

95% discount on pramipexole in under year

Another third came off the lowest price of 30-tablet packs of pramipexole 700µg last month, meaning the Parkinson's disease treatment has now been discounted by more than 95% since its launch in the UK less than a year ago. Boehringer Ingelheim's Mirapexin was available exclusively at £76.40 (US\$121.50) for 30-tablet packs of the 700µg strength last December. Now as Figure 1 shows, independent pharmacists and dispensing doctors can get a generic equivalent for just £2.60, after a price cut of 32% between September and October. The new low represents price erosion of nearly 97% in just 10 months.

One supplier of 28-tablet packs of pravastatin 40mg also cut its prices by a third last month. It offered the cholesterol-lowerer at just £0.79, which was instrumental in the product's average price slipping back by 7% to £1.35. Elsewhere, almost a fifth came off the average

price of one of the UK market's cheapest products when 28-tablet packs of simvastatin 10mg lost 18% during October to just £0.20. The product's stronger counterparts included in Figure 1 experienced similar average-price declines.

Elsewhere the biggest price-fallers in October were products like 28-tablet packs of citalopram 20mg and sertraline 100mg, whose prices are still drifting downwards after recent shortages. Gabapentin prices, too, are recovering from recent hikes, as evidenced by 100-capsule packs of the 100mg strength (see Figure 2).

Meanwhile, the average trade prices of two strengths of glimepiride drifted upwards last month (see Figure 3), although the strength of the diabetes treatment chosen for Figure 1 showed little price change. In all three examples, however, the lowest prices went backwards. G

| BIGGEST FALLERS | | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------|------------|---------------|------------|
| Product/Strength/Pack size | Lowest price | Change (%) | Average price | Change (%) |
| Paracetamol sol tabs 500mg 60 | £2.63 | -6 | £3.41 | -20 |
| Gabapentin caps 100mg 100 | £2.80 | -3 | £4.12 | -19 |
| Allopurinol tabs 100mg 28 | £0.21 | -5 | £0.30 | -18 |
| Zopiclone tabs 7.5mg 28 | £0.65 | -3 | £1.04 | -18 |
| Diazepam tabs 2mg 28 | £0.13 | ±0 | £0.17 | -17 |
| Cetirizine tabs 10mg 30 | £0.17 | -6 | £0.41 | -16 |

| BIGGEST RISERS | | | | |
|----------------------------|--------------|------------|---------------|------------|
| Product/Strength/Pack size | Lowest price | Change (%) | Average price | Change (%) |
| Famotidine tabs 20mg 28 | £0.92 | ±0 | £3.38 | +51 |
| Famotidine tabs 40mg 28 | £1.29 | ±0 | £3.88 | +39 |
| Tolbutamide tabs 500mg 28 | £1.52 | +6 | £4.30 | +38 |
| Nicardipine caps 20mg 56 | £2.49 | +37 | £3.89 | +13 |
| Glimepiride tabs 3mg 30 | £0.33 | -8 | £1.17 | +12 |
| Glimepiride tabs 1mg 30 | £0.21 | -5 | £0.48 | +9 |

Figure 1 (below): Comparison between the periods 1-30 September 2011 and 1-31 October 2011 of the lowest and average UK trade prices of fast-moving generics. Each average price was calculated from at least 14 data points. Figure 2 (above) and Figure 3 (above right): Biggest changes recorded between the periods 1-30

September 2011 and 1-31 October 2011 in lowest and average UK trade prices of about 120 commonly-dispensed generics. The basket specifically excludes the 'fast movers' shown below, but includes other presentations of the same products. Each average price was calculated from at least 25 data points (Source - WaveData).

| FAST MOVERS | | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------|------------|---------------|------------|
| Product/Strength/Pack size | Lowest price | Change (%) | Average price | Change (%) |
| Alendronate tabs 70mg 4 | £0.23 | -15 | £0.33 | -8 |
| Amlodipine tabs 10mg 28 | £0.20 | +11 | £0.29 | -3 |
| Carvedilol tabs 12.5mg 28 | £0.47 | ±0 | £0.79 | +8 |
| Ciprofloxacin tabs 500mg 10 | £0.29 | +7 | £0.41 | +10 |
| Citalopram tabs 20mg 28 | £0.26 | -19 | £0.52 | -26 |
| Clarithromycin tabs 250mg 14 | £0.59 | -11 | £1.33 | +4 |
| Clopidogrel tabs 75mg 30 | £1.09 | +5 | £1.40 | -5 |
| Enalapril tabs 20mg 28 | £0.27 | +4 | £0.35 | +1 |
| Finasteride tabs 5mg 28 | £0.87 | +5 | £1.10 | -6 |
| Fluoxetine caps 20mg 30 | £0.14 | -7 | £0.32 | -12 |
| Fosinopril tabs 20mg 28 | £1.49 | ±0 | £1.86 | -3 |
| Glimepiride tabs 4mg 30 | £0.56 | -2 | £0.83 | ±0 |
| Lamotrigine tabs 100mg 56 | £1.98 | -6 | £2.71 | -4 |
| Lansoprazole caps 30mg 28 | £0.78 | -1 | £0.89 | -2 |
| Lisinopril tabs 20mg 28 | £0.32 | -11 | £0.41 | -9 |
| Losartan tabs 50mg 28 | £0.35 | -3 | £0.50 | -3 |
| Losartan tabs 100mg 28 | £0.38 | ±0 | £0.62 | -6 |
| Metformin tabs 500mg 84 | £0.46 | ±0 | £0.65 | -6 |
| Mirtazapine tabs 30mg 28 | £0.80 | ±0 | £1.10 | -2 |
| Omeprazole caps 20mg 28 | £0.58 | +5 | £0.69 | +4 |
| Ondansetron tabs 4mg 30 | £2.37 | -3 | £4.08 | +2 |
| Pantoprazole tabs 20mg 28 | £0.41 | +2 | £0.57 | -11 |
| Paroxetine tabs 20mg 30 | £0.79 | -9 | £1.11 | -5 |
| Pramipexole tabs 180µg 30 | £0.77 | -4 | £2.10 | -10 |
| Pramipexole tabs 700µg 30 | £2.60 | -32 | £6.91 | -13 |

| FAST MOVERS | | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------|------------|---------------|------------|
| Product/Strength/Pack size | Lowest price | Change (%) | Average price | Change (%) |
| Pravastatin tabs 40mg 28 | £0.79 | -33 | £1.35 | -7 |
| Ramipril caps 10mg 28 | £0.47 | -4 | £0.59 | -5 |
| Risedronate tabs 35mg 4 | £0.65 | -3 | £0.93 | -7 |
| Risperidone tabs 2mg 60 | £0.69 | ±0 | £1.20 | -7 |
| Sertraline tabs 100mg 28 | £0.84 | -12 | £3.38 | -27 |
| Simvastatin tabs 20mg 28 | £0.22 | +5 | £0.27 | -14 |
| Simvastatin tabs 40mg 28 | £0.33 | -8 | £0.43 | -9 |
| Sumatriptan tabs 50mg 6 | £0.66 | -7 | £0.97 | +3 |
| Tamsulosin caps 400µg 30 | £0.76 | +3 | £0.94 | -19 |
| Terbinafine tabs 250mg 14 | £0.86 | -3 | £1.27 | -6 |
| Topiramate tabs 50mg 60 | £1.49 | -13 | £2.46 | -12 |
| Topiramate tabs 100mg 60 | £2.26 | -5 | £3.40 | -7 |
| Venlafaxine tabs 37.5mg 56 | £1.69 | ±0 | £2.10 | -6 |
| Venlafaxine XL caps 75mg 28 | £0.49 | -6 | £0.87 | -7 |
| Venlafaxine XL caps 150mg 28 | £1.03 | +4 | £1.63 | -4 |

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