

PRICE WATCH UK

PRICE WATCH UK

Zolmitriptan zooms upward

Average UK trade prices for zolmitriptan tablets rising in December did not escape the notice of the UK's Department of Health (DoH).

According to the latest figures provided by WaveData, 12-count packs of zolmitriptan 2.5mg tablets saw their average UK trade price increase by 468% to £13.72 (US\$16.84), based on averages calculated from at least 24 data points. Comparing UK trade prices between the periods 1-30 November 2016 and 1-31 December 2016, WaveData said the cheapest available price for 12 tablets of the 2.5mg strength rose by 21% to £1.90.

Meanwhile, packs of six zolmitriptan 2.5mg tablets saw their average price almost double, rising by 89% to £11.01 as the cheapest offer rose by 14% to £0.97. And a sugar-free orodispersible presentation of the migraine remedy – also available as six tablets of a 2.5mg strength – saw its average price grow by 97% to £2.35, despite the lowest price rising by just 5% to £0.80.

In late December, the DoH granted price concessions for the two six-tablet presentations of zolmitriptan, but did not include a concession for the 12-tablet pack. Regular 2.5mg tablets in packs of six were granted a price concession of £13.70, while the orodispersible tablets enjoyed a price concession of £23.99.

The DoH's price concessions list featured 18 molecules in late December, spread across 30 presentations. **G**

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6 January 2017

PRICE WATCH UK

Buspirone gets a concession

Arise of more than half in the average UK trade price of buspirone 5mg tablets in 30-count packs was matched almost exactly by a price concession granted by the UK's Department of Health (DoH) in mid-January, according to the latest figures provided by WaveData.

Comparing UK trade prices between the periods 1-24 January 2017 and 1-31 December 2016, the average trade price for 30-tablet packs of the anxiety treatment increased by 56% to £19.55 (US\$24.35), after the lowest available offer almost quadrupled to £9.50. The concession price offered by the DoH was £19.54.

At the same time, packs of 60 quetiapine tablets in four different strengths saw their average prices jump by between 36% and 46%, based on averages calculated from at least 51 data points, with the rises becoming increasingly more pronounced for the higher strengths of the schizophrenia drug.

Quetiapine 100mg tablets saw their average rise by 36% to £2.25, while 150mg tablets increased by 42% to £3.59 and 200mg tablets by 44% to £3.86. The 300mg strength experienced the largest average price rise, registering a leap of 46% to £6.00. These were despite the lowest available offers across all four strengths only climbing by between 4% and 15%.

Pioglitazone 15mg, 30mg and 45mg tablets saw the biggest falls, with average prices dropping by around two-fifths. **G**

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27 January 2017

PRICE WATCH UK

Quetiapine rises and drops

Average UK trade prices for quetiapine tablets saw mixed trends in January, according to the latest figures from WaveData.

Comparing UK trade prices between the periods 1-31 December 2016 and 1-31 January 2017, the average prices for 60-tablet packs of immediate-release quetiapine rose by 32% to £2.18 (US\$2.72) for the 100mg strength, by 38% to £3.69 for 200mg tablets, by 38% to £3.47 for the 150mg presentation and by 41% to £5.79 for the 300mg strength, based on averages calculated from at least 54 data points.

Meanwhile, modified-release quetiapine in packs of 60 tablets saw declines for the 50mg strength of 31% to £13.30; of 29% for 200mg tablets to £21.42; of 26% for the 400mg version to £43.99; and of a quarter for the 300mg presentation to £33.94.

No price concessions for quetiapine were included among those granted by the UK's Department of Health (DoH) towards the end of January. A concession price of £19.54 was maintained for 30-count packs of buspirone 5mg tablets (*Generics bulletin*, 27 January 2017, page 8), which saw their average price increase by more than half to £19.32 as the lowest available offer almost quadrupled to £9.50.

And metformin 500mg tablets in packs of 28 saw their average price more than double, rising by 138% to £0.59. **G**

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3 February 2017

PRICE WATCH UK

Three-figure rises recorded

UK trade prices for four presentations more than doubled towards the end of February, according to the latest figures provided by WaveData. Comparing UK trade prices between the periods 1-31 January 2017 and 1-21 February 2017, the average price for zolmitriptan 2.5mg tablets in 12-count packs rose by 163% to £28.75 (US\$35.74), while the average for buspirone 10mg tablets in packs of 30 grew by 153% to £11.66. For four risedronate sodium 35mg tablets the average price was 140% higher at £0.98, while the average for 28 metformin 500mg tablets almost exactly doubled to £2.38.

Meanwhile, a price concession was granted by the UK's Department of Health (DoH) for 28-capsule packs of valsartan 80mg that saw an average price increase of more than a fifth – 22% – to £5.93, based on averages calculated from at least 33 data points, despite the lowest offer remaining stable at £2.65. The concession fell slightly short of the average at £5.55.

At the same time, pregabalin capsules in nine presentations experienced average price drops of between 28% and 56% during the February period. The largest drop was seen for 85-count packs of pregabalin 25mg capsules, the average price of which more than halved to £8.39 as 84-count packs of the 50mg, 100mg and 200mg strengths experienced similar price declines. For 56-capsule presentations in 25mg, 75mg, 150mg, 225mg and 300mg strengths, slightly less steep drops of between 28% and 45% were seen. **G**

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24 February 2017

PRICE WATCH UK

Pioglitazone falls two fifths

Average UK trade prices for pioglitazone tablets dropped by as much as two-fifths in February, according to the latest figures provided by WaveData. Comparing UK trade prices between the periods 1-31 January 2017 and 1-28 February 2017, the average price for 28-tablet packs of the diabetes drug in a 30mg strength fell by 41% to £1.31 (US\$1.63), as the lowest available offer fell by almost a tenth to £0.47. For the same pack size of 15mg tablets, the average dropped by 39% to £1.16 as the cheapest price dropped by more than a quarter to £0.36. And the higher 45mg strength saw its average slide by just over three-tenths to £1.84, based on averages calculated from at least 54 data points, despite the lowest offer decreasing by just 8% to £0.60.

Meanwhile, olanzapine tablets in three strengths also saw price declines. A 28-tablet pack of the 20mg version saw its average price drop by 30% to £1.32; the 10mg by a fifth to £0.84; and a 28-count pack of 5mg tablets was 18% cheaper on average at £0.78.

Pregabalin capsules in various strengths continued to see their averages drop, by between a third and more than half (*Generics bulletin*, 24 February 2017, page 10). 

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3 March 2017

PRICE WATCH UK

Pregabalin 50mg near doubles

The average UK trade price for pregabalin 50mg capsules in 56-count packs almost doubled in March, according to the latest figures provided by WaveData.

Comparing UK trade prices between the periods 1-28 February 2017 and 1-28 March 2017, the average price for the presentation rose by 92% to £6.64 (US\$8.34) despite the lowest available offer remaining stable at £2.98. Meanwhile, the same strength in an 84-capsule pack experienced a much lower rise of a fifth to £8.32, based on averages calculated from at least 56 data points, as the cheapest price dropped by 20% to £1.59.

At the same time, 84-capsule packs of pregabalin 100mg and 25mg saw average price rises of 19% to £8.43 and 25% to £10.46 respectively, as the cheapest prices available to pharmacists again fell, by a third to £1.59 and by more than half to £1.06.

Meanwhile, pramipexole 350µg tablets in two different presentations also experienced average price rises. Packs of 100 tablets saw their average jump by almost two-thirds to £26.16 despite an unchanged lowest price of £0.75, while 30-tablet packs of the same strength saw an average price rise of more than two-fifths to £10.88 as the cheapest offer increased by 13% to £0.85. And pramipexole 88µg tablets in a 30-count pack saw an average price rise of 32% to £1.78 as the lowest offer rose by 7% to £0.48. 

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31 March 2017

PRICE WATCH UK

Withdrawn offers cause leaps

Low offers being withdrawn led average UK trade prices for tamsulosin 400µg modified-release tablets and zolmitriptan 2.5mg orodispersible tablets to shoot up in early March, according to the latest figures provided by WaveData.

Comparing UK trade prices between the periods 1-28 February 2017 and 1-20 March 2017, the average price for 30-tablet packs of tamsulosin 400µg almost doubled to £3.72 (US\$4.62) as the lowest available offer soared by 248% from £0.60 to £2.09. At the same time, six-count packs of zolmitriptan 2.5mg orodispersible tablets saw their average price jump by just over half to £15.39, based on averages calculated from at least 38 data points, as the cheapest price available almost trebled to £4.49.

Meanwhile, olanzapine orodispersible tablets in four strengths experienced average price rises of between a third and two-thirds. Packs of 28 tablets for the lowest strength, 5mg, saw their average price jump by 32% to £1.02 despite the lowest offer remaining unchanged at £0.72. And the same pack size of the highest strength, 20mg, registered an average rise of 67% to £2.21 as the cheapest available price again was constant at £1.25.

At the same time, oxycodone prolonged-release tablets in four strengths saw drops of around a fifth to around a quarter, with the average price for 56-tablet packs of the 40mg strength falling by 19% to £28.16 and the same number of 20mg tablets decreasing by 26% to £11.93. 

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24 March 2017

PRICE WATCH UK

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Valsartan prices on the rise

Average UK trade prices for valsartan in several different presentations and dosage forms experienced sharp rises in mid-April, in some cases more than doubling, according to the latest figures provided by WaveData.

Comparing UK trade prices between the periods 1-31 March 2017 and 1-18 April 2017, the average price for 28 valsartan 40mg tablets rose by 112%, more than doubling to £6.25 (US\$7.89) as only one offer was registered in the market by WaveData. At the same time, the country's Department of Health (DoH) offered a price concession of £8.95, more than matching the elevated price.

Meanwhile, valsartan 160mg capsules in 28-count packs saw an increase of three-quarters to £15.10, based on averages calculated from at least 38 data points. The lowest available offer more than trebled from £3.35 to £10.99, as the DoH offered a concession price of £17.25 that again more than covered the average.

A final valsartan concession price was offered by the DoH for 28-count packs of valsartan 80mg tablets. The concession of £11.50 exceeded the average price of £7.25 that was more than a third higher than in March, representing the only price offer to independent pharmacists registered by WaveData in the first 18 days of the month.

Other valsartan presentations also saw average rises, including 28-tablet packs of 160mg tablets ahead by a third to £11.99, and 28-count packs of 80mg capsules that were up by a quarter to £11.12. **G**

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21 April 2017

PRICE WATCH UK

Sumatriptan surges in May

Sumatriptan 50mg tablets in packs of six saw their average UK trade price rocket up by almost seven times in the first three weeks of May, according to the latest figures provided by WaveData.

Comparing UK trade prices between the periods 1-30 April 2017 and 1-22 May 2017, the average price grew by 588% to £8.28 (US\$10.74) from £1.20 in April – based on averages calculated from at least 53 data points – as the lowest available price jumped by almost half from £0.58 to £0.85 per pack. The Department of Health (DoH) has offered a concession price of £28.65.

Meanwhile, betahistine tablets in three presentations saw their average prices more than double. Despite a lowest offer that remained unchanged at £0.65, 120-tablet packs of 8mg tablets saw an average increase of 130% to £3.03. And 84-count packs of the same strength saw an average jump of 154% to £2.51. The DoH has offered pharmacists a £6.33 concession for the smaller pack.

For betahistine 16mg tablets in 84-count packs, the rise was even more pronounced, with an average price that more than trebled to £4.60, representing a rise of 251%. A concession of £12.55 has been offered by the DoH.

Venlafaxine extended-release capsules saw the biggest average price drops during the first three weeks of May, with 28-count packs of 150mg capsules falling by 70% to £3.28 and the same pack size of the 75mg strength dropping by 67% to £2.07. **G**

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26 May 2017

PRICE WATCH UK

Pramipexole gets a concession

Pramipexole 88µg tablets that saw their average UK trade price more than treble in April received a concession from the country's Department of Health (DoH) that more than matched the raised average, according to the latest figures provided by WaveData.

Comparing UK trade prices between the periods 1-31 March 2017 and 1-30 April 2017, the average price for 30-tablet packs shot up by 213% to £5.57 (US\$7.20) – based on averages calculated from at least 55 data points – despite the lowest offer rising by just 4.2% to £0.50. The DoH offered a concession of £8.50.

At the same time, mefenamic acid 500mg tablets in 28-count packs also saw their average trade price more than treble, leaping by 227% to £19.48 as the cheapest offer was unchanged at £4.45.

Meanwhile, fluoxetine in several different presentations experienced average price drops of as much as half in April. A 70ml presentation of fluoxetine sugar-free oral solution in a 20mg/5ml strength experienced an average drop of 55% to £1.89 as its lowest price was stagnant at £1.64. And a similar average price decrease – 53% – was registered for fluoxetine 60mg capsules in 30-count packs, with the decline of more than half to an average price of £4.31 coming as the lowest available price fell to £2.50. Fluoxetine 20mg/5ml oral solution in a 70ml presentation saw its average price fall by a third to £2.20 as the lowest offer held at £1.50. **G**

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5 May 2017

PRICE WATCH UK

Olanzapine prices skyrocket

Olanzapine tablets in several strengths saw their average UK trade prices shoot up in May, with some presentations experiencing increases of as much as 14 times their price in April, according to the latest figures provided by WaveData.

Comparing UK trade prices between the periods 1-30 April 2017 and 1-30 May 2017, the average price of 28 olanzapine 20mg tablets jumped by 1,431% to £21.59 (US\$27.74), despite no change in the lowest offer of £1.12. The same pack sizes of other strengths experienced steep rises, with 15mg increasing by 1,352% to £17.24; 10mg by 1,216% to £13.77; and 5mg by 646% to £6.12. All were calculated from at least 59 data points.

At the same time, 56-count packs of olanzapine 7.5mg tablets saw their average price leap by 613% to £10.31, and 28-tablet packs of the 2.5mg and 7.5mg strengths saw average rises of 349% to £3.61 and 88% to £1.83 respectively.

However, olanzapine orodispersible sugar-free tablets saw their average prices move in the opposite direction. For 28-tablet packs of 20mg orodispersible tablets, the average price fell by 17% to £1.85; for the same pack size of 10mg orodispersible tablets, the drop was 13% to £1.09; and for 5mg orodispersible tablets in 28-count packs, the average fall was 12% to £0.90.

Meanwhile, packs of six sumatriptan 50mg and 100mg tablets saw respective increases of 1,069% to £14.06 and 458% to £6.14. **G**

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2 June 2017

PRICE WATCH UK

Concessions for olanzapine

Persistent UK price rises for olanzapine across several strengths and multiple dosage forms, according to the latest figures provided by WaveData, have attracted the attention of the country's Department of Health (DoH) in mid-June. Price concessions have been offered by the DoH for six presentations.

Comparing UK trade prices between the periods 1-31 May 2017 and 1-19 June 2017, WaveData reported that, of the 16 biggest rising items examined during the period, 15 spots were taken by olanzapine presentations that experienced price rises of between 314% and 1,349%.

The average price for 28 olanzapine orodispersible sugar-free 20mg tablets rose by 1,349% to £26.74 (US\$34.14), while other olanzapine orodispersible tablet presentations saw manifold increases. This extended from the 1,349% high point, down to a rise of 624% to £8.17 for a 28-tablet pack of 5mg orodispersible tablets, based on averages calculated from at least 32 data points.

All six price concessions offered by the DoH covered different strengths of standard tablets in 28-count packs that experienced average rises of between 331% and 661%. The shallowest 331% rise was enjoyed by 2.5mg tablets with an average price of £15.79. These received a concession price of £16.95. Meanwhile, the steepest 661% rise was for 7.5mg tablets, which – with an average price of £27.18 – received a price concession of £52.44. **G**

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23 June 2017

PRICE WATCH UK

Phenytoin falls by two-thirds

Phenytoin 100mg capsules experienced the steepest UK price drop in late June, according to the latest figures provided by WaveData. Comparing UK trade prices between the periods 1-31 May 2017 and 1-27 June 2017, WaveData reported a 66% fall in the average price of phenytoin 100mg capsules in 84-count packs to £13.65 (US\$17.40), based on averages calculated from at least 40 data points, as the cheapest available offer fell by 13% to £7.99.

The UK's Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) recently published its final decision in a case in which it found that Pfizer and its distribution partner Flynn Pharma broke competition law by charging excessive and unfair prices for the epilepsy drug in four strengths (**Generics bulletin**, 16 December 2016, page 9). An appeal hearing against the £84.2 million fine imposed on Pfizer and the £5.2 million penalty levied against Flynn will begin on 30 October this year (**Generics bulletin**, 23 June 2017, page 6).

Meanwhile in June, quetiapine tablets in five separate presentations – 60-tablet packs of the 25mg, 100mg, 150mg, 200mg and 300mg strengths – experienced average price rises of between 186% and 405%, despite the lowest available offers rising by no more than 41%.

Olanzapine tablets in more than a dozen presentations continued to reflect rises of up to 1,349%, maintaining the trend seen in recent weeks (**Generics bulletin**, 23 June 2017, page 12). **G**

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30 June 2017

PRICE WATCH UK

Quetiapine sees several rises

Quetiapine tablets in several presentations experienced steep average UK price rises in July, according to the latest figures provided by WaveData.

Comparing UK trade prices between the periods 1-30 June 2017 and 1-24 July 2017, WaveData reported that average prices for quetiapine rose by as much as 847%, with the molecule accounting for the four steepest price rises registered during the period.

In response, the UK's Department of Health (DoH) in July issued price concessions for 60-tablet packs of quetiapine in five strengths. For 25mg tablets, a £27.00 (US\$35.19) concession price failed to match an average that jumped by 246% to £28.05. The 100mg strength's £90.48 concession was more than the £82.46 reported average that represented an increase of 710%, while the 150mg concession price of £72.00 was slightly short of an average price that leapt by 530% to £77.68.

A £90.48 concession price for 200mg tablets was higher than the average trade price that rose by 847% to £85.09 and the 300mg presentation's £136.00 concession similarly exceeded the average trade price that was up by 693% at £118.57. All averages were calculated on the basis of at least 35 data points.

Meanwhile, 60-count packs of levetiracetam tablets in 250mg, 500mg, 750mg and 1g strengths saw rises of between 269% and 480% during the same period. **G**

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28 July 2017

PRICE WATCH UK

Terbinafine sees turbulence

Terbinafine 250mg tablets in packs of 14 and 28 tablets saw their average UK prices more than quadruple in August, according to the latest figures provided by WaveData.

Comparing UK trade prices between the periods 1-31 July 2017 and 1-30 August 2017, WaveData reported that the smaller pack size experienced an average price rise of 446% to £10.26 (US\$13.25) – based on averages calculated on the basis of at least 34 data points – as the lowest available offer for 14 tablets rose by 62% to £1.28. At the same time, the 28-tablet packs saw an average price rise of 355% to £19.93 as the cheapest price for the higher pack size jumped by 58% to £1.98.

In response, the UK's Department of Health (DoH) in August issued a £12.49 price concession for 14-tablet packs of terbinafine 250mg, more than matching the £10.26 average.

A concession was also granted by the DoH for anastrozole 1mg tablets in 28-count packs. The £14.99 concession compared to an average UK price that rose by 331% to £5.84, as the lowest price advanced by 88% to £0.79.

At the other end of the spectrum, rivastigmine 2mg/ml oral solution in a 120ml presentation enjoyed an average price drop of just over two-fifths, falling by 41% to £47.38. And torasemide 5mg and 10mg tablets saw their average prices decline by 38% to £7.10 and by 39% to £9.36 respectively. **G**

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1 September 2017

PRICE WATCH UK

PRICE WATCH UK

Chlorpromazine skyrockets

Average UK prices of chlorpromazine tablets in 28-count packs shot up in September, according to the latest figures provided by WaveData. Three separate strengths of the antipsychotic drug – 25mg, 50mg and 100mg – registered average price rises of between 1,649% and 1,891%, based on averages calculated on the basis of at least 33 data points.

Comparing UK trade prices between the periods 1-31 August 2017 and 1-19 September 2017, WaveData reported that 28-count packs of chlorpromazine 25mg tablets had seen an average rise of 1,891% to £24.38 (US\$32.89), despite the lowest available offer increasing by just 49% to £1.62. Similarly, the 50mg strength saw an average rise of 1,802% to £23.84 as the lowest offer jumped by just 30% to £1.39, and the 100mg strength experienced a rise of 1,649% to £24.59 while the cheapest offer was just 32% higher at £1.25.

In response, the UK's Department of Health (DoH) issued chlorpromazine price concessions of £32.20 for the 25mg strength – more than matching the £24.38 average – and £35.00 for the 100mg tablets, which considerably exceeded the average of £24.59.

Also experiencing steep price rises in early September were amlodipine besilate tablets in 5mg and 10mg strengths. The lower strength saw an average rise of 907% to £2.04 for 28 tablets, while the same pack size of the higher strength increased by 771% on average to £2.05. **G**

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22 September 2017

PRICE WATCH UK

Concessions ramp up in UK

Price concessions offered by the UK's Department of Health (DoH) ramped up this month, with the list issued on 19 September comprising over 30 different molecules across more than 50 separate presentations. The concessions came as UK pharmacists experienced supply issues, in part due to manufacturing deficiencies identified at major suppliers (see page 3).

Concession prices of £32.20 (US\$43.41) and £35.00 continued to be offered for chlorpromazine 25mg and 100mg tablets respectively for 28-count packs, as average UK prices for the molecule experienced huge leaps compared to August, according to the latest figures provided by WaveData.

Comparing UK trade prices between the periods 1-31 August 2017 and 1-26 September 2017, WaveData reported that 28-count packs of chlorpromazine 25mg tablets saw an average price rise of 2,005% to £25.77, exceeding the rate of 1,891% recorded earlier this month (**Generics bulletin**, 22 September 2017, page 8). The 100mg presentation saw its average rise by 1,742% to £25.90, while the 50mg strength in 28-tablet packs experienced an average leap of 1,863% to £24.60, based on averages calculated from at least 33 data points.

Average price declines were far less pronounced, with risedronate sodium 35mg tablets in packs of four registering the steepest average price drop recorded by WaveData: a 51% fall to £0.46. **G**

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29 September 2017

PRICE WATCH UK

Glimepiride garners growth

Average UK prices of glimepiride tablets in four presentations saw rises of between 175% and 297% in mid-November, according to the latest figures provided by WaveData.

Comparing UK trade prices between the periods 1-31 October 2017 and 1-21 November 2017, WaveData reported that the average price for a 30-tablet pack of the 1mg strength climbed by 175% to £2.17 (US\$2.87) as the lowest price offer rose by 186% to £0.63. Meanwhile, the same pack size of the 2mg strength saw a 218% average price increase to £2.93; the 3mg strength experienced an average rise of 290% to £3.98; and the 4mg strength soared by 297% on average, to £5.09. All calculations were based on averages calculated from at least 38 data points.

Glimepiride did not, however, feature on the list of price concessions granted by the UK's Department of Health (DoH) in mid-November, which listed a total of 25 molecules across almost 40 strengths and presentations.

Neither did felodipine 2.5mg tablets in 28-count packs, which experienced the steepest price rise recorded by WaveData during the period, growing by 324% to £3.74. This jump came as the cheapest offer available in the marketplace leapt by 595% to £2.99.

Felodipine 5mg and 10mg tablets experienced lower average price rises of just over half to £3.95 and £4.80 respectively. But the lowest prices available barely changed. **G**

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24 November 2017

PRICE WATCH UK

Olanzapine prices see drops

Olanzapine tablets in both orodispersible and standard forms experienced average UK price drops across several strengths in late November, with prices falling by as much as half, according to the latest figures provided by WaveData.

Comparing UK trade prices between the periods 1-31 October 2017 and 1-28 November 2017, WaveData reported that the average price for olanzapine 5mg sugar-free orodispersible tablets in 28-count packs fell by 59% to £13.65 (US\$18.15), despite the cheapest offer dropping by just 7% to £9.95. Other strengths of olanzapine orodispersible tablets experienced gentler declines, with the average price for the same pack size of the 20mg strength falling by 32% to £29.71; the 15mg strength decreasing by 28% to £21.77; and the regular 5mg orodispersible tablets sliding by 24% to £10.00.

Standard tablets experienced average price drops of less than a quarter. For 10mg olanzapine tablets in 28-count packs, the average price slipped by 24% to £34.35. For 56-tablet packs of the 7.5mg strength, the decline was 23% to £41.52. And 28-tablet packs of the 5mg and 2.5mg strengths saw falls of 22% and 21% respectively.

Meanwhile, glimepiride and felodipine continued to experience steep price increases (**Generics bulletin**, 24 November 2017, page 8). Glimepiride 30-tablet packs in 1mg, 2mg, 3mg and 4mg strengths saw prices as much as quadruple, while felodipine 2.5mg tablets in 28-count packs experienced a 405% average price rise to £4.46. **G**

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.



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PRICE WATCH UK

Topiramate tops price rises

UK trade prices for topiramate tablets in four strengths experienced some of the steepest rises seen in mid-December, according to the latest figures provided by WaveData.

Comparing UK trade prices between the periods 1-30 November 2017 and 1-19 December 2017, WaveData reported that 60-tablet packs of topiramate 100mg tablets saw their average price leap by 415% to £18.40 (US\$24.59), despite the cheapest available offer rising by just two-fifths to £2.17. Meanwhile, 50mg tablets in the same pack size saw their average price rise by 321% to £9.83; 25mg tablets experienced an average increase of 194% to £5.30; and the 200mg strength saw its average price jump by 151% to £19.81. All averages were calculated from at least 35 data points.

Co-amilofruse 2.5mg/20mg tablets combining amiloride and furosemide in 56-count packs saw an average price rise of 245% to £7.38 while 5mg/40mg tablets in packs of 56 and 28 units increased by 155% to £7.50 and by 56% to £4.12 respectively.

Meanwhile, olanzapine orodispersible sugar-free tablets in 28-count packs continued the decline seen late last month (**Generics bulletin**, 1 December 2017, page 12). A 76% drop for the 15mg strength reduced the average price down to £11.49, while for the 10mg version a 70% decline took the price to £10.49. While the average price of 20mg tablets halved to £29.98, for 5mg tablets the drop was 31% to £9.38. 

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