

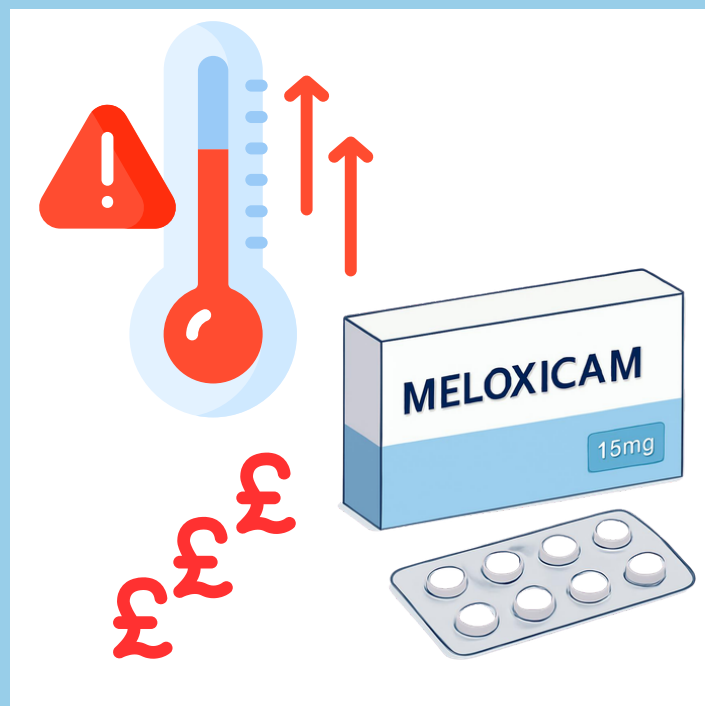
What a scorcher August has been. It's not just the temperatures that were soaring, we have seen price rises across hundreds of products.

The Generic's Bulletin Pricewatch UK is always an interesting read, and the latest article showed Meloxicam topping the table of biggest risers. Meloxicam 15mg tablets in packs of 30, saw a whopping 428% average price increase to £3.75.

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



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

- Wasted medicines in England could fill 75 swimming pools a year
- Jazz pays \$820M to buy Actio
- Pricewatch UK – Meloxicam Price Spike Leads UK Increases In July
- Two million women prescribed HRT in 2025-26
- Novo Nordisk and AWS form AI partnership
- MHRA approves second oral GLP-1, orforglipron
- Charles Joynson, WaveData MD, comments on the recent DHSC Statistics relating to Medicine Supply in the UK.
- Boots launch gonorrhoea jab
- Shortage of Ramipril blood pressure capsules
- WaveData Top Ten Branded Product Searches
- WaveData Top Ten Generic Product Searches
- Future Industry Events

Wasted medicines in England could fill 75 swimming pools a year

The National Pharmacy Association (NPA), based in St Albans, urged patients to only order the medication they needed. It warned that medicine wastage costs the NHS at least £480m a year.

Some patients are ordering more medication just in case it is needed later, rather than because it is necessary at the time, the NPA said.

It added that patients on complex medication regimes are more likely to return unused medicines or unopened boxes.

The NPA believed more checks for patients on several repeat prescriptions would help to reduce wastage.

Source: BBC



Jazz pays \$820M to buy Actio

Jazz Pharmaceuticals has entered into a definitive agreement to acquire privately held Actio Biosciences for \$820 million upfront, with up to a further \$500 million available in contingent approval and sales milestones. The transaction is expected to close in the fourth quarter of 2026, subject to customary closing conditions.

The acquisition will give Jazz Pharmaceuticals access to Actio's lead clinical asset, ABS-1230, a first-in-class, orally available small-molecule inhibitor of the KCNT1 ion channel. The therapy is being developed for KCNT1+ epilepsy, a rare epileptic encephalopathy affecting approximately 2,500 people in the United States (US).

The condition is characterised by frequent, treatment-resistant seizures and can be associated with significant developmental and neurological impairment. In patients with later-onset disease, disruptive nocturnal seizures can occur alongside cognitive and psychiatric comorbidities.

Source: European Pharmaceutical Review



Pricewatch UK – Meloxicam Price Spike Leads UK Increases In July

Meloxicam tablets in multiple strengths led the UK's steepest generic price rises in July, according to the latest figures from WaveData.

Demonstrating the frequency of UK generic price rises that see products more than double in price in the space of a single month, July saw our Biggest Risers table once again consist entirely of triple-digit-percentage average rises for UK generic trade prices to independent pharmacists.

Topping the table were meloxicam 15mg tablets in packs of 30, which saw a 428% average price increase to £3.75 (\$5.08), based on the latest figures from market researcher WaveData.

In second place was the same molecule in a 7.5mg strength, with a somewhat less steep 280% average increase to £2.09.

"These two NSAIDs (nonsteroidal anti-inflammatories) took first and second position in our Biggest Risers chart," highlighted WaveData. "Each appeared on numerous price list addendums throughout the month of July, with the largest comparable price rises being £0.36 to £5.74 for the 15mg, and £0.26 to £3.16 for the 7.5mg."

Source: Generics Bulletin

GENERICS BULLETIN
CITELINE COMMERCIAL

Two million women prescribed HRT in 2025-26

A new NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA) report has revealed that more than twice as many women over 40 were prescribed HRT on the NHS in the 2025-26 financial year than five years previously.

The NHSBSA report found that a record two million women in England aged 40 and over were prescribed HRT to treat menopause symptoms in 2025-26 compared to 800,000 in 2020-21.

NHS prescribing data also shows that women in rural areas were more likely to be prescribed HRT than women living in cities. NHS North East London was the Integrated Care System region with the lowest rate of HRT prescribing at eight per cent, while NHS Surrey and Sussex had the highest at 17 per cent.

Source: Pharmacy Magazine

The Voice of Community Pharmacy
pharmacy

Novo Nordisk and AWS form AI partnership

Novo Nordisk has entered a strategic partnership with Amazon Web Services (AWS) to accelerate drug discovery and modernise its global operations through agentic AI and cloud technologies.

As part of the collaboration, the companies have launched a new co-innovation hub in London where engineers and scientists from both organisations are using AWS AI technologies alongside Novo Nordisk data to compress the path from drug target to first human dose.

The expanded partnership aims to create secure foundations for turning ideas into new therapies, using services such as Amazon Bio Discovery and Amazon Bedrock to identify drug targets, design therapies faster, and connect genomic, imaging and clinical data to support clinical trial design.

Source: Pharmatimes



MHRA approves second oral GLP-1, orforglipron

The Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) has approved orforglipron (Foundayo), for use in weight management and type 2 diabetes – making the UK the first country in Europe to do so.

It is authorised for weight loss and weight maintenance in adults with a BMI of 30 or above, or a BMI of between 27 and 30, and at least one weight-related comorbidity. It is also authorised to improve glycaemic control for patients with insufficiently controlled type 2 diabetes.

As with all GLP-1 receptor agonists, this is a prescription-only medication, and the MHRA will keep the safety and effectiveness of orforglipron under close review.

Source: Pharmacy Magazine



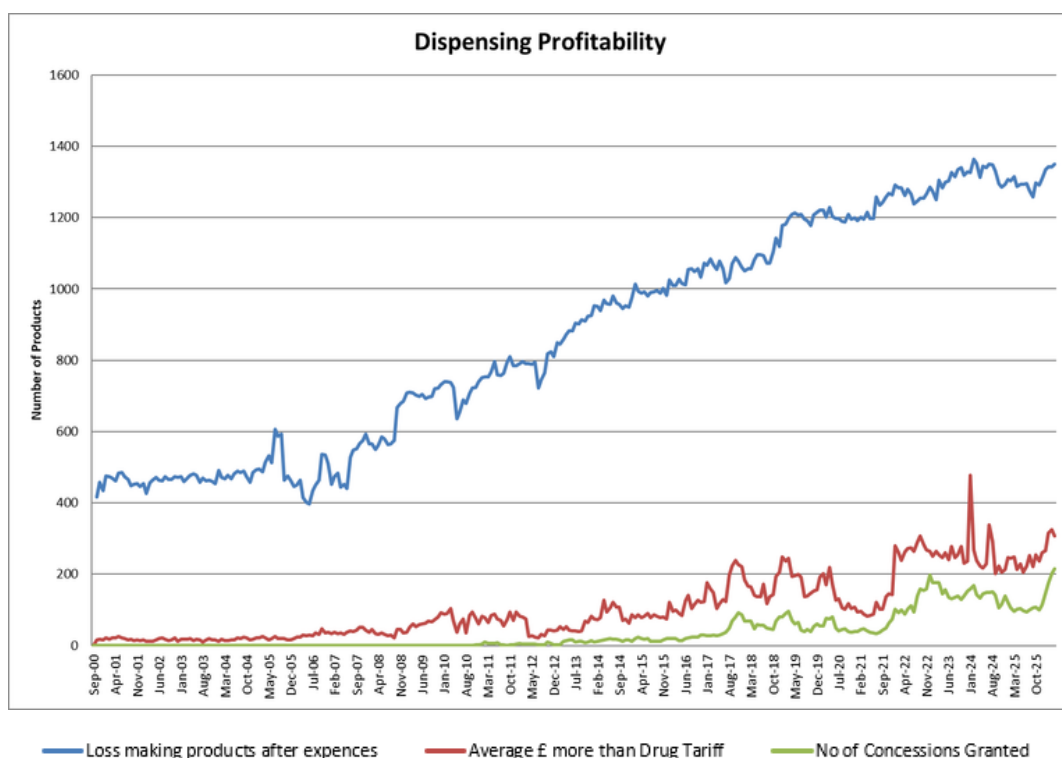
Charles Joynson, WaveData MD, comments on the recent DHSC Statistics relating to Medicine Supply in the UK.

During the year to June the DHSC say there have been 700 manufacturer supply issue notifications and 200 discontinuations, both reduced from previous years. However, nowhere in the report is profitability mentioned, which suggests that this factor was not included in the data gathering process.

The last time WaveData analysed profitability (April 2026), 308 generic products alone were found to have average market selling prices above the English Drug Tariff. Additionally when pharmacy costs were factored in, the number of generics which were unprofitable for pharmacies to dispense was over 1300.

Although the focus of this analysis was on pharmacy costs, manufacturers and wholesalers also have costs and need to stay profitable to be sustainable in the long term. The absence of profitability from DHSC's data gathering suggests that, as they control reimbursement, they would prefer that profitability was not linked to shortages and defiantly not labelled as a cause.

Longer term, if we as a nation are not willing to pay enough for generic or branded medicines they may no longer be available. Category M and VPAG are great ways of controlling tax payer outlays, but they can be blunt instruments and can damage the manufactures which supply the medicines in the first place.



Boots launch gonorrhoea jab

The high street chain said that gonorrhoea vaccines, which will cost £220 for the full course of two doses, will be available at 160 of its pharmacies.

Research by the multiple found that despite 400,000 new sexually transmitted infections (STI's) being recorded in England last year, "90% of UK adults do not routinely look after their sexual health, including checking for STIs".

The new jab offers an alternative route of protection for patients aged over 18 who cannot access the NHS jab.

Source: Chemist & Druggist



Shortage of Ramipril blood pressure capsules

People taking a common blood pressure medication have been warned of "serious shortages" in the UK.

Tracking website MediWatch, which monitors DHSC and NHS England data daily, said that a "Serious Shortage Protocol is active for Ramipril 1.25mg capsules in the current official data". It advised people to ask their pharmacist what the active SSP permits were before accepting any alternative quantity, strength or formulation.

It said: "Ramipril 1.25mg capsules are in shortage across England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Source: The Mirror



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	May-26	Jun-26	Jul-26	Aug-26
Invokana Tabs 100mg 30	27.50	27.61	25.23	28.02
Relvar Ellipta Inhaler 92mcg/22mcg 1 (30 Doses)	21.78	21.74	21.56	21.64
Incruse Ellipta Inhaler 55mcg 1 (30 Doses)	21.06	21.32	21.18	20.77
Nilemdo Tabs 180mg 28	54.00	52.60	48.77	47.83
Avamys Nasal Spray 1 (120 Doses)	6.03	5.99	5.88	5.91
Dermol Lotion 500ml	6.19	6.05	6.08	6.11
Invokana Tabs 300mg 30	36.32	36.10	35.76	36.37
Enstilar Foam 0.005%/0.05% 60g	42.15	41.58	41.04	39.86
Hiprex Tabs 100	29.61	29.45	28.57	28.18
Nasonex Nasal Spray 50mcg 1 (140 Doses)	5.15	5.24	5.43	5.21

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	May-26	Jun-26	Jul-26	Aug-26
Omeprazole Caps 20mg 28	0.41	0.38	0.38	0.39
Ezetimibe Tabs 10mg 28	0.66	6.6	4.82	2.9
Atorvastatin Tabs 20mg 28	0.4	0.39	0.37	0.38
Lansoprazole Caps 15mg 28	0.45	0.43	0.44	0.52
Zopiclone Tabs 3.75mg 28	0.58	0.55	0.57	0.59
Sertraline Tabs 50mg 28	0.93	0.71	0.61	0.64
Zopiclone Tabs 7.5mg 28	0.6	0.58	0.6	0.61
Amlodipine Besilate Tabs 5mg 28	0.29	0.24	0.24	0.23
Sertraline Tabs 100mg 28	1.18	0.84	0.7	0.75
Metformin Tabs 500mg 28	0.4	0.27	0.24	0.28

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



FUTURE INDUSTRY EVENTS

Next steps for the use of patient data in the UK	3rd Sept 26	Online
Changes to the EU pharmaceutical legislation and its impact on the UK	14th Sept 26	Online
3rd European Cancer and Oncology Congress	14th - 15th Sept 26	London
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
Next steps for improving patient access to innovative medicines and health technologies	2nd Oct 26	Online
BioTechX	6th - 8th Oct 26	Basel
2nd MedTech Meets AI	14th & 15th Oct 26	Barcelona
Next steps for professional healthcare regulation in the UK	22nd Oct 26	Online
Next steps for medicine regulation in the UK	23rd Oct 26	Online
The 5th European Congress on Controversies in LEUKEMIA	26th - 27th Oct 26	Germany
World Orphan Drug Congress Europe 2026	26th - 28th Oct 26	Amsterdam
Supply Chain Excellence Awards	5th Nov 26	London
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

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- [WaveData BPPI](#): UK Pharma Pricing up to 10 years
- [WaveData ScriptMap](#): GP Prescribing Data updated monthly

Editor: Jackie Moss

Contact: bulletin@wavedata.co.uk

