



### **By Wavedata**

Extraordinary by its absence during July is any common theme to the price movements seen during the month: the only product to show any kind of trend was sertraline tabs which had two packs among the month's purchase price 'fallers'. It is too early to say whether this is a result of the Summer 'silly season' or an early sign that shortages are abating.

What is clear, however, is that July was a good month for dispensing doctors, who were able to negotiate the best deals for both generics and PIs, compared to pharmacies. Only time will tell if doctors can maintain their superior PI buying power as they continue to do with generics.

### **Fallers**

The July price reductions for montelukast chewable tabs S/F 4mg x28 were caused by reductions in the number of offer prices over £5.00, and moves by AAH, Numark and Alliance. The English Tariff price fell by 4 per cent in July, but has risen to £1.24 in August. The best deals below £1.00 were on offer from Cambrian, Medihealth North, Aver Generics, B&S, AAH, Numark, Purepharm, Cross Pharma, DE, Trident and Eclipse.

Market price reductions for riluzole tabs 50mg x56 were accompanied by increases in the English Drug Tariff in July and August and by continuing concession prices in July. However, July has seen market prices fall, with a number of suppliers reducing prices. The best deals on offer below £50.00 were from AAH, Purepharm, Ethigen and DE.

Metformin tabs 500mg x500 painted a mixed picture of increased and decreased prices during July. However, compared to the very high prices seen during June, the overall effect of the market movements was an average price reduction. The best deals on offer below £10.00 were from Alliance, Eclipse, Ethigen, Munro, Numark, DE and B&S.

### **Risers**

Moclobemide tabs 150mg x30 saw large price increases during the month, primarily led by aggressive price increases from a couple of suppliers. However, low prices were available, and there were offers below £5.00 available from Numark, DE, Alliance, OTC Direct and Teva.

Drug Tariff increases for doxycycline caps 100mg x8 in both July and August may have compounded supplier price increases already underway. The result was a 184 per cent increase in the average market price. The best offers below £0.60 were from B&S, AAH, Cambrian, Teva and Munro.

Oxytetracycline tabs 250mg x28 was another product to see Drug Tariff increases in July and August. Overall, most suppliers increased prices to some extent, and the remaining offers below £0.70 were from Sigma, Eclipse, DE, Numark, Target and OTC Direct.