



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Seirbhís Aisioca Príomhchúraim  
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Circular 032/14

2 December 2014

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. Set out below are the reference prices for the next groups of interchangeable medicinal products, Telmisartan, Telmisartan HCTZ, Venlafaxine, Amlodipine, Zopiclone, Escitalopram, Tamsulosin, Risedronic Acid and Quetiapine for which a reference price has been determined by the HSE.

Product	Group	Price per 28*	Price per 56*	Price per tablet
Telmisartan 20mg	IC0049-003-014	€4.48		€0.1600
Telmisartan 40mg	IC0049-004-014	€5.32		€0.1900
Telmisartan 80mg	IC0049-005-014	€7.00		€0.2500
Telmisartan HCTZ 40mg / 12.5mg	IC0050-099-014	€5.88		€0.2100
Telmisartan HCTZ 80mg / 12.5mg	IC0050-081-014	€8.68		€0.3100
Telmisartan HCTZ 80mg / 25mg	IC0050-100-014	€8.68		€0.3100
Venlafaxine 37.5mg Tablets	IC0026-063-002		€5.04	€0.0900
Venlafaxine 75mg Tablets	IC0026-028-002		€7.84	€0.1400
Venlafaxine 37.5mg Prolonged Release	IC0026-063-030	€5.04		€0.1800
Venlafaxine 75mg Prolonged Release	IC0026-028-030	€4.20		€0.1500
Venlafaxine 150mg Prolonged Release	IC0026-062-030	€7.00		€0.2500
Amlodipine 5mg	IC0045-001-008	€2.16		€0.0771
Amlodipine 10mg	IC0045-002-008	€3.24		€0.1157
Zopiclone 3.75mg	IC0055-108-003	€2.80		€0.1000
Zopiclone 7.5mg	IC0055-041-003	€2.80		€0.1000

\*Pro rata prices will apply for different pack sizes where such apply

Product	Group	Price per 28	Price per 30	Price per tablet/cap
Escitalopram 5mg	IC0071-001-003	€4.20		€0.1500
Escitalopram 10mg	IC0071-002-015	€5.04		€0.1800
Escitalopram 15mg	IC0071-032-003	€6.16		€0.2200
Escitalopram 20mg	IC0071-003-015	€8.12		€0.2900
Tamsulosin 400mcg MR/PR Caps	IC0024-066-044		€6.00	€0.2000
Tamsulosin 400mcg MR /PR Tabs	IC0024-066-024		€6.00	€0.2000

Product	Group	Price per 4	Price per 60	Price per tablet
Risedronic Acid 35mg	IC0068-124-003	€5.04		€1.2600
Quetiapine 50mg SR	IC0019-023-024		€25.92	€0.4320
Quetiapine 200mg SR	IC0019-067-024		€51.65	€0.8608
Quetiapine 300mg SR	IC0019-029-024		€67.32	€1.1220
Quetiapine 400mg SR	IC0019-0068-024		€90.21	€1.5035

From 1 January 2015, 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:

- a) INN Prescribed
- b) Branded Generic Prescribed
- c) Proprietary Prescribed
- d) 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 cooperation in ensuring a smooth transition for patients is requested.

Yours faithfully,



Patrick Burke  
Primary Care Reimbursement Service