

# UK market shakes off summertime blues

Generics suppliers made efforts to push up the prices of the generics they sold to independent pharmacists and dispensing doctors during July, when most of the 'fast-moving' products showed increases in their average market prices compared with a month earlier.

As Figure 1 shows, pravastatin continued its price recovery, with average prices of the two lower strengths increasing by double-digit amounts. Simvastatin, too, staged a price revival, along with amlodipine and citalopram amongst others. Average prices of 28-tablet packs of pravastatin 20mg reached £1.40 (US\$2.70), exactly £0.05 per tablet, the highest they had been since August 2005.

Most fast movers saw their average market prices increase

during July, but there were still bargains to be had, with the lowest prices available ploughing new depths. Lamotrigine 25mg was on offer for less than £0.02 per tablet, a price that was less than a quarter of the average in the marketplace.

Doxazosin 2mg appeared amongst the 'biggest fallers' for the second month running (see Figure 2), joined by doxazosin 4mg this month instead of the 1mg strength, which was highlighted in June. Prices for 100-capsule packs of gabapentin 300mg have been volatile recently. Last month the epilepsy drug appeared amongst the biggest fallers, but in July it was the best of the biggest risers, more than overturning its June declines (see Figure 3).

## BIGGEST FALLERS

Product/Strength/Pack size	Lowest price	Change (%)	Average price	Change (%)
Fluconazole caps 200mg 7	£0.32	±0	£2.62	-17
Doxazosin tabs 2mg 28	£0.44	+5	£0.78	-15
Doxazosin tabs 4mg 28	£1.29	-11	£2.55	-9
Fluvoxamine tabs 50mg 60	£3.12	±0	£5.79	-9
Sotalol tabs 80mg 28	£0.39	-5	£0.54	-9
Celiprolol tabs 200mg 28	£2.75	-7	£4.79	-8

## BIGGEST RISERS

Product/Strength/Pack size	Lowest price	Change (%)	Average price	Change (%)
Gabapentin caps 300mg 100	£3.15	+11	£6.23	+30
Levothyroxine tabs 25µg 28	£0.15	±0	£0.35	+28
Cetirizine tabs 10mg 30	£0.21	-5	£0.44	+25
Bendroflumethiazide tabs 2.5mg 28	£0.08	±0	£0.18	+24
Mirtazapine tabs 30mg 28	£4.39	+83	£6.07	+22
Glibenclamide tabs 5mg 28	£0.15	±0	£0.30	+21

Figure 1 (below): Comparison between the periods 1-30 June and 1-31 July 2006 of the lowest and average UK market prices of fast-moving generics. Each average price was calculated from at least 42 data points. Figure 2 (above) and Figure 3 (above right): Biggest changes recorded between the periods 1-30 June and

1-31 July 2006 in lowest and average UK market 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 14 data points (Source - WaveData).

## FAST MOVERS

Product/Strength/Pack size	Lowest price	Change (%)	Average price	Change (%)
Alendronate tabs 70mg 4	£2.50	-7	£6.34	+34
Amlodipine tabs 5mg 28	£0.51	±0	£0.86	+17
Amlodipine tabs 10mg 28	£0.76	+1	£1.23	+21
Carvedilol tabs 3.125mg 28	£0.38	-19	£1.26	+18
Carvedilol tabs 6.25mg 28	£0.55	-15	£1.39	+6
Carvedilol tabs 12.5mg 28	£0.64	-14	£1.56	+2
Carvedilol tabs 25mg 28	£0.85	-8	£1.94	+4
Ciprofloxacin tabs 250mg 10	£0.23	-8	£0.48	+6
Ciprofloxacin tabs 500mg 10	£0.28	-15	£0.62	+6
Ciprofloxacin tabs 750mg 10	£0.68	-1	£1.28	+1
Citalopram tabs 10mg 28	£0.65	-2	£1.08	+4
Citalopram tabs 20mg 28	£0.95	+2	£1.51	+6
Citalopram tabs 40mg 28	£0.75	-15	£1.81	+8
Clarithromycin tabs 250mg 14	£1.05	-19	£2.75	-2
Clarithromycin tabs 500mg 14	£3.23	-12	£5.57	±0
Lamotrigine tabs 25mg 56	£1.00	-32	£4.07	+1
Lamotrigine tabs 50mg 56	£2.29	-15	£6.42	+11
Lamotrigine tabs 100mg 56	£3.15	+62	£10.65	+11
Lamotrigine tabs 200mg 56	£7.08	-21	£20.96	-1
Lansoprazole caps 15mg 28	£0.93	-2	£1.85	+13

## FAST MOVERS

Product/Strength/Pack size	Lowest price	Change (%)	Average price	Change (%)
Lansoprazole caps 30mg 28	£1.97	+6	£3.11	+10
Lisinopril tabs 2.5mg 28	£0.12	±0	£0.27	+2
Lisinopril tabs 5mg 28	£0.14	+8	£0.31	+9
Lisinopril tabs 10mg 28	£0.20	±0	£0.47	+4
Lisinopril tabs 20mg 28	£0.40	-5	£0.73	-5
Omeprazole caps 10mg 28	£0.87	-2	£1.50	-2
Omeprazole caps 20mg 28	£0.92	+2	£1.97	+11
Paroxetine tabs 20mg 30	£2.35	-6	£3.41	-2
Pravastatin tabs 10mg 28	£0.48	±0	£1.00	+19
Pravastatin tabs 20mg 28	£0.75	+97	£1.40	+18
Pravastatin tabs 40mg 28	£1.85	+3	£2.48	+9
Ramipril caps 1.25mg 28	£0.20	-29	£0.51	+8
Ramipril caps 2.5mg 28	£0.22	±0	£0.64	-4
Ramipril caps 5mg 28	£0.52	+2	£0.82	+3
Ramipril caps 10mg 28	£0.66	+12	£0.99	+1
Sertraline tabs 50mg 28	£0.78	-8	£2.13	+7
Sertraline tabs 100mg 28	£1.42	-19	£3.56	+10
Simvastatin tabs 10mg 28	£0.21	+5	£0.47	+45
Simvastatin tabs 20mg 28	£0.37	+3	£0.72	+29
Simvastatin tabs 40mg 28	£0.93	-3	£1.47	+6

## PRICE WATCH ..... UK

highlights generics price changes in the UK market and appears exclusively in every issue of **Generics bulletin**, courtesy of the Pharma TouchStone service of WaveData.

WaveData collects and collates pricing information from a number of European countries. In the UK, pricing information about generics, brands and parallel imports is gathered from offers made to independent retail pharmacists and dispensing doctors by wholesalers, suppliers and product manufacturers.

WaveData collates this data and publishes the results as its Pharma TouchStone service. This is designed to give customers of the service fast, accurate, real-time access to current generic prices.

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