

Table 4 **Top 20 suppliers by Total cost for 1997-98**
(from PBS processed prescriptions)

Rank	Supplier(s)	Scripts	Govt cost	Total cost	Sales ex-supplier
1	Merck Sharp & Dohme	8,825,002	249,085,600	304,928,913	217,734,984
2	Astra	7,446,693	258,297,983	301,318,377	220,238,092
3	Glaxo Wellcome	10,192,849	207,591,706	258,879,670	175,555,146
4	Alphapharm	9,026,277	109,976,493	138,336,305	80,657,847
5	Pfizer	4,869,925	100,431,505	133,077,159	91,186,778
6	Bristol-Myers Squibb	3,572,264	108,878,173	132,004,646	95,427,836
7	AMRAD	3,071,135	102,312,549	123,644,865	90,192,192
8	Roche	3,662,405	101,163,293	117,651,601	83,249,625
9	ICI	3,441,970	91,683,555	109,876,101	78,699,292
10	SmithKline Beecham	3,381,058	68,569,718	85,580,021	57,363,170
11	Wyeth Australia	4,554,956	66,247,962	81,924,423	50,894,888
12	Novartis	4,050,745	65,386,996	80,885,824	51,983,057
13	Pharmacia & Upjohn	2,487,734	66,891,956	78,646,439	55,023,840
14	Rhone-Poulenc Rorer	3,913,596	50,135,934	65,992,830	40,095,633
15	Eli Lilly	2,792,493	52,527,529	64,998,341	42,491,930
16	Hoechst Marion Roussel	3,820,038	48,185,651	64,039,766	38,758,848
17	Boehringer Ingelheim	1,283,731	56,417,132	62,475,999	46,599,332
18	Parke Davis	2,548,064	48,779,933	61,834,228	41,583,087
19	Novo Nordisk	630,434	53,467,976	56,838,640	44,447,116
20	Sanofi Winthrop	6,449,837	39,152,641	56,088,679	22,989,762
	Others	35,090,603	596,286,990	733,252,742	470,632,187
	Total	125,111,809	2,541,471,273	3,112,275,568	2,095,804,640

Note: includes branded and unbranded scripts and Doctor's bag scripts written for EP items contained in 'Other' total.