

September 2018 purchase price analysis

Risperidone sees rising prices as shortages kick in

In association with Wavedata

Rising prices and availability of risperidone tabs could remain a big problem for dispensers in the coming month, continuing the story seen in September.



All packs of risperidone tabs have seen prices rise rapidly and shortages become very common. Scottish drug tariff prices increased at the beginning of September, but in England only one pack (6mg x28) saw its price significantly increased and only at the beginning of October – from £3.05 to £32.26. Of the others, three saw very small increases and a further two decreased. Almost all the market prices seen by Wavedata for the beginning of October are many times higher than their tariff prices – with only the prices for risperidone tabs 6mg x28 below the tariff price.

Other notable price risers include two packs each of amlodipine and temazepam tabs.

Fallers

September saw a gradual reduction in the market price of ramipril tabs 2.5mg x28, perhaps, in anticipation of a drop in the English drug tariff from £1.40 in September to £1.21 in October. The best deals, below £0.40 were from Sigma, Eclipse, Doncaster, Lexon, Crosspharma, Waymade, Cambrian, DE, B&S, Phoenix, Beta and Target.

Another product seeing a market price reduction is Omega 3 Caps 1g x28; the best offers below £5.00 in September were from OTC Direct, Munro and Ethigen. Olanzapine tabs 7.5mg x56 also saw an 18 per cent drop in average price. The best offers below £5.00 were from AAH, Doncaster, DE, Ethigen and B&S. Also among the fallers are two packs of ramipril tabs.

Long term trends: PIs and generics

Since April pharmacists have continuously achieved better prices for parallel imports than dispensing doctors, although the difference is small. Favourable generics prices remain the preserve of the dispensing GP.