

December 2014 purchase price analysis

Holiday closure restricts December purchasing deals

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Produced in association with the Dispensing Doctors' Association



Irbesartan + hydrochlorothiazide tabs, moxonidine tabs and quetiapine MR tabs headlined the fallers' list for December; this featured three lines of each. Also stating a presence among the December fallers were nitrofurantoin tabs, and valsartan + hydrochlorothiazide tabs, which both appeared on the fallers list with two packs each.

Fallers

Valsartan + hydrochlorothiazide tabs 160mg/25mg x28 saw a 75% drop in its average price as Actavis reduced its prices. Its best dispensing doctor price was £2.52 although Mawdsleys had stock available at £1.99. Pharmacists also saw similar price drops, with low prices available from Trident, Mawdsleys and OTC Direct.

A similar picture was seen with Valsartan + hydrochlorothiazide tabs 80mg/12.5mg x28 which saw a similar (72%) price reduction for dispensing doctors in December. Actavis reduced its prices to a minimum of £1.89, and Mawdsleys was offering stock at £2.55. The best prices available to pharmacists were from AAH and Trident, although Lexon, Phoenix, Actavis and OTC Direct all had prices under £2.00.

Nitrofurantoin tabs 100mg x28 saw a 66% price drop to dispensing doctors as Actavis again reduced prices. However, low prices were also available from Teva, Mawdsleys and Elite Pharma Surrey. Pharmacists also saw prices under £3.00 from Phoenix, Alliance, Lexon and AAH.

Risers

Headlining the risers' list during December were cefalexin caps, fosinopril tabs, glimepiride tabs 1mg x30, which all featured two packs.

In the case of fosinopril tabs 10mg x28 it was increased prices from Actavis which pushed the average price up 668%. Teva, however, kept prices at November's low levels. Low prices of under £2.00 were available to pharmacists from Alliance, Teva, Lexon and OTC Direct.

Fosinopril tabs 20mg x28 also saw large price increases for similar reasons to the 10mg strength. Actavis' increases resulted in a 467% increase in the average price. As with the 10mg, Teva's prices remained low as did Mawdsleys'. Low prices of under £2.00 were available to pharmacists from Lexon, Alliance, Teva, OTC Direct and AAH.

Glimepiride tabs 3mg x30 saw an increase of 423% in the average price to dispensing doctors as Teva reduced prices after a November lull and low prices were made available by Beta and Mawdsleys. Pharmacists had access to low prices of below £0.50 from Eclipse, Alliance, AAH, Lexon, Trident, OTC Direct, Beta, Cavendish and Waymade.

Dispensing doctors vs. pharmacists

In December the average prices paid by both dispensing doctors and pharmacists rose as suppliers produced fewer and less competitive offers for parallel imports. The short working month is likely to be to blame for the reduction in low priced offers.

In the case of generics, the average purchase prices for both groups continued to be similar, but on the whole, since August, dispensing doctors have achieved better deals.

Click [here](#) for the full pricing information.

