 28	£0.46	±0	£0.61	-2
Ciprofloxacin tabs 500mg 10	£0.26	+4	£0.39	-1
Citalopram tabs 20mg 28	£1.10	±0	£5.43	+17
Clarithromycin tabs 250mg 14	£1.02	±0	£1.55	+7
Clopidogrel tabs 75mg 30	£1.34	+13	£1.71	-5
Enalapril tabs 20mg 28	£0.25	-4	£0.38	-9
Finasteride tabs 5mg 28	£1.00	+1	£1.29	-1
Fluoxetine caps 20mg 30	£0.28	-3	£0.61	-8
Fosinopril tabs 20mg 28	£1.45	±0	£1.86	-4
Glimepiride tabs 4mg 30	£0.61	±0	£0.93	+4
Lamotrigine tabs 100mg 56	£2.37	+49	£3.38	-8
Lansoprazole caps 15mg 28	£0.44	±0	£0.56	-4
Lansoprazole caps 30mg 28	£0.96	-3	£1.21	-4
Lisinopril tabs 20mg 28	£0.34	±0	£0.50	-1
Losartan tabs 50mg 28	£0.52	-2	£0.87	-2
Losartan tabs 100mg 28	£0.62	-5	£1.06	±0
Metformin tabs 500mg 84	£0.52	±0	£0.78	-6
Mirtazapine tabs 30mg 28	£0.94	+19	£1.43	+14
Omeprazole caps 10mg 28	£0.59	-2	£0.97	+3
Omeprazole caps 20mg 28	£0.75	±0	£1.00	-4
Ondansetron tabs 4mg 30	£2.75	-7	£4.71	+2
Pantoprazole tabs 20mg 28	£0.44	-2	£0.86	-3
Paroxetine tabs 20mg 30	£0.92	-3	£1.41	±0

FAST MOVERS				
Product/Strength/Pack size	Lowest price	Change (%)	Average price	Change (%)
Pravastatin tabs 40mg 28	£1.39	+8	£1.93	+5
Ramipril caps 10mg 28	£0.54	-4	£0.70	-1
Risperidone tabs 2mg 60	£0.77	-1	£1.60	+5
Sertraline tabs 100mg 28	£0.75	+7	£1.28	+10
Simvastatin tabs 10mg 28	£0.17	±0	£0.22	+3
Simvastatin tabs 20mg 28	£0.22	±0	£0.28	-2
Simvastatin tabs 40mg 28	£0.39	-3	£0.48	-4
Sumatriptan tabs 50mg 6	£0.70	-3	£0.95	+3
Tamsulosin caps 400µg 30	£0.78	+1	£1.14	+1
Terbinafine tabs 250mg 14	£1.05	-4	£1.34	-6
Topiramate tabs 50mg 60	£1.89	±0	£4.14	-3
Topiramate tabs 100mg 60	£3.04	-6	£6.06	-6
Venlafaxine tabs 37.5mg 56	£1.82	±0	£2.70	-5
Venlafaxine XL caps 75mg 28	£0.72	+11	£1.41	+4
Venlafaxine XL caps 150mg 28	£1.79	+23	£2.55	+2

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