

December buying ends on a high note

Four packs of topiramate tabs and three packs of felodipine MR tabs featured among the products showing rising purchase prices in December. Even so, dispensing doctors once again showed themselves able to achieve the better prices, compared to pharmacists, who only surpass doctors' buying power on generics on a couple of occasions a year.



Risers

A concession price of £21.12 in November allowed the average price of bicalutamide tabs 50mg x28 to rise by 322 per cent for dispensing doctors. Almost all companies increased their prices to pharmacists and dispensing doctors. Additionally, the number of offers dropped from 46 in November to 40 in December. The best offers below £3.00 were from Lexon, Teva, Mawdsleys, Numark and Accord.

A large increase in the Scottish December drug tariff for glimepiride tabs 4mg x30 may have influenced the price increases instituted by a number of suppliers in December. The best offers below £8.00 were from Target, Mawdsleys, B&S, Beta, Lexon, Aver generics, CrossPharma, Eclipse and Ethigen.

Another big jump in the Scottish December drug tariff, this time to £38 for topiramate tabs 100mg x60, was accompanied by an increase to 17 in the number of offers above £20.00, compared to just one in November. The best deals (above £3.00) were available in December from Teva, Accord and AAH.

Fallers

In December, Alliance Healthcare was among those to reduce prices. The best offers available below £15.00 were from Beta, Target, Mawdsleys, AAH, Sangers, OTC Direct and Numark.

Ketoprofen CR caps 200mg x28 displayed a net downward price trend in December, despite varied approaches from a number of companies. The best offers below £7.00 were from Beta, OTC Direct, Ethigen, Alliance and Numark. Price decreases by both full and shortline wholesalers produced a 70 per cent reduction in the offer prices of ibuprofen gel 5% x100g. The best offers below £1.00 were from Ethigen, Cross Pharma, Eclipse, Cambrian Alliance, Waymade, Target, Munro, B&S, Beta, Numark, OTC Direct and Mawdsleys.