

Oxybutynin averages far exceed minimum


Oxybutynin tablets in four presentations saw their average UK trade prices leap by as much as five times in April, according to the latest figures from WaveData. However, the high averages belied minimum price offers that barely changed, with each representing only about an eighth of the average prices recorded across the month.

An average rise of 428% to £7.02 (US\$9.51) for oxybutynin 2.5mg tablets in 84-count packs came as the cheapest offer advanced by just 11% to £0.82. Similarly, a 381% increase for 56 tablets of the same strength to £4.95 came as the lowest price in the market rose by just 5% to £0.65. At the same time, 5mg tablets in 56- and 84-tablet packs saw average rises of 315% and 295% to £6.68 and £7.78 respectively, despite the cheapest offers rising by just 3% to £0.75 and by 12% to £1.25 (see Figure 2).

Price concessions offered by the Department of Health and Social

Care (DHSC) only applied to the 56-tablet presentations, with the concessions of £1.87 for 5mg tablets and £1.11 for the 2.5mg strength falling far short of the average prices in the marketplace.

Rivastigmine capsules also appeared in the table of 'biggest risers', with prices for the 4.5mg and 6mg strengths that grew by 98% and 146% despite the lowest offers remaining virtually unchanged. Among recent launches, the steepest average price rise was seen for tadalafil 10mg tablets that grew by 18% to £2.76. Meanwhile, both nortriptyline 10mg tablets and rosuvastatin 5mg tablets rose by 13% (see Figure 1).

Our 'biggest fallers' in Figure 3 reflected falling average prices for both olanzapine and amlodipine besilate tablets across several strengths and presentations. And, as Figure 4 shows, statins accounted for numerous offers in the market, with gastrointestinal drugs omeprazole and lansoprazole also among the fastest-moving products. 

RECENT LAUNCHES				
Product/Strength/Pack size	Lowest price	Change (%)	Average price	Change (%)
Aripiprazole tabs 10mg 28	£1.47	±0	£3.30	-16
Carbimazole tabs 5mg 100	£29.00	-3	£36.01	+1
Celecoxib caps 200mg 30	£0.77	+3	£1.28	+9
Cilostazol tabs 100mg 56	£3.29	±0	£3.93	-6
Duloxetine caps 30mg 28	£1.72	-20	£3.60	-3
Eplerenone tabs 25mg 28	£3.61	-12	£10.79	-24
Escitalopram tabs 10mg 28	£0.49	±0	£0.85	+4
Etoricoxib tabs 90mg 28	£2.10	-7	£4.42	±0
Frovatriptan tabs 2.5mg 6	£4.95	±0	£6.04	-3
Memantine tabs 10mg 28	£0.55	+2	£0.81	+3
Montelukast tabs 10mg 28	£0.62	±0	£0.97	-1
Nefopam tabs 30mg 90	£7.00	-13	£14.49	-1
Nortriptyline tabs 10mg 100	£1.99	-28	£7.86	+13
Olmесartan tabs 10mg 28	£0.80	+8	£1.38	-1
Pregabalin caps 150mg 56	£2.50	+1	£4.37	±0
Raloxifene tabs 60mg 28	£2.26	±0	£2.98	±0
Rasagiline tabs 1mg 28	£0.99	-21	£2.78	-3
Rizatriptan tabs 10mg 3	£4.59	+9	£8.15	+2
Rosuvastatin tabs 5mg 28	£0.79	±0	£2.23	+13
Sevelamer tabs 800mg 180	£22.39	±0	£26.39	+4
Sildenafil tabs 100mg 4	£0.27	+17	£0.47	+9
Tadalafil tabs 10mg 4	£1.18	+19	£2.76	+18
Telmisartan tabs 80mg 28	£0.85	-11	£1.37	+1
Travoprost drops 40µg/ml 2.5ml	£3.55	-24	£6.22	-5
Zonisamide caps 100mg 56	£3.74	±0	£7.92	-3

Figure 1 (above): Comparison between the periods 1-31 March 2018 and 1-30 April 2018 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 28 data points. Figure 2 (top right) and Figure 3 (centre right): Biggest average trade-price changes between 1-31 March 2018 and 1-30 April 2018. Averages calculated from at least 18 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 30 April). 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 (%)
Oxybutynin tabs 2.5mg 84	£0.82	+11	£7.02	+428
Oxybutynin tabs 2.5mg 56	£0.65	+5	£4.95	+381
Oxybutynin tabs 5mg 56	£0.75	+3	£6.68	+315
Oxybutynin tabs 5mg 84	£1.25	+12	£7.78	+295
Rivastigmine caps 6mg 28	£1.85	+1	£8.86	+146
Rivastigmine caps 4.5mg 28	£1.43	+1	£6.51	+98

BIGGEST FALLERS				
Product/Strength/Pack size	Lowest price	Change (%)	Average price	Change (%)
Olanzapine tabs 7.5mg 28	£3.24	-35	£8.30	-36
Olanzapine tabs 7.5mg 56	£5.90	-13	£12.09	-36
Amlodipine besilate tabs 5mg 28	£0.33	-25	£0.55	-29
Olanzapine tabs 15mg 28	£2.70	-23	£12.52	-24
Amlodipine besilate tabs 10mg 28	£0.33	-25	£0.56	-22
Olanzapine tabs 2.5mg 28	£1.10	±0	£3.14	-22

FAST MOVERS			
Product/Strength/Pack size	Price offers as at 30 April 2018		
	February	March	April
Atorvastatin tabs 40mg 28	123	129	146
Omeprazole caps 20mg 28	143	158	143
Simvastatin tabs 40mg 28	129	137	139
Sertraline tabs 50mg 28	116	127	138
Lansoprazole caps 30mg 28	126	144	123
Ramipril caps 10mg 28	118	123	121
Bisoprolol fumarate tabs 2.5mg 28	93	107	110
Amitriptyline tabs 10mg 28	113	106	108
Folic Acid tabs 5mg 28	75	87	107
Bendroflumethiazide tabs 2.5mg 28	111	108	107

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