



The Bulletin

June 2026

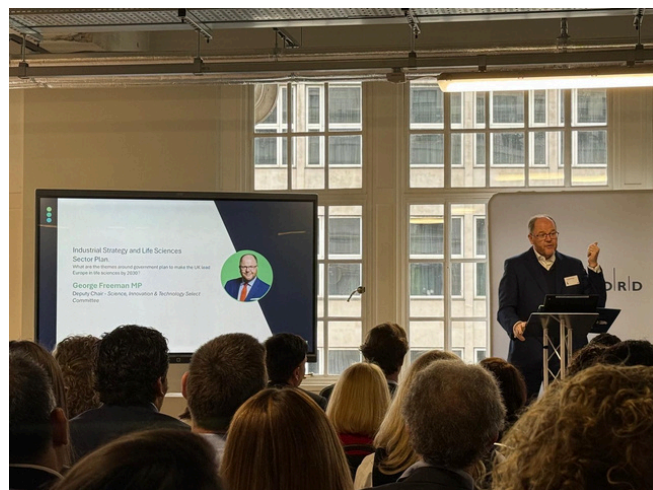
We enjoyed attending 2026 PING Conference earlier this month. The theme for the event was Britain's Life Sciences Strategy: How will the UK lead Europe by 2030?

The attendees were treated to 9 sessions covering UK Manufacturing, Rare Disease Innovation, Export Opportunities, Genomics, the NHS and the US/UK Deal, plus an update from MHRA. The event was full of positivity, let's hope that translates to the sector as a whole.

We hope you enjoy this issue of the Bulletin, and please do follow us on Linked In for more news and commentary.

Jackie Moss

Editor



George Freeman MP kicked off this year's PING Conference, highlighting the UK's strengths in the global life sciences landscape

WAVEDATA'S PICK OF THIS MONTH'S TOP NEWS STORIES

- Health conditions that can be affected by the heat
- GSK to acquire Cambridge based Nuvalent
- Pricewatch UK – Sumatriptan Surge Drives UK Price Rises In May
- Can the UK manage supply problems with the EU's 'safety belt'?
- Generic Single-Dose Flu Antiviral gets approval
- HPV jab cuts risk of cervical cancer death
- Charles Joynson, WaveData MD, Price and Popularity
- NHS spends £574m on Mounjaro
- Top 10 prescribed drugs revealed
- WaveData Top Ten Branded Product Searches
- WaveData Top Ten Generic Product Searches
- Future Industry Events

Health conditions that can be affected by the heat

With temperatures potentially reaching up to 40C, this can be unpleasant for anyone. But for those with certain health conditions, they can pose a more serious threat.

Several studies show that people with chronic diseases – for instance, cardiovascular, respiratory, metabolic and neurological conditions – are more likely to visit the emergency department or die during a heat wave.

In some cases, that's because people with underlying health conditions may be more susceptible to heat exhaustion or heatstroke because certain body systems such as the heart, kidneys and nerves are not functioning optimally.

Conditions that research suggests are most commonly or severely aggravated by heat, and how to manage flare-ups this summer are Arthritis, Kidney stones and kidney disease, Asthma and COPD, Lupus, Diabetes, Multiple sclerosis, Heart disease, Migraine & Depression and anxiety

Source: The Washington Post

The Washington Post

GSK to acquire Cambridge based Nuvalent

GSK agreed to acquire Nuvalent for \$10.6 billion, securing two near-approval cancer therapies that could challenge products from Roche, Pfizer and other drugmakers.

The FDA is set to rule on whether to approve Nuvalent's ROS1 inhibitor zidesamtinib in September and reach a decision on the biotech's ALK inhibitor neladalkib in November. With two near-approval assets, plus a phase 1 HER2 inhibitor and preclinical programs, the deal offers near-term growth drivers to ease the pressure GSK could face as generics erode sales of a key HIV drug from 2028 to 2030.

If zidesamtinib or neladalkib wins FDA approval, the deal will accelerate GSK's entry into lung cancer and provide a potential launchpad for its B7-H3 antibody-drug conjugate (ADC) risvutatug rezetecan. GSK started a phase 3 trial of the ADC in small cell lung cancer last year.

Source: Fierce Biotech



Pricewatch UK – Sumatriptan Surge Drives UK Price Rises In May

Generic sumatriptan 50mg and 100mg tablets saw their average UK trade prices increase by more than five times in May, leading a raft of triple-digit rises that also included multiple presentations of digoxin.

While our monthly table of Biggest Risers – showcasing those molecules with the steepest average monthly price rises, based on UK trade prices to independent pharmacists – can sometimes be a close-knit bunch, WaveData’s figures for May show two presentations of sumatriptan as being way ahead of the rest of the pack.

According to the market researcher’s data, the price for packs of six tablets of the 50mg strength rose by 470% on average to £4.96 (\$6.56) in May, while the 100mg version experienced a 434% average rise to £6.35 following its 188% leap in April.

“The 50mg was subject to a [Department of Health and Social Care] concession of £5.85 on May 22,” WaveData noted, “whereby the 100mg April concession of £1.10 rolled over to May, this was amended to £5.20 on the 28th.”

Source: Generics Bulletin

GENERICS BULLETIN
CITELINE COMMERCIAL

Can the UK manage supply problems with the EU’s ‘safety belt’?

Pharmacy leaders are hopeful that the Critical Medicines Act will help to alleviate medicines shortages in the UK.

On 11 May 2026, the EU Council and the European Parliament agreed measures that could set into law a raft of new approaches to improving medicines supply across the EU.

The Critical Medicines Act, awaiting formal approval at the time of going to press, includes measures to encourage EU-based manufacturing of pharmaceuticals and active pharmaceutical ingredients, aimed at making it easier for member states to work together to procure medicines. The legislation will oblige public procurement to consider valuing the diversity of a manufacturer’s supply chain over price when purchasing critical medicines.

Source: The Pharmaceutical Journal

the
PHARMACEUTICAL JOURNAL

Generic Single-Dose Flu Antiviral gets approval

The FDA has approved the first generic version of Xofluza (baloxavir marboxil) tablets, a single-dose oral treatment for acute uncomplicated influenza, just ahead of the 2026–2027 flu season.

The original branded product has been available since 2018 as a one-time dose alternative to multi-day antiviral regimens. With this approval, Norwich Pharmaceuticals becomes the first company authorised to market a generic equivalent.

The generic is indicated for two uses, treatment of acute uncomplicated influenza in patients aged 5 and older who have been symptomatic for no more than 48 hours, and post-exposure prophylaxis in patients in the same age group following contact with someone diagnosed with influenza. The drug is intended for patients who are either otherwise healthy or at elevated risk for influenza-related complications.

Source: Pharmtech



HPV jab cuts risk of cervical cancer death

Women who received an HPV vaccination as young adolescents have almost zero risk of dying from cervical cancer before the age of 30, new research has revealed.

Between 2020 and 2024, there were no deaths from cervical cancer in women aged 20 to 24 in England. Cancer Research UK said the findings were "an incredible milestone".

The study, funded by Cancer Research UK and published on 17th June, analysed cervical cancer mortality data for 2001 to 2024 among women in England aged 20 to 34.

It found that in vaccinated women aged 20 to 29, the relative risk reduction for death from cervical cancer was estimated to be 100%, falling to 63% for 30- to 34-year-olds.

Source: Chemist & Druggist



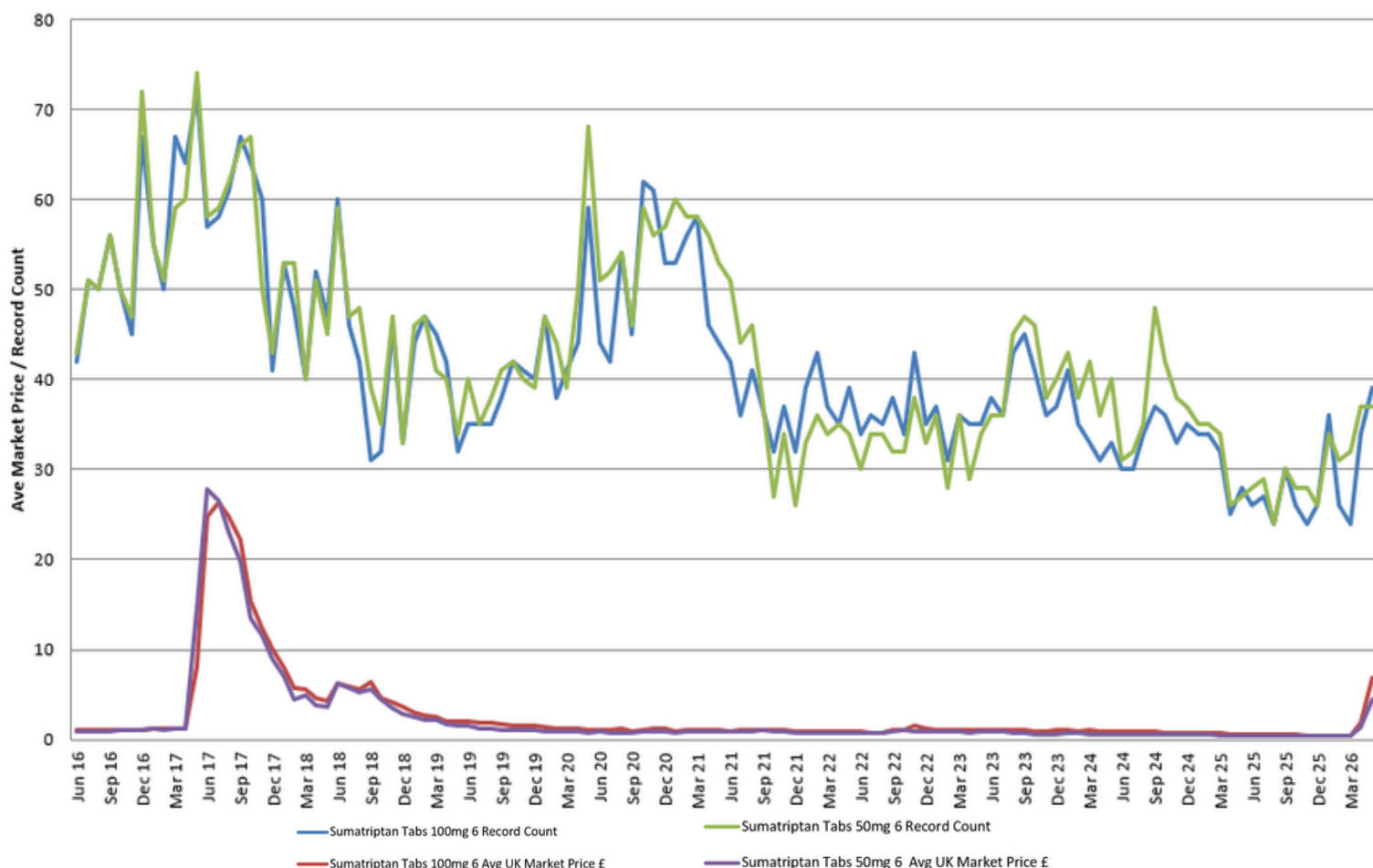
Price and Popularity

It occurred to us here at WaveData, there may be a relationship between the low prices which sometimes warn of future price rises, potential shortages and a reduction in the number of suppliers selling a product.

Two packs of Sumatriptan Tablets have received concessions in the last three months, and though they had concessions in 2017 and 2018, supply has been reasonably uneventful since. We looked at the record counts and average market prices of the two packs, but excluded invoices and just included supplier price lists to avoid double counting. We found that the long term price declines have been accompanied by a reduction in the number of price lists featuring these two products. It is probable that declining profitability has moved suppliers from a land flowing in profits, toward a hard and stony desert of losses and disruption.

Even if prices rise and profits flow again, it may be difficult to rebuild confidence in these products and return the market to profitability. Many market players watch for drops in market prices, but very few keep an eye on record counts and market activity. Perhaps they show the long term character of products.

Price and Popularity
Long Term Disruption Warnings



NHS spends £574m on Mounjaro

The NHS spent £574m on weight loss drug Mounjaro in 2025/26 in England, a 377% increase on the previous year, according to the latest prescription data released by the NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA).

The data, published on June 4, revealed a significant increase in the amount the NHS is spending on Mounjaro, compared to £120m in 2024/25.

The total cost of community prescriptions in the 2025/26 financial year was £11.6bn, meaning Mounjaro now represents 5% of the total NHS spend on medicines.

Overall, there were 1.3 billion prescription items dispensed in the community in 2025/26.

Source: Pulse



Top 10 prescribed drugs revealed

The number of prescription items dispensed in England increased by three per cent between 2024-25 and 2025-26 according to the latest figures released by the NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA).

The NHSBSA's Prescription Cost Analysis, which showed 1.3 billion prescription items were dispensed at a cost of £11.6 billion in 2025-26, also revealed the top 10 most dispensed medicines in order of volume.

Atorvastatin was first with 78 million items followed by Amlodipine (41.2 million items), Lansoprazole (37.9 million items), Ramipril (36.3 million items) and Omeprazole (35.6 million items).

Source: Pharmacy Magazine



Top Ten Branded Product Searches: WaveData Live

These are the most commonly investigated Branded products on WaveData Live in the last 35 days. Both UK and PI prices were viewed, average prices are shown.

Product	Mar-26	Apr-26	May-26	Jun-26
Invokana Tabs 100mg 30	£26.87	£27.48	£27.50	£27.95
Avamys Nasal Spray 1 (120 Doses)	£6.14	£6.14	£6.03	£5.98
Latuda Tabs 37mg 28	£44.95	£41.87	£40.23	£37.45
Jardiance Tabs 25mg 28	£35.27	£35.36	£35.26	£35.11
Fortini Multifibre Banana 200ml 1	£4.25	£4.19	£3.84	£3.65
Latuda Tabs 74mg 28	£43.38	£40.93	£37.95	£34.08
Cholestagel Tabs 625mg 180	£99.03	£98.10	£90.78	£84.92
Relvar Ellipta Inhaler 184mcg/22mcg 1 (30 Doses)	£24.96	£25.15	£25.39	£25.15
Selexid Tabs 200mg 10	£4.74	£4.82	£5.50	£5.06
Seretide Evohaler CFC Free 250mcg 1 (120 Doses)	£24.03	£22.85	£22.70	£23.11

Prices correct at time of compilation, but may be subject to change.



Top Ten Generic Product Searches: WaveData Live

These are the most commonly investigated Generic products on WaveData Live in the last 35 days. Both UK and PI prices were viewed, average prices are shown.

Product	Mar-26	Apr-26	May-26	Jun-26
Dapagliflozin Tabs 10mg 28	£2.24	£4.01	£4.75	£3.43
Metformin Tabs 500mg 28	£0.21	£0.18	£0.40	£0.30
Atorvastatin Tabs 20mg 28	£0.27	£0.35	£0.40	£0.40
Bisoprolol Fumarate Tabs 2.5mg 28	£0.50	£0.51	£1.61	£2.39
Apixaban Tabs 5mg 56	£1.16	£4.00	£4.72	£3.08
Sertraline Tabs 50mg 28	£0.49	£0.47	£0.93	£0.75
Apixaban Tabs 2.5mg 60	£0.96	£2.98	£3.90	£2.62
Sertraline Tabs 100mg 28	£0.59	£0.58	£1.18	£0.94
Omeprazole Caps 20mg 28	£0.43	£0.40	£0.41	£0.39
Lansoprazole Caps 15mg 28	£0.36	£0.36	£0.45	£0.45

Prices correct at time of compilation, but may be subject to change.



FUTURE INDUSTRY EVENTS

Priorities for the healthcare workforce in England	6th July 26	Online
Next steps for AI use in life sciences	14th July 26	Online
Next steps for the use of patient data in the UK	3rd Sept 26	Online
International Clinical Trials Methodology Conference	14th - 17th Sept 26	Birmingham
Expopharm	15th - 17th Sept 26	Munich
Next steps for technology, data and innovation in the NHS	16th Sept 26	Online
9th HPAPI: Development & Manufacturing of Highly Potent Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients	16th & 17th Sept 26	Milan
International Society of Pharmacovigilance (ISoP)	22nd - 25th Sept 26	Costa Rica
Next steps for pharmacy in healthcare delivery in England	25th Sept 26	Online
BioForward 2026	29th Sept 26	Oxford
Delivering patient benefit from innovation and health tech	2nd Oct 26	Online
BioTechX	6th - 8th Oct 26	Basel
2nd MedTech Meets AI	14th & 15th Oct 26	Barcelona
World Orphan Drug Congress Europe 2026	26th - 28th Oct 26	Amsterdam
The 3rd European Congress on Dermato-Oncology2026	12th - 13th Nov 26	Netherlands
Future for vaccines in the UK	24th Nov 26	Online
Next steps for NICE in England	30th Nov 26	Online
World EPA Congress 2027	2nd & 3rd Mar 27	Amsterdam
PharmaVenue 2027	26th - 27th Apr 27	Barcelona

WaveData's Bulletin is a free-of-charge monthly service. Please let us know if you would like an article considered for inclusion, or if you have any colleagues who would like to be added to our subscribers list. You can view previous editions of The Bulletin in the [WaveData Knowledge Base](#).

If you need any assistance, or would like to find out more about our pricing or prescription services please get in touch.

Our Services:

- [WaveData Live](#): UK & EI Pharma Pricing 1-35 days
- [WaveData Pharma TouchStone](#): UK & EI Pharma Pricing up to 6 months
- [WaveData BPPI](#): UK Pharma Pricing up to 10 years
- [WaveData ScriptMap](#): GP Prescribing Data updated monthly

Editor: Jackie Moss

Contact: bulletin@wavedata.co.uk

