

PRICE WATCH UK

Pioglitazone price rise persists

Average prices for pioglitazone tablets experienced a sharp rise in the UK during January, according to the latest figures provided by WaveData. Comparing UK trade prices between the periods 1-31 December 2015 and 1-28 January 2016, average prices for 28-tablet packs of pioglitazone 15mg tablets increased by almost four times to £19.44 (US\$27.72). And increases of more than three times were seen for the 30mg and 45mg strengths, also in packs of 28 tablets, based on averages calculated from at least 45 data points.

Price concessions for pioglitazone had previously been granted by the UK's Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee (PSNC) in December, and all three strengths again appeared on the list of price concessions in January. For the 15mg strength, the concession of £25.83 would have given pharmacists a 25% dispensing margin at average trade prices, while the price concessions of £35.89 and £39.55 for the 30mg and 45mg strengths respectively would have generated margins of 22% and 21% based on average trade prices of £27.84 and £31.38. **G**

Up to the minute live retail market pricing is available for the UK and Eire on Wavedata Live at wavedata.net.

Alternatively, contact Charles Joynson at WaveData Limited, UK.Tel: +44 (0)1702 425125. E-mail: cjoynson@wavedata.co.uk.



5 February 2016

PRICE WATCH UK

Olanzapine UK prices tumble

Average prices for olanzapine orodispersible tablets through UK independent pharmacies fell by between just over a third and slightly more than two-fifths this month, dependent on strength, according to the latest figures provided by WaveData.

Comparing UK trade prices between the periods 1-31 January 2016 and 1-15 February 2016, average prices of 28-count packs of olanzapine 10mg and 20mg orodispersible tablets each fell by just over 41% to £1.00 (US\$1.45) and £1.64 respectively. A similarly-sized pack of the 15mg strength declined by 34.0% to £1.46, based on averages calculated from at least 16 data points.

Average trade prices for 28-count packs of ampicillin 500mg capsules more than trebled, while prices for aspirin 75mg enteric-coated tablets in 28-count and 56-count packs more than doubled.

A 66.2% increase to £14.49 in the average cost to pharmacists of 60-tablet packs of cimetidine 400mg was reflected in the Department Health granting a February price concession of £19.99. **G**

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PRICE WATCH UK

Trimethoprim prices settling

Average prices for trimethoprim 50mg/5ml suspension in a 100ml presentation and trimethoprim 100mg tablets in 28-count packs fell by more than half and almost two-fifths respectively this month, according to the latest figures provided by WaveData.

Comparing UK trade prices between the periods of 1-31 January 2016 and 1-22 February 2016, the 50mg/5ml suspension presentation saw its average fall by 56.8% to £1.79 (US\$2.53) – based on averages calculated from at least 20 data points – while the lowest available price remained virtually unchanged at £1.13.

Meanwhile, the 100mg trimethoprim tablets saw their average price drop by 39.6% to £0.90 as the lowest available price offer remained the same as in January, at £0.40.

Trimethoprim prices had a year ago experienced some of the highest-ever monthly price rises, with the average price for a 28-tablet pack of the 100mg strength standing at £4.18 in February 2015 (*Generics bulletin*, 13 March 2015, page 23).

Meanwhile, average trade prices for 28-count packs of ampicillin 500mg capsules continued to experience a sharp rise, with the average price of £15.78 representing more than treble the average price in January of £4.69. However, the lowest available price for the antibiotic treatment remained unchanged at £1.76. **G**

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