

WaveData

COMMERCIAL BULLETIN

As always, please contact us if you require further information or if we can be of further assistance in product/products you would like to see in our database.

**If this is of interest to you, or you have preferences on what products you would like to see please email:
bulletin@wavedata.co.uk**



BREXIT: MORE THAN 2,000 MEDICINES FACE WITHDRAWAL FROM NI

More than 2,000 medicines are set to be withdrawn from Northern Ireland due to the NI Protocol, a pharmaceutical trade association has warned. The British Generic Manufacturers Association (BGMA) said its members have been forced to put the drugs on “notice of withdrawal from Northern Ireland” after the UK government and European Union failed to reach agreement on the smoother flow of pharmaceutical product from GB to Northern Ireland. It said that under the current rules – the Northern Ireland protocol – different medicine regulations are required for the same drugs being supplied to GB than those supplied to Northern Ireland, which is treated as part of the EU.

As a result, exporters of drugs to Northern Ireland from GB would require extra warehousing, laboratory testing and technical specialists in the province; a situation would eat into slim profit margins and could make the process unviable.

To read more:

<https://www.business-live.co.uk/manufacturing/gb-pharmaceutical-manufacturers-ready-halt-21128491>

SUBSTANTIAL FINES ON PHARMA FIRMS FOR OVERCHARGING THE NHS

The CMA has imposed fines totalling over £260 million for competition law breaches in relation to the supply of hydrocortisone tablets. Prices of life-saving hydrocortisone tablets rose by over 10,000%.

Pharma firms are alleged to have bought off potential rivals to avoid them competing with their own versions of the drug and preserve their ability to increase prices.

Tens of thousands of people in the UK depend on hydrocortisone tablets to treat adrenal insufficiency, which includes life-threatening conditions such as Addison's disease.

To read more:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/cma-finds-drug-companies-overcharged-nhs>

A NEW EIRE MEDICAL CANNABIS ACCESS PROGRAMME IS NOW IN PLACE

The Irish Ministry of Health has announced a new Medical Cannabis Access Programme (MCAP) is operational as of July 2021. In addition, patients obtaining medical cannabis under Ministerial approval will now have their products directly reimbursed by the government. However, access to medical cannabis in Ireland still lags far behind other European countries. Ireland maintains one of the more restrictive systems for access to medical cannabis products. With the announcement of the new Medical Cannabis Access Programme, Ireland now has three routes which together offer limited access to medical cannabis products, with less than 100 patients likely having access to such products at the time of writing.

To read more:

<https://prohibitionpartners.com/2021/07/23/medical-cannabis-access-progresses-in-ireland/>

'UNTREATABLE' SUPERBUG SPREADING BETWEEN HOSPITALS AND CARE HOMES IN US

Health experts are concerned about a potentially deadly fungus that can be spread from person to person and from contaminated surfaces which has travelled from one US city to another. The strange fungus has not responded to any medication and doctors fear it may be untreatable, it's called Candida auris, and the fungus is a harmful type of yeast that is considered dangerous to hospital and nursing home patients who have serious medical problems. It is spread from patient to patient through direct contact or from contaminated surfaces and can become deadly once it enters the bloodstream, heart or brain.

To read more:

<https://www.mirror.co.uk/news/us-news/untreatable-superbug-spreading-between-hospitals-24599589>

50,000 DOCTORS ARE NEEDED

The NHS does not have enough doctors and will take 25 years to match average staff levels in Europe, according to the British Medical Association. Doctors are “working too hard”, becoming burnt out and “terrified of making mistakes, missing things, accidentally harming our patients or losing our livelihoods”, the report said. According to the research, there are 2.8 doctors across general practice and hospitals per 1,000 people in England, compared to an average of 3.7 in ‘similarly developed’ EU countries. Dr Latifa Patel, acting chairwoman of the BMA’s representative body, said: “It’s unforgivable that government has allowed the workforce crisis to get to this point.” She said the research suggested that the shortfall could top 80,000 by 2043, leaving England “woefully unprepared . . . to meet the healthcare challenges of the future. If this crisis is left to deepen, more patients will go without the care they need, their safety will be threatened and staff will be pushed to the limit like never before, driving yet more talented professionals out of the NHS.”

To read more:

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/doctor-shortage-will-take-25-years-to-fill-warns-bma-hnsds9q5h>

MERIDIAN BIOSCIENCE ACQUIRES OTSUKA AMERICA PHARMACEUTICAL

NEW YORK – Meridian Bioscience announced on Friday that it has inked a definitive agreement to acquire Otsuka America Pharmaceutical's North American BreathTek business for \$20 million in cash.

Under the agreement, Meridian will take over the customer relationships to supply BreathTek, a urea breath test for the detection of Helicobacter pylori. The Otsuka transaction is expected to close in Meridian's fiscal fourth quarter.

To read more:

<https://www.360dx.com/business-news/meridian-bioscience-acquires-otsuka-america-pharmaceutical-breathtek-business-20m#.YP7h2-hKhPZ>

LONG COVID BLOOD TEST

A blood test for long COVID could be only six months away after researchers from Imperial College London discovered distinct antibodies in patients with persistent symptoms.

Researchers found a pattern of rogue antibodies in the blood of a small number of people with long Covid.

Dr Elaine Maxwell, from the National Institute of Health Research, said the early findings were "exciting".

She said there could be "a number of different things happening after a Covid-19 infection" and an autoimmune response "has been one of the suspected mechanisms".

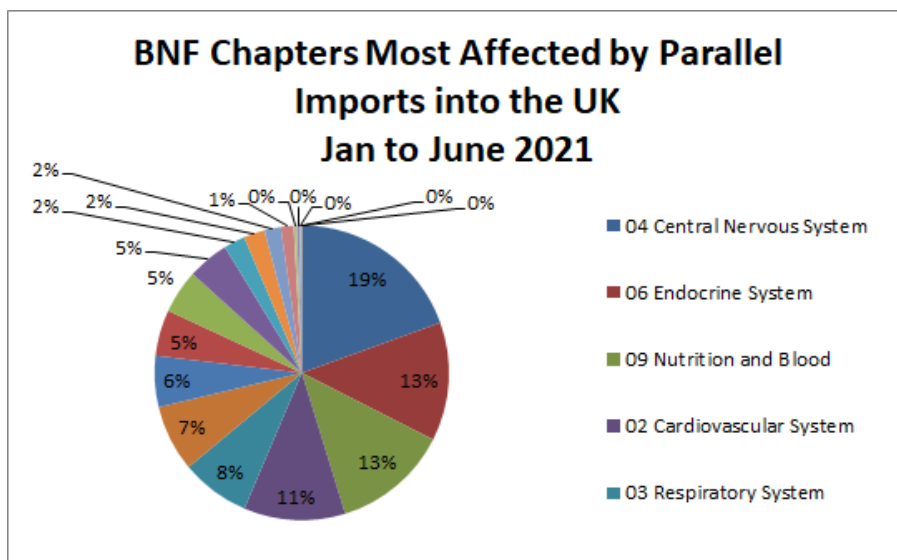
To read more:

http://www.pharmatimes.com/news/new_hope_for_long_covid_blood_tests_after_antibody_discovery_1373054?utm_campaign=emig+news+alert&utm_medium=email&utm_source=Emig+Newsletter

HOW HAS BREXIT CHANGED THE FLOW OF PARALLEL IMPORTS INTO THE UK AND WHICH PRODUCTS ARE AFFECTED?

In the six months to Dec 2020, 28 companies were seen to be actively selling parallel imports to pharmacies and dispensing doctors in the UK. Since the beginning of 2021, 34 companies have been active in providing PIs. The average PI price in the last six months of 2020 was £22.68, in the first six months of 2021 it was £21.79, so a slight decrease. The number of products on offer as PIs has increased slightly with 3149 in the last 6 months of 2020, and 3245 in the first six months of 2021. Looking at the products affected by parallel importation it appears that CNS products are disproportionately PI. These make up 19% of all the products being sold as PIs. This category is followed by Endocrine and Nutrition and Blood both with 13% each and Cardiovascular with 11%. As to the reason why CNS products are favoured for importation into the UK, it does look as if their higher unit prices may be the reason. CNS products average at £38.55 per pack, whilst cardiovascular products average £18.12. However this relationship is tempered by the importers' ease of access to stock, as Malignant Disease and Immunosuppression products have an average UK selling price of £51.61, but only make up 1% of the total.

This data came from our WaveData services.



BNF Chapter	Record Count	Percentage	Average £
04 Central Nervous System	18,930	19%	38.55
06 Endocrine System	12,651	13%	26.35
09 Nutrition and Blood	12,401	13%	9.35
02 Cardiovascular System	10,832	11%	18.12
03 Respiratory System	7,378	8%	20.44
20 Dressings	7,095	7%	18.75
13 Skin	5,454	6%	9.66
11 Eye	4,920	5%	8.96
01 Gastro-Intestinal System	4,648	5%	22.06
07 Obstetrics, Gynaecology and Urinary-Tract Disorders	4,413	5%	15.19
05 Infections	2,283	2%	10.81
10 Musculoskeletal and Joint Diseases	2,252	2%	11.04
12 Ear, Nose and Oropharynx	1,743	2%	7.12
08 Malignant Disease and Immunosuppression	1,377	1%	51.61
15 Anaesthesia	337	0%	23.13
19 Other Drugs and Preparations	307	0%	60.28
22 Incontinence Appliances	114	0%	28.23
21 Appliances	85	0%	31.02
14 Immunological Products and Vaccines	13	0%	61.01
Total	97233	100%	

PHILIP MORRIS TO BUY UK PRODUCER OF RESPIRATORY TREATMENTS

Tobacco group Philip Morris International has agreed to buy Vectura (VEC.L) for 1.05 billions pounds (\$1.44 billion), giving the U.S. firm access to the British drug maker's respiratory ailment treatments and inhaling device technology.

The move is the latest push by big tobacco companies to change their image following years of negative press for marketing and selling cigarettes.

Philip Morris aims to use Vectura's expertise with inhalable formulations and device design to produce a range of over-the-counter and prescription-based respiratory therapies, it said in a statement.

To read more:

<http://www.newsstalk.com/health-fitness/medicine/cigarette-maker-philip-morris-to-buy-uk-producer-of-respiratory-treatments/>

PRICE WATCH UK...

JUNE SEES UK IVABRADINE PRICES MORE THAN TREBLE

Ivabradine exhibited interesting pricing dynamics in the UK in June, with the average cost of the heart failure treatment more than trebling despite the lowest offer in the market remaining stable.

The sometimes unpredictable dynamics of the UK generics market were on display in June, as heart treatment ivabradine saw its average price more than treble despite the cheapest available offer in the marketplace remaining unchanged, according to the latest figures from market researcher WaveData.

Ivabradine 7.5mg tablets topped our table of Biggest Risers for June, with the 56-tablet presentation's average price jumping by 245% to £14.74 (\$20.13), based on trade prices to UK independent pharmacists.

To see more go to <https://generics.pharmaintelligence.informa.com/> and view our article from this month's Generics Bulletin.

WaveData

Subscribe to the industry's comprehensive source of news and analysis.

www.generics-bulletin.com

WAVEDATA — TOP TEN SEARCHED PRODUCTS - WHERE THE FOCUS WAS TO JULY 2021

According to WaveData, these were the most commonly investigated products in searches of the online pricing data Wavedata Live accessed through www.wavedata.co.uk/login.

Both UK and PI prices were viewed for each product, giving some indication of where the focus was to July 2021. WaveData prices in the top 20 articles are averages.

Product	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21	Jul-21
Sertraline Tabs 100mg 28	£3.12	£2.19	£1.81	£1.48
Lercanidipine Tabs 10mg 28	£1.10	£1.05	£2.24	£7.44
Sertraline Tabs 50mg 28	£1.74	£1.44	£1.25	£1.20
Metformin Tabs 500mg 28	£0.40	£0.36	£0.36	£0.32
Prednisolone Tabs 5mg 28	£0.46	£0.43	£0.68	£0.86
Atorvastatin Tabs 20mg 28	£0.65	£0.61	£0.60	£0.64
Folic Acid Tabs 5mg 28	£0.44	£0.42	£0.58	£0.79
Losartan Tabs 50mg 28	£0.71	£0.65	£0.68	£0.92
Paracetamol Caplets 500mg 100	£0.94	£0.90	£0.97	£1.06
Lercanidipine Tabs 20mg 28	£1.26	£1.25	£2.41	£8.46

This bulletin now goes out to 5000 plus people.

If you would like to add or suggest any articles/comments, please let me know by the 18th August 2021, as I will be issuing the next bulletin on the 25th August 2021.

If you have any colleagues who would like to receive this, please let them know about it. You can view all copies of the Bulletin at <https://www.wavedata.co.uk/kb/>

Jackie Moss

WaveData Ltd

E-mail: bulletin@wavedata.co.uk

Twitter @wavedata

LinkedIn:<https://www.linkedin.com/company/wavedata-ltd/>



FUTURE EVENTS

Organizer	Date	Venue	Link or Email
2nd Inhaled Drug Delivery 2021	5th - 6th Aug 21	Online	https://qepler.com/events/2nd-inhaled-drug-delivery-summit-2021.html
The Future of Community Pharmacies: Playing a Central Role in UK Healthcare Provision & Addressing Financial Pressures	24th Aug 21	Online	https://www.publicpolicyexchange.co.uk/book.php?event=LH24%e2%80%93PPE&ss=em&tg=1c
What EU HTA Regulation means for companies - Putting things into perspective	7th Sept 21	Online	https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/3612243559220839436?source=EMIG
WHF policy conference - delivering social prescribing - progress, integration, funding, scaling up, COVID-19 recovery	7th Sept 21	Online	https://www.westminsterforumprojects.co.uk/book/Social-Prescribing-21
WHF policy conference - urgent & emergency care in England - service transformation, patient care, efficiency, learning from the COVID-19 response	14th Sept 21	Online	https://www.westminsterforumprojects.co.uk/book/Urgent-and-emergency-care-in-England-2021
BioForward 2021	23rd Sept 21	Oxford	www.bioforward.co.uk
UK Supply Chain & Logistics Expo	23rd Sept 21	Milton Keynes	https://www.supplychainandlogisticsexpo.com/
Pharmapack Online Conference & Networking	27th Sept - 15th Oct 21	online	http://ow.ly/j1ch50FEokS
WHF policy conference - Priorities for cancer care - service restoration and transformation, supporting innovation, and opportunities for improving patient outcomes	30th Sept 21	Online	https://www.westminsterforumprojects.co.uk/book/Cancer-Care-21
The Making Pharmaceuticals 2021	5th - 6th Oct 21	Coventry	https://www.makingpharma.com/
WHF policy conference - pharmacy services in England - integration, service delivery, public health, learning from COVID-19	12th Oct 21	Online	https://www.westminsterforumprojects.co.uk/book/The-future-for-pharmacy-services-in-England-2021
Paris Expo, Porte de Versailles	13th - 14th Oct 21	Paris	http://ow.ly/k25450FEonU
WHF policy conference - Utilising data within health and social care - discussion relevant to pharma	20th Oct 21	Online	https://www.westminsterforumprojects.co.uk/book/Data-In-Health-21
WHF policy conference - priorities for clinical research in the UK - discussion relevant to pharma	2nd Nov 21	Online	https://www.westminsterforumprojects.co.uk/book/Clinical-Research-21
WHF policy conference - Next steps for integrated care - discussion relevant to pharma	8th Nov 21	Online	https://www.westminsterforumprojects.co.uk/book/Integrated-Care-21
Future Surgery 2021	9th - 10th Nov 21	London	https://www.futuresurgeryshow.com/conferenceprogramme
HDA Annual Conference	14th Nov 21	London	https://hdauk.com/