

Erratic UK shifts are observed in October

Average UK trade prices for our basket of recently-launched generics saw some unusually pronounced changes in October, accompanied by a substantial list of concession prices being offered by the country's Department of Health (DoH) at the end of the month. This came after increasing pressures on UK pharmacists caused by generic supply issues (**Generics bulletin**, 20 October 2017, page 12).

Eplerenone 25mg tablets saw their average trade price more than double to £15.65 (US\$20.67) as the cheapest offer jumped by 15% to £4.10 (see Figure 1). Nevertheless, pharmacists would still have made a healthy margin at the average price, given the DoH's £42.72 concession.

For duloxetine 30mg capsules in 28-count packs, however, they would not have been so lucky. The DoH concession price of £6.00 failed to match an average that rose by more than two-thirds to £8.05. But if pharmacists shopped around they may have been able to secure a lower price offer of £2.50.

Desogestrel 75µg tablets in 84-count packs also saw a price concession that fell short of the average trade price, with the DoH's offer of £2.95 failing to match an average price that rose by almost a fifth to £3.02 as the average increased by 29% to £1.99.

At the other end of the spectrum, double-digit price declines were seen for presentations including nefopam 30mg tablets, nortriptyline 10mg tablets, olmesartan 10mg tablets and pregabalin 150mg capsules, as well as rasagiline 1mg tablets and zonisamide 100mg capsules.

Aripiprazole 5mg prices that more than trebled put the molecule alongside amlodipine and perindopril in our 'biggest risers' category (see Figure 2), while pregabalin in several presentations featured among the fastest-falling average prices (see Figure 3).

Meanwhile, a marked increase in the number of offers in the marketplace for gabapentin saw the epilepsy treatment jump to the top of our 'fast movers' table (see Figure 4).

RECENT LAUNCHES				
Product/Strength/Pack size	Lowest price	Change (%)	Average price	Change (%)
Aripiprazole tabs 10mg 28	£0.89	+14	£3.32	+189
Benzydamine 0.15% 300ml	£4.69	-3	£5.42	-1
Carbimazole tabs 5mg 100	£37.49	-3	£42.41	-1
Celecoxib caps 200mg 30	£0.86	+1	£1.30	-2
Cilostazol tabs 100mg 56	£3.15	±0	£3.93	+7
Cyclizine tabs 50mg 100	£5.35	-3	£6.71	-8
Desogestrel tabs 75µg 84	£1.99	+29	£3.02	+19
Duloxetine caps 30mg 28	£2.50	+52	£8.05	+69
Entacapone tabs 200mg 30	£2.90	-1	£3.48	-3
Eplerenone tabs 25mg 28	£4.10	+15	£15.65	+111
Escitalopram tabs 10mg 28	£0.37	±0	£0.83	-2
Frovatriptan tabs 2.5mg 6	£6.55	-4	£8.05	-7
Memantine tabs 10mg 28	£0.55	-7	£1.00	-7
Montelukast tabs 10mg 28	£0.73	-3	£1.12	-1
Nefopam tabs 30mg 90	£15.75	-7	£20.51	-17
Nortriptyline tabs 10mg 100	£4.99	-24	£12.06	-19
Olmesartan tabs 10mg 28	£0.89	+7	£1.71	-39
Pregabalin caps 150mg 56	£3.90	-38	£9.10	-41
Raloxifene tabs 60mg 28	£2.30	+2	£2.92	+1
Rasagiline tabs 1mg 28	£1.48	-26	£6.94	-25
Rizatriptan tabs 10mg 3	£6.55	-14	£11.05	±0
Sevelamer tabs 800mg 180	£21.50	-6	£30.29	-1
Sildenafil tabs 100mg 4	£0.24	±0	£0.40	-7
Telmisartan tabs 80mg 28	£0.92	+16	£1.49	+21
Zonisamide caps 100mg 56	£5.99	-17	£18.15	-20

Figure 1 (above): Comparison between the periods 1-30 September 2017 and 1-31 October 2017 of UK trade prices of the most recently-launched generics listed in category M of the Drug Tariff of pharmacy-reimbursement prices. Averages calculated from at least 27 data points. Figure 2 (top right) and Figure 3 (centre right): Biggest average trade-price changes between 1-30 September 2017 and 1-31 October 2017. Averages calculated from at least 21 data points. Figure 4 (bottom right): Ranking of fastest-moving products subject to the most price offers made to independent UK pharmacists (one strength per ingredient; offers recorded by 31 October). Data for Figures 2, 3 and 4 from a basket of about 750 commonly-dispensed generics. Recently-launched products in Figure 1 excluded from Figures 2 and 3 (Source – WaveData).

BIGGEST RISERS				
Product/Strength/Pack size	Lowest price	Change (%)	Average price	Change (%)
Perindopril tabs 2mg 30	£0.59	+84	£3.75	+495
Perindopril tabs 4mg 30	£0.49	+17	£4.55	+321
Amlodipine tabs 5mg 28	£0.50	±0	£2.07	+234
Perindopril tabs 8mg 30	£0.85	+52	£5.46	+227
Aripiprazole tabs 5mg 28	£0.71	+16	£3.01	+214
Amlodipine tabs 10mg 28	£0.56	-7	£1.78	+162

BIGGEST FALLERS				
Product/Strength/Pack size	Lowest price	Change (%)	Average price	Change (%)
Pregabalin caps 50mg 84	£4.95	-31	£11.89	-44
Isosorbide tabs 60mg 28	£0.75	-15	£2.69	-41
Olmesartan tabs 40mg 28	£1.43	-8	£3.12	-39
Olmesartan tabs 20mg 28	£1.29	-5	£2.29	-39
Pregabalin caps 200mg 84	£4.95	-21	£12.15	-38
Pregabalin caps 100mg 84	£4.95	+13	£11.84	-38

FAST MOVERS			
Product/Strength/Pack size	Price offers as at 31 October 2017		
	August	September	October
Gabapentin caps 300mg 100	92	113	122
Simvastatin tabs 40mg 28	129	127	112
Lansoprazole caps 30mg 28	131	129	108
Paracetamol caplets 500mg 100	108	116	101
Omeprazole caps 20mg 28	148	149	100
Sertraline tabs 100mg 28	114	120	99
Atorvastatin tabs 80mg 28	103	137	99
Ramipril caps 2.5mg 28	105	114	93
Fluoxetine caps 20mg 30	104	119	93
Citalopram tabs 10mg 28	88	102	92

WANT MORE LIKE THIS?

Up to the minute live retail market pricing is available for the UK and Eire on Wavedata Live at wavedata.net.

Alternatively, contact Charles Joynson at WaveData Limited, UK.

Tel: +44 (0)1702 425125. E-mail: cjoynson@wavedata.co.uk.

