

# WaveData

## COMMERCIAL BULLETIN

**As always, please contact us if you require additional 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](mailto:bulletin@wavedata.co.uk)**



## **BOOSTER PROTECTION**

Antibodies generated from only two vaccine doses offer less protection against the Omicron variant. Researchers have found that booster vaccinations drive up antibody levels. A booster COVID-19 vaccination dose provides 2.5 times higher antibody levels against the Omicron variant of the virus than those provided by the initial two vaccinations. Levels of antibodies alone do not necessarily predict vaccine effectiveness; however, they are a very good indicator of protection against severe COVID-19.

To read more:

[https://www.pharmatimes.com/news/booster\\_vaccine\\_jumpstarts\\_omicron\\_protection\\_1386569?  
utm\\_campaign=emig+news+alert&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=Emig+Newsletter](https://www.pharmatimes.com/news/booster_vaccine_jumpstarts_omicron_protection_1386569?utm_campaign=emig+news+alert&utm_medium=email&utm_source=Emig+Newsletter)

## PHARMACIST'S VACANCY RATE IS STILL HIGH

The number of pharmacists working in community pharmacy in England has increased since 2017, although the number of vacancies for full-time pharmacist roles has also grown since then. In 2021, some 20,489 pharmacists were in full-time equivalent (FTE) posts. Since 2017, both the total pharmacist headcount and number of FTE pharmacists in England – which were 23,284 and 17,691 respectively – have increased, according to Health Education England (HEE). However, the 2021 survey – which gathered data from 5,271 pharmacies in England between May and June last year – also showed that 8% of all FTE pharmacist posts were vacant last year. This is four percentage points higher than the 4% FTE vacancy rate identified by HEE in 2017.

To read more:

<https://www.chemistanddruggist.co.uk/CD135852/Number-of-pharmacists-in-England-up-from-2017-but-vacancy-rate-still-high>

## THE PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY HAS SET RECOMMENDATIONS FOR NORTHERN IRISH HEALTH CARE

The pharmaceutical industry has set out five recommendations for the next Northern Ireland Assembly to deliver better health and care for patients, recover from the pandemic and deliver economic and jobs growth over the next term. Northern Ireland's pharmaceutical industry has been identified as one of five sectors with the highest growth potential by the Department of the Economy and has seen employment flourish to 18,000 people in research and manufacturing jobs across the country.

To read more:

<https://www.abpi.org.uk/media/news/pharmaceutical-industry-sets-out-manifesto-for-the-next-northern-ireland-assembly/>

## TEAM BEHIND RECOVERY TRIAL OF COVID DRUGS

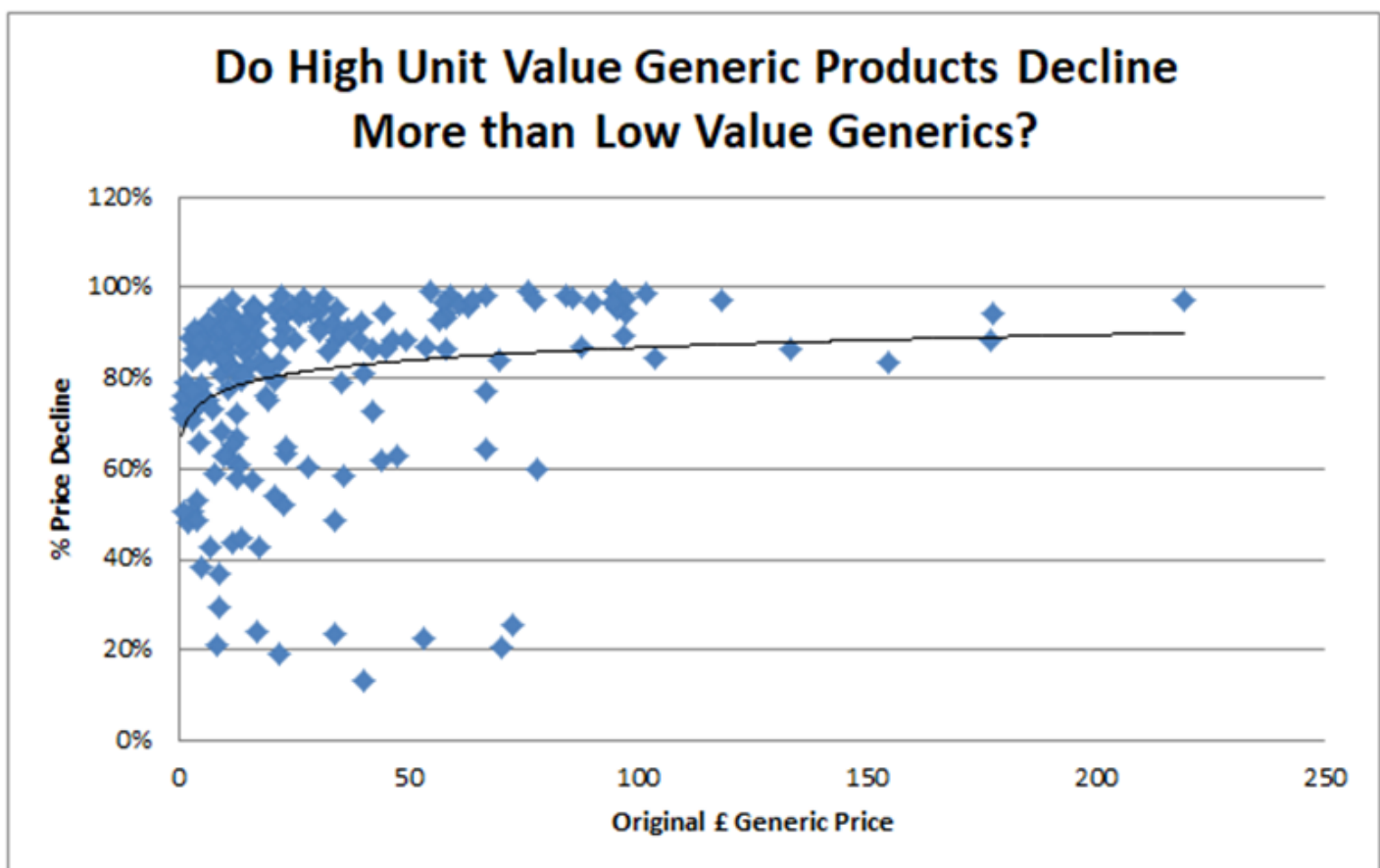
The UK scientists that ran one of the largest trials of experimental COVID-19 drugs have formed a non-profit company that will apply the methodology to other disease areas. French drugmaker Sanofi will be funding \$6.8 million into this. The non-profit – called Protas – is led by Sir Martin Landray, professor of medicine and epidemiology at Oxford University and one of the chief investigators of the RECOVERY trial. Now, that 'smart trial' approach will be used to find therapies for a host of other diseases, including common chronic conditions like heart and lung disease, arthritis, depression and dementia.

To read more:

<https://pharmaphorum.com/news/team-behind-recovery-trial-of-covid-drugs-casts-its-net-wider/>

# DO HIGH UNIT VALUE GENERIC PRODUCTS DECLINE MORE THAN LOW VALUE GENERICS?

An analysis of 188 generic products, their launch prices and the final prices today shows that there is a relationship between the high value products and high price declines. Wavedata have previously found that a strong relationship between price decline and the original brand prices does exist. In the case of generics, there may be other factors that reduce the strength of this relationship. For example, a high value generic may have sister products containing the same ingredient, but at lower strengths, watering down the effect. Another factor is that a high priced product may have a small market share, or be in a declining market with fewer clinicians prescribing it. Overall though it does suggest that if a product is launched on day 1 with a high price, it will eventually attract many other license holders to compete for a declining reward. The converse example of a low value product, where license holders are able to nurture a low return niche does appear to be possible. Wavedata collect these prices from pharmacies and dispensing doctors, and have been doing so since the year 2000. Each month over 100,000 prices are collected for generics, parallel imports, UK brands and devices, and this timely information is added to the Wavedata Live system every 15 minutes, and the historical information is used to produce analyses like these.



## 2021 DRUG APPROVALS

Each year, many scientists and other experts working in the biopharma industry see years of their work culminate in FDA approvals. With the COVID-19 crisis stretching into its third year, the 2021 batch of new drug approvals clearly demonstrates that the sector has learned how to operate in a pandemic.

In a year dominated by COVID, biopharma managed to deliver 55 new drugs, including the controversial accelerated approval for Biogen's Alzheimer's drug Aduhelm, Pfizer's record-shattering COVID-19 vaccine, Comirnaty, and many others.

To read more:

[https://www.fiercepharma.com/special-report/2021-s-new-drug-approvals?oly\\_enc\\_id=8342E2876112G2M](https://www.fiercepharma.com/special-report/2021-s-new-drug-approvals?oly_enc_id=8342E2876112G2M)

## ASDA IN TALKS TO BUY BOOTS STORES

The billionaire Issa brothers, owners of supermarket chain Asda, are reportedly considering a takeover of health and beauty giant Boots. Mohsin and Zuber Issa, who also own petrol empire EG Group, are said to have already held early-stage discussions over a potential business deal. Boots has around 2,200 stores in the UK, employing more than 50,000 people, and reports suggest a takeover could be worth as much as £10billion.

To read more:

<https://www.mirror.co.uk/money/asda-owners-in-talks-buy-26015015>

## PRICE WATCH UK... MULTIPLE MOLECULES SEE UK PRICES MORE THAN DOUBLE IN DECEMBER

WaveData's compilation of the fastest-rising UK generics prices in December showed several products across multiple presentations more than doubling their average trade prices to independent pharmacists. Metformin solution, losartan tablets, ropinirole tablets and ascorbic acid tablets all more than doubled in price for certain presentations in the UK in December, according to the latest figures from WaveData. Based on UK trade prices to independent pharmacists, WaveData calculated that the steepest average price rise came for metformin 500mg/5ml oral solution 150ml, which showed an average increase of 168% to £16.21 (\$22.07), despite the cheapest offer in the market remaining unchanged at £3.84.

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

WaveData

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[www.generics-bulletin.com](http://www.generics-bulletin.com)

# WAVEDATA — TOP TEN SEARCHED PRODUCTS - WHERE THE FOCUS WAS TO JANUARY 2022

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](http://www.wavedata.co.uk/login).

Both UK and PI prices were viewed for each product, giving some indication of where the focus was to January 2022. WaveData prices in the top 10 articles are averages.

Product	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21	Jan-22
Losartan Tabs 50mg 28	£0.63	£0.71	£1.79	£3.22
Losartan Tabs 100mg 28	£0.88	£0.92	£2.00	£4.41
Losartan Tabs 25mg 28	£0.49	£0.57	£1.28	£2.46
Amoxicillin Caps 500mg 21	£0.55	£0.60	£0.72	£1.84
Sertraline Tabs 50mg 28	£0.71	£0.64	£0.61	£0.63
Lercanidipine Tabs 10mg 28	£3.34	£3.07	£2.98	£2.84
Lercanidipine Tabs 20mg 28	£3.91	£4.19	£3.32	£3.04
Metformin Tabs 500mg 28	£0.32	£0.29	£0.30	£0.31
Paracetamol Caplets 500mg 100	£0.74	£1.01	£0.96	£1.00
Lansoprazole Caps 30mg 28	£0.61	£0.61	£0.59	£0.67

This bulletin now goes out to 5500 plus people.

If you would like to add or suggest any articles or comments, please let me know by the 16th February 2022, as I will be issuing the next bulletin on the 23rd February 2022.

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/>

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# FUTURE EVENTS

Organizer	Date	Venue	a/t
The Virtual 6th EAAR Annual Conference on New Medical Device Regulations	2nd - 3rd Feb 22	Online	<a href="https://rmd2022.com/">https://rmd2022.com/</a>
MHRA Medicines Supply for Northern Ireland:	2nd or 3rd Feb 22	Online	<a href="https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/medicines-supply-for-northern-ireland-tickets-244517176457?utm_source=GovDelivery&amp;utm_medium=Email&amp;utm_campaign=EUExitBookNow&amp;utm_id=EUExit">https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/medicines-supply-for-northern-ireland-tickets-244517176457?utm_source=GovDelivery&amp;utm_medium=Email&amp;utm_campaign=EUExitBookNow&amp;utm_id=EUExit</a>
Market Access Implications of the new Irish IPHA/HSE framework agreement	10th Feb 22	Online	jill.payne (a/t) emig.org.uk
EMIG HR Group supplementary meeting	15th Feb 22	Online	drjim.golby (a/t) applied-driving.com
The 2nd International Congress on Clinical Trials on Cannabis	16th - 17th Feb 22	London	<a href="https://ct-cann.com/registration/">https://ct-cann.com/registration/</a>
Next steps for vaccine research, development, and rollout	21-Feb-22	Online	<a href="https://www.westminsterforumprojects.co.uk/book/Vaccine-Research">https://www.westminsterforumprojects.co.uk/book/Vaccine-Research</a>
OTC <b>Toolbox</b> 2022 Consumer Healthcare BD&I Event	21st - 25th Feb 22	Online	<a href="https://www.otctoolbox.com/events/otc/the-otctoolbox-2022-consumer-healthcare-bdi-event">https://www.otctoolbox.com/events/otc/the-otctoolbox-2022-consumer-healthcare-bdi-event</a>
Next steps for improving patient safety in the NHS - discussion relevant to pharma	22nd Feb 22	Online	<a href="https://www.westminsterforumprojects.co.uk/book/Patient-Safety-21">https://www.westminsterforumprojects.co.uk/book/Patient-Safety-21</a>
Understanding PCN Pharmacy, Medicines Optimisation, Integrating NHS Pharmacy and Medicines Optimisation (IPMO) & Reform	23rd Feb 22	Online	<a href="https://marketaccesstraining.co.uk/event/medicine-optimisation-liz-bailey/">https://marketaccesstraining.co.uk/event/medicine-optimisation-liz-bailey/</a>
Priorities for NICE in health & social care - discussion relevant to pharma	28th Feb 22	Online	<a href="https://www.westminsterforumprojects.co.uk/book/NICE-2022">https://www.westminsterforumprojects.co.uk/book/NICE-2022</a>
Priorities for diagnostics and medical technology	1st Mar 22	Online	<a href="https://www.westminsterforumprojects.co.uk/book/Diagnostics-22">https://www.westminsterforumprojects.co.uk/book/Diagnostics-22</a>
The International Rare Disease Showcase	1st - 3rd Mar 22	Online	<a href="https://www.findacure.org.uk/rare-disease-showcase/">https://www.findacure.org.uk/rare-disease-showcase/</a>
AAC Industry Engagement Event	1st & 3rd Mar 22	Online	<a href="http://www.emig.org.uk">www.emig.org.uk</a>
Next steps for mental health policy in NI	8th Mar 22	Online	<a href="https://www.policyforumforni.co.uk/book/Mental-Health-NI-22">https://www.policyforumforni.co.uk/book/Mental-Health-NI-22</a>
Priorities for general practice and recovery from COVID-19	9th Mar 22	Online	<a href="https://www.westminsterforumprojects.co.uk/book/General-Practice-21">https://www.westminsterforumprojects.co.uk/book/General-Practice-21</a>
Next steps for dementia diagnosis, care & research in England - discussion relevant to pharma	16th Mar 22	Online	<a href="https://www.westminsterforumprojects.co.uk/book/Dementia-22">https://www.westminsterforumprojects.co.uk/book/Dementia-22</a>
Long Covid - improving patient care and access to support, progress in service development, and priority areas for research	22nd Mar 22	Online	<a href="https://www.westminsterforumprojects.co.uk/book/Long-COVID-2022">https://www.westminsterforumprojects.co.uk/book/Long-COVID-2022</a>
Utilising AI-driven technologies within health & social care - discussion relevant to pharma	28th Mar 22	Online	<a href="https://www.westminsterforumprojects.co.uk/book/AI-in-Health-22">https://www.westminsterforumprojects.co.uk/book/AI-in-Health-22</a>
New conference on UK sustainable health services - discussion relevant to pharma	21st Apr 22	Online	<a href="https://www.westminsterforumprojects.co.uk/book/Net-Zero-Health-22">https://www.westminsterforumprojects.co.uk/book/Net-Zero-Health-22</a>
The 3rd Int'l Congress on Controversies on Cannabis-Based Medicines,	12th - 13th May 22	Demark	<a href="https://med-cannabis2022.com/registration/">https://med-cannabis2022.com/registration/</a>
Cannabis Business Europe 2022	21st - 22nd June 22	Germany	<a href="https://www.worldclassbusinessleaders.com/events/CBE22">https://www.worldclassbusinessleaders.com/events/CBE22</a>