



Circular 001/21

1st January 2021

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 February 2021 for the groups of interchangeable medicinal products listed:

Product	Group	Price per 28*	Price per 30*	Price per 90*	Price per Tablet
Rasagiline Tabs. 1 mg.	IC0112-039-002	€25.10	€26.89		€0.8964

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

From 1 February 2021, 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. As per Circular 16/20, during the COVID 19 emergency, where the prescriber wishes the patient to access the proprietary product rather than the reference priced generic alternative, 'Do Not Substitute' can be computer generated on the prescription rather than in the prescriber's own handwriting.

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 with a non-GMS prescription, 'Do Not Substitute' must be written on the prescription by the prescriber or stated on the prescription for the duration of the current pandemic. It is important for the pharmacy to ensure that a copy 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.