



Circular 011/20

30th March 2020.

Dear Pharmacist,

As you are aware, the Minister for Health signed the Commencement Order for the Health (Pricing and Supply of Medical Goods) Act 2013 on 24 June 2013. In compliance with the legislation, please find set out below the reference prices effective 1st May 2020 for the groups of interchangeable medicinal products listed:

Product	Group	Price per 50*	Price per 90*	Price per 100*	Price per Tablet
Gabapentin Caps. 100 mg.	IC0109-024-001		€6.80	€7.56	€0.0756
Gabapentin Caps. 300 mg.	IC0109-029-001	€5.94		€11.88	€0.1188
Gabapentin Caps. 400 mg.	IC0109-068-001	€7.02		€14.04	€0.1404
Gabapentin Film Coated Tabs. 600 mg.	IC0109-168-003			€23.76	€0.2376
Gabapentin Film Coated Tabs. 800 mg.	IC0109-169-003			€29.16	€0.2916

*Pro rata prices will apply for different pack sizes as appropriate

From 1 May 2020, the HSE will reimburse the notified reference price for the relevant interchangeable products detailed above unless informed by the pharmacist that the GP has stated 'Do Not Substitute' in his/her own handwriting on any prescription presented for dispensing for any of the products in interchangeable groups.

Where a product is prescribed that is within one of the groups of interchangeable medicinal products, having completed the dispensing function, pharmacists are asked to record how the medical practitioner has prescribed by confirming one of the following:

- INN Prescribed
- Branded Generic Prescribed
- Proprietary Prescribed
- 'Do Not Substitute' invoked

If a patient presents a non-GMS prescription where the prescriber has written 'Do Not Substitute' it is important for the pharmacy to ensure that a photocopy of the prescription is retained so it can be made available to the PCRS as necessary to validate any claim for extra costs arising.

Your co-operation in ensuring a smooth transition for patients is requested.

Yours faithfully,

Shaun Flanagan,
Primary Care Reimbursement & Eligibility.