

**Table 3 Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme:
most prescribed items - 12 months to end June 1998**

Rank	Code	Drug	Form	Volume	Govt Cost \$	Total Cost \$	Ave Price \$
1	1746	Paracetamol	Tablet 500 mg	3,779,675	19,109,164	28,267,986	7.48
2	1215	Codeine Phosphate with Paracetamol	Tablet 30 mg-500 mg	2,741,374	15,688,250	22,585,293	8.24
3	2108	Temazepam	Capsule 10 mg	2,255,509	8,749,090	14,305,926	6.34
4	1978	Ranitidine Hydrochloride	Tablet 150 mg (base)	2,250,178	55,176,755	69,069,980	30.70
5	3087	Salbutamol	Oral inhal. 100mcg per dose (200 doses)	2,076,313	14,131,862	19,631,358	9.45
6	1081	Atenolol	Tablet 50 mg	2,012,464	14,306,686	19,856,480	9.87
7	2012	Simvastatin	Tablet 20 mg	1,973,066	104,050,697	119,023,811	60.32
8	2011	Simvastatin	Tablet 10 mg	1,848,191	64,776,866	77,775,886	42.08
9	1327	Omeprazole	Capsule 20 mg	1,496,606	136,513,484	148,295,760	99.09
10	2751	Amlodipine Besylate	Tablet 5 mg (base)	1,421,631	23,887,627	34,149,178	24.02
11	1369	Enalapril Maleate	Tablet 20 mg	1,315,923	39,627,086	49,985,803	37.99
12	2852	Influenza Vaccine	Injection (trivalent) 0.5mL	1,289,820	18,530,656	22,625,846	17.54
13	3133	Oxazepam	Tablet 30 mg	1,279,107	4,431,976	7,520,323	5.88
14	3162	Diazepam	Tablet 5 mg	1,248,520	5,237,212	8,371,905	6.71
15	1558	Isosorbide Mononitrate	Tablets 60mg (sustained release)	1,124,576	21,897,185	25,517,428	22.69
16	2412	Fruzemide	Tablet 40 mg	1,056,296	5,549,375	8,027,597	7.60
17	1889	Amoxicillin	Capsule 500 mg	1,041,580	8,641,818	11,659,023	11.19
18	3119	Cephalexin	Capsule 500 mg	1,038,327	8,839,229	11,813,140	11.38
19	2430	Metformin Hydrochloride	Tablet 500 mg	1,023,044	12,751,235	15,488,773	15.14
20	1300	Diclofenac	Tablet 50 mg (enteric coated)	986,440	7,893,231	10,556,633	10.70
21	1368	Enalapril Maleate	Tablet 10 mg	977,639	20,719,463	28,188,612	28.83
22	1169	Cefaclor	Tablet 375 mg (sustained release)	927,983	10,828,575	13,505,460	14.55
23	3051	Perindopril	Tablet 4 mg	881,868	21,155,573	28,694,019	32.54
24	2242	Paroxetine	Tablet 20 mg (base)	860,403	29,381,680	37,548,089	43.64
25	2001	Salbutamol Sulfate	Nebuliser solution 5 mg in 2.5mL, 30	782,874	20,043,141	23,494,135	30.01
26	2752	Amlodipine Besylate	Tablet 10 mg (base)	782,574	23,100,575	29,611,780	37.84
27	2487	Famotidine	Tablet 20 mg	772,330	18,513,640	23,579,147	30.53
28	2236	Sertraline	Tablet 50 mg (base)	759,593	21,319,055	28,454,466	37.46
29	1434	Fluoxetine Hydrochloride	Capsule 20 mg (base)	743,921	22,513,187	29,615,652	39.81
30	2723	Nitrazepam	Tablet 5 mg	743,390	3,006,479	4,716,649	6.34
31	1760	Roxithromycin	Tablet 150 mg	738,211	7,099,968	9,215,452	12.48
32	2367	Felodipine	Tablet 10 mg (extended release)	737,429	19,163,571	24,936,055	33.81
33	1652	Beclomethasone Dipropionate	Oral inhal. 250mcg per dose (200 doses)	730,239	17,009,295	22,758,850	31.17
34	2072	Budesonide	Oral inhal. 400mcg per dose (200 doses)	726,634	25,703,077	32,062,245	44.12
35	2893	Prochlorperazine	Tablet 5 mg	677,820	3,138,692	4,836,405	7.14
36	2366	Felodipine	Tablet 5 mg (extended release)	675,986	9,774,033	13,741,048	20.33
37	1241	Verapamil Hydrochloride	Tablet 240 mg (sustained release)	659,230	9,792,538	11,727,570	17.79
38	2457	Lisinopril	Tablet 10 mg	624,980	13,128,723	18,478,776	29.57
39	1891	Amoxicillin with Clavulanic Acid	Tablet 500 mg-125 mg	586,383	8,409,103	10,082,834	17.19
40	1453	Gemfibrozil	Tablet 600 mg	578,764	22,230,864	26,580,850	45.93
41	1906	Nifedipine	Tablet 30 mg (controlled release)	570,138	10,612,338	14,426,532	25.30
42	1010	Aspirin	Tablet 300 mg (dispersible)	565,082	2,064,657	3,435,473	6.08
43	8016	Roxithromycin	Tablet 300 mg	557,636	5,376,789	6,993,602	12.54
44	1312	Diltiazem Hydrochloride	Capsule 180 mg (controlled delivery)	550,082	12,426,317	15,554,106	28.28
45	1734	Oestrogens Conjugated	Tablets 625mcg	549,943	4,580,395	6,101,580	11.09
46	2834	Pravastatin	Tablet 20 mg	538,017	28,306,648	32,702,601	60.78
47	1279	Timolol Maleate	Eye drops 5 mg (base) per mL, 5mL	534,129	5,650,183	7,053,541	13.21
48	2458	Lisinopril	Tablet 20 mg	534,035	15,369,446	19,828,102	37.13
49	2449	Gliclazide	Tablet 80 mg	531,840	6,819,043	8,196,218	15.41
50	1370	Enalapril Maleate	Tablet 5 mg	530,198	8,155,571	11,071,359	20.88