

Fast movers take in more molecules

More and more launches, combined with limited editorial space, have meant an overhaul of the 'fast movers' section of Price Watch so that it better reflects what is happening to the prices of some of the more important products on the UK market.

Products like glimepiride, mirtazapine, ondansetron, sumatriptan and terbinafine have been added to the list in Figure 1 at the expense of the weakest strengths of some of the broader product lines.

The average price of 28-tablet packs of carvedilol 3.125mg dropped by 35% in May (see Figure 2), immediately after the product had been removed from the fast movers table. Average prices for several strengths of beclometasone, however, more than made up

for the shortfall by increasing by more than 50% (see Figure 3). The lowest price offers failed to change at the same rate, however, indicating that at least one supplier was prepared to buck the trend.

Pravastatin prices among the fast movers experienced the opposite effect. Price offers were withdrawn for the 20mg and 40mg strengths during the month, but such was the number of suppliers that average prices for the cholesterol-lowerer barely moved. Enalapril 20mg nearly had the distinction of being the cheapest product in the fast-movers table after a price fall of 41% to £0.13 (US\$0.25). Simvastatin 10mg, however, at just £0.10 for a 28-tablet pack, was slightly cheaper. **G**

BIGGEST FALLERS				
Product/Strength/Pack size	Lowest price	Change (%)	Average price	Change (%)
Atenolol tabs 25mg 28	£0.08	±0	£0.12	-40
Gliclazide tabs 80mg 28	£0.27	±0	£0.38	-37
Amoxicillin caps 500mg 21	£0.27	+4	£0.38	-35
Carvedilol tabs 3.125mg 28	£0.40	+3	£0.57	-35
Furosemide tabs 40mg 28	£0.09	±0	£0.13	-32
Warfarin tabs 1mg 28	£0.15	+15	£0.26	-31

BIGGEST RISERS				
Product/Strength/Pack size	Lowest price	Change (%)	Average price	Change (%)
Beclometasone 50µg 200 dose	£1.25	+3	£2.52	+54
Beclomestasonone 100µg 200 dose	£1.96	+13	£3.69	+54
Beclomestasonone 250µg 200 dose	£4.85	+9	£7.55	+34
Prochlorperazine tabs 5mg 84	£0.75	+21	£2.14	+19
Ranitidine tabs 300mg 30	£0.40	±0	£0.83	+15
Moxonidine tabs 300µg 28	£3.95	+5	£6.28	+6

Figure 1 (below): Comparison between the periods 1-30 April and 1-30 May 2007 of the lowest and average UK market prices of fast-moving generics. Each average price was calculated from at least 10 data points. Figure 2 (above) and Figure 3 (above right): Biggest changes recorded between the periods 1-30 April and

1-30 May 2007 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 24 data points (Source - WaveData).

FAST MOVERS					FAST MOVERS				
Product/Strength/Pack size	Lowest price	Change (%)	Average price	Change (%)	Product/Strength/Pack size	Lowest price	Change (%)	Average price	Change (%)
Alendronate tabs 70mg 4	£0.97	-2	£1.53	-8	Lisinopril tabs 20mg 28	£0.51	+42	£0.76	-1
Amlodipine tabs 5mg 28	£0.39	±0	£0.51	-1	Metformin tabs 500mg 84	£0.43	+2	£0.52	-18
Amlodipine tabs 10mg 28	£0.53	+2	£0.71	-1	Mirtazapine tabs 30mg 28	£1.78	-6	£3.45	-18
Carvedilol tabs 6.25mg 28	£0.33	-23	£0.67	-22	Omeprazole caps 10mg 28	£0.69	-8	£0.92	-13
Carvedilol tabs 12.5mg 28	£0.40	-26	£0.89	-20	Omeprazole caps 20mg 28	£0.70	-11	£1.02	-16
Carvedilol tabs 25mg 28	£0.95	-4	£1.30	-4	Ondansetron tabs 4mg 30	£4.15	+7	£24.10	-9
Ciprofloxacin tabs 500mg 10	£0.28	-3	£0.43	+1	Paroxetine tabs 20mg 30	£1.50	-3	£2.29	-6
Citalopram tabs 10mg 28	£0.33	-13	£0.63	-18	Pravastatin tabs 20mg 28	£2.25	+24	£2.73	-1
Citalopram tabs 20mg 28	£0.45	-17	£0.81	-17	Pravastatin tabs 40mg 28	£3.45	+40	£4.70	+2
Citalopram tabs 40mg 28	£0.69	-8	£1.12	-15	Ramipril caps 2.5mg 28	£0.37	+9	£0.53	-3
Clarithromycin tabs 250mg 14	£1.32	-5	£2.09	-2	Ramipril caps 5mg 28	£0.46	-12	£0.72	-8
Enalapril tabs 20mg 28	£0.13	-41	£0.34	-9	Ramipril caps 10mg 28	£0.74	+14	£0.97	-11
Fosinopril tabs 20mg 28	£1.40	-13	£2.56	-3	Sertraline tabs 50mg 28	£0.42	+2	£0.72	-9
Glimepiride tabs 4mg 30	£2.70	-9	£4.05	-8	Sertraline tabs 100mg 28	£0.59	-9	£1.12	-15
Lamotrigine tabs 50mg 56	£0.80	+1	£1.91	-6	Simvastatin tabs 10mg 28	£0.10	-17	£0.19	-5
Lamotrigine tabs 100mg 56	£1.51	±0	£2.96	-8	Simvastatin tabs 20mg 28	£0.19	-14	£0.31	-9
Lansoprazole caps 15mg 28	£1.02	+3	£1.33	-10	Simvastatin tabs 40mg 28	£0.53	-4	£0.74	-10
Lansoprazole caps 30mg 28	£1.99	±0	£2.35	-8	Sumatriptan tabs 50mg 6	£0.76	-23	£1.89	-6
Lisinopril tabs 5mg 28	£0.23	±0	£0.37	±0	Tamsulosin caps 400µg 30	£1.25	±0	£2.05	-4
Lisinopril tabs 10mg 28	£0.34	+17	£0.54	+11	Terbinafine tabs 250mg 14	£1.43	-13	£1.97	-21

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 giving customers fast, accurate, real-time access to current generic prices. WaveData's Profesy price-forecasting tool can be found at www.wavedata.biz.

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