

## Dosulepin price rises mark out a miserable November

Almost all suppliers increased prices for dosulepin tabs 75mg x28 in November, with all market prices above the English drug tariff of £1.20, Wavedata reports in its analysis of the dispensing GP market for that month. The average price has risen from £1.67 in August to £10.82 in November, suggesting supply problems. The only suppliers with prices below £2.00 included DE, Accord and Teva.



Also among the purchase price 'risers' for the month, naproxen E/C tabs 250mg x56 saw almost all suppliers increase prices, and only one price was lower than the English drug tariff. The average price rose from £1.69 in August to £6.32 in November. The suppliers with prices below £5.00 include Aver Generics, Accord, Teva, Phoenix, Ethigen, Numark, Alliance, OTC Direct, DE, Eclipse and CrossPharma.

Like the 75mg pack, almost all suppliers increased prices for dosulepin caps 25mg x28 in November and all suppliers quoted prices higher than the £0.92 English drug tariff price, prompting a November concession price of £5.10. Even so, eleven suppliers still had market prices above this. Suppliers with prices below the £5.10 concession price included DE, Eclipse, Accord, Teva, Beta, Alliance, OTC Direct, Ethigen and B&S.

Also noteworthy among the risers are naproxen tabs with four packs among the risers, as well as two packs each of risperidone and losartan tabs, and of dosulepin and clomipramine caps. One pack of ivabradine tabs were also among the risers.

### Fallers

In November a number of companies reduced prices – some dramatically – for ezetimibe tabs 10mg x28. This follows on from the cut in the English drug tariff from £26.31 in September to £3.31 in October and, ultimately, to £2.94 in November and December. The best deals in November below £1.50 were from CrossPharma, AAH, DE, Trident, B&S, Ethigen, Cambrian, Bestway, Target and Beta.

Price cuts were also the order of the day in November for olanzapine tabs 10mg x28, as most companies instituted a price reduction, possibly, due to competition: the number of price offers grew from 44 in October to 51 in November. The best deals of £0.75 and below were from CrossPharma, AAH, Aver Generics, Cambrian, DE, Eclipse, B&S, Beta and Munro.

Olanzapine tabs 7.5mg x56 also saw price cuts from many suppliers in November as many prices halved. The best deals below £2.00 were on offer from Cambrian, Trident, AAH, DE and Ethigen. In total, there are six packs of olanzapine tabs in the fallers camp. Also noteworthy are terbinafine and ivabradine tabs, which had two packs each among the fallers.

### PIs

Dispensing GPs are back to their pole negotiating position on both parallel imports and generics, according to Wavedata, which finds that, by the end of October, GPs were undercutting pharmacists by £0.74 for parallel imports and by £0.96 for generics.