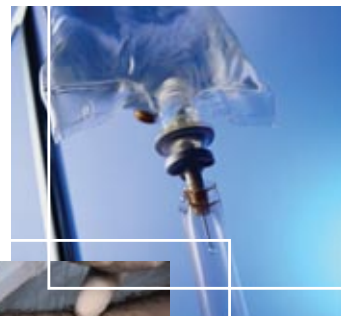
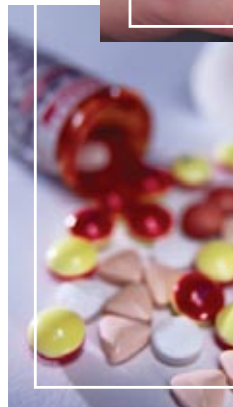
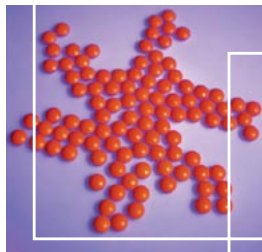


PHARMACEUTICAL BENEFITS

PRICING AUTHORITY

ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 30 June 2002



Australian Government Publishing  
Service Canberra



**PHARMACEUTICAL**

**BENEFITS**

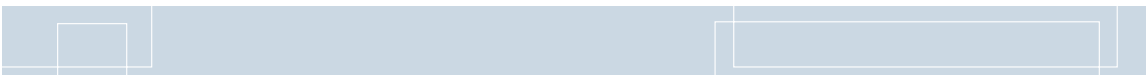
**PRICING**

**AUTHORITY**

**Annual Report**

**For the year ended 30 June 2002**

Australian Government Publishing  
Service Canberra



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Senator the Hon K.C.L. Patterson  
Minister for Health and Ageing  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Senator Patterson

I present herewith the fifteenth annual report of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Pricing Authority on the operations of the Authority, and on the Authority's interpretation of its operating guidelines for the year ended 30 June 2002.

This report is made in accordance with the requirement of sub section 34C(2) of the Acts Interpretation Act 1901, that in the absence of specific requirements to the contrary, an annual report shall be furnished to you as soon as practicable after the end of the reporting period.

Yours faithfully



Graham Glenn  
Chairman

19 March 2003

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## PREFACE

This is the fifteenth annual report of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Pricing Authority covering the operations of the Authority for the year ended 30 June 2002.

### Tabling requirements

It is a requirement of sub section 34C(3) of the Acts Interpretation Act 1901, that in the absence of specific requirements to the contrary, the annual report shall be laid before each House of the Parliament within 15 sitting days of that House after the day on which the Minister receives the report.

### Structure of report

The report is divided into four chapters:

- [chapter 1](#) provides basic information about the Authority's genesis, membership and financial arrangements;
- [chapter 2](#) addresses the factors considered by the Authority for pricing of pharmaceutical benefits made available under the Government's Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme administered by the Department of Health and Ageing;
- [chapter 3](#) deals with activities under the Government's Pharmaceutical Industry Investment Program administered by the Department of Industry, Science and Resources; and
- [chapter 4](#) contains related tables and figures.


## CHAPTER 1

### Pharmaceutical Benefits Pricing Authority

---

The Pharmaceutical Benefits Pricing Authority is an independent non-statutory body established in 1988 which is required to:

- review the prices of products supplied under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme;
- recommend prices for new items that are recommended for listing on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme; and
- administer companies' participation in the Pharmaceutical Industry Investment Program.

### Membership

---

The Authority's membership for the 2001-2002 financial year was:

Chairman	Mr Graham Glenn - appointed with effect from 1 June 1992.
Industry nominee	Mr Alan Evans - appointed with effect from 29 February 2000, as the nominee of the Australian Pharmaceutical Manufacturers' Association (now Medicines Australia).
Consumer nominee	Ms Jo Watson - appointed with effect from 25 February 2002, as the nominee of the Consumers' Health Forum.
Consumer nominee	Mr Geoff Honnor - appointed with effect from 10 December 1998 to 31 October 2001 as the nominee of the Consumers' Health Forum.
Department of Health and Ageing representative	Mr Brett Lennon - appointed with effect from 23 November 1998.
Department of Industry, Tourism and Resources representative	Mr Craig Penniford - appointed with effect from 15 December 1999.



## Secretariat Support

---

The Authority is serviced by two secretariats, viz:

- PBS pricing matters
- Industry development matters

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Secretary  
Pharmaceutical Benefits  
Pricing Authority  
GPO Box 9848  
CANBERRA ACT 2601

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The Authority supports best management practice in communicating with suppliers and other interested parties to make the Authority's decisions and decision making processes as transparent as possible, subject to the confidences in which certain commercially sensitive information must be held.

Consultation with respective secretariat staff on the interpretation of the Authority's guidelines, practices and procedures is encouraged to ensure that all interested parties gain a clear understanding of those matters and have the maximum opportunity to make their views known to the Authority.

## Technical support

---

Technical advice to assist the Authority in its deliberations is provided by the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC).

## Co-ordination to achieve timely outcomes

Pricing Authority meetings are coordinated with meetings of the PBAC, so that PBAC outcomes can be dealt with as soon as possible consistent with the need to collect pricing information.

## Financial arrangements

The Department of Health and Ageing budget, in addition to financing the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme, provides funds for:

- the fees and expenses incurred by the Chairman, industry and consumer nominees, in accordance with determinations made from time to time by the Remuneration Tribunal;
- the day to day operations of dealing with pricing matters under the Scheme; and
- the costs of associated meetings, seminars and other related expenses.

The Department of Industry, Tourism and Resources budget, in addition to financing the Pharmaceutical Industry Investment Program, provides funds for running costs associated with the Program.

For the year ended 30 June 2002 the Authority operating costs were:

Authority operating costs 2001-2002	Health portfolio \$	Industry portfolio \$	Total costs \$
Direct costs including Chairman's, industry and consumer nominees' expenses	10,215	0	10,215
Salaries	315,653	113,000*	428,655
Members & secretariat travel and allowances	55,586	3,070	58,656
Administrative and property costs	22,844	21,165**	44,009
Total costs	\$404,298	137,235	\$541,445

\* Includes operation of the Secretariat for the PIIP.

\*\* Includes legal fees and the PIIP database maintenance costs.

## CHAPTER 2

### Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme

---

The Authority's objective in reviewing prices of items listed under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme is to secure a reliable supply of pharmaceutical products at the most reasonable cost to Australian taxpayers and consumers and consistent with maintaining a sustainable pharmaceutical industry in Australia.

Under its terms of reference the Authority is required to determine or recommend to the Minister for Health and Ageing prices of items listed as pharmaceutical benefits or recommended by the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee for listing. The Pricing Secretariat also conducts negotiations with suppliers, where necessary, on proposed prices.

### Factors considered by the Authority

---

In reviewing the price of listed items and in considering the price of items recommended for listing, the Authority takes account of the following factors:

- (a) Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee comments on clinical and cost effectiveness aspects of items;
- (b) the prices of alternative brands of a drug;
- (c) comparative prices of drugs in the same therapeutic group;
- (d) costs information, when provided by the supplier or estimated by the Authority;
- (e) prescription volumes, economies of scale and other factors such as expiry dating, storage requirements, product stability and special manufacturing requirements;
- (f) The level of activity being undertaken by the company in Australia, including new investment, production, research and development (this factor is met by the Pharmaceutical Industry Investment Program);
- (g) prices of the drug in reasonably comparable overseas countries;
- (h) other relevant factors which the applicant company may wish the Authority to consider; and
- (i) Any directions of the Minister.

Price adjustments for items require the approval of the Minister for Health and Ageing.

## Establishing Prices for New Listings

---

For new listings recommended by the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee, the Authority recommends the prices to be negotiated by the Department of Health and Ageing.

All proposed listings with a predicted cost to the PBS in excess of \$10 million per annum must be considered by Cabinet. This means that, where the Department of Finance and Administration has estimated the cost of a proposed new listing as being above this threshold, Cabinet consideration will be required before the listing can be finalised.

The main mechanism to determine initial prices is the advice of the PBAC.

The Authority sometimes recommends the use of price/volume arrangements. This is particularly so where unit prices are reasonably high and there is the potential for significant volumes or where there is uncertainty about future volumes. Such arrangements have also been negotiated where there is potential for volumes to increase significantly due to use outside PBS restrictions. During the year there was some industry resistance to the use of price/volume arrangements because the industry considered it unfair to 'penalise' them when use outside the PBS restrictions resulted from doctors prescribing practices.

## Reviewing prices for existing items

---

The main mechanisms used by the Authority for reviewing prices of pharmaceutical products supplied through the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme are:

- comparative prices of products that are considered by the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee to have a similar therapeutic effect or benefit; or, where this is not available
- on the basis of further cost effectiveness justification by the sponsor.
- gross margin on the cost of manufacture, or landed cost.

The Authority may also request additional data from applicants, including drug utilisation data, so that relevant treatment costs can be independently calculated.

The weighted average monthly treatment mechanism used in previous years for reviewing prices was suspended in 2001-2002 (see Review of the Weighted Average Monthly Treatment Cost (WAMTC) methodology).


## Therapeutic Relativities

---

The Authority issues relativity sheets that identify the basis of pricing comparisons between therapeutically similar products. These are mainly based on the advice from the PBAC. If necessary, clarification can be obtained from the secretariat, and the relativities may be changed by the presentation of further data to the PBAC.

## Effects of price adjustments

---

Prices or price adjustments determined or recommended by the Authority have an impact on:

- suppliers through adjusted selling prices;
- wholesalers through the margin on the agreed price of products to pharmacist;
- pharmacists through the mark-up on wholesale prices;
- hospitals dispensing highly specialised drugs to community based patients through the special distribution arrangements provided for under Section 100 of the National Health Act 1953; and
- consumers and taxpayers that, either directly or indirectly, bear part or all of the cost of the drugs dispensed under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme.

The prices set by the Authority cover not only subsidised products, but also products listed in the Schedule priced below the maximum co-payment for general patients. The co-payment for the period of the report was \$22.40.

## Brand Premium Policy

---

The Brand Premium Policy was introduced in December 1990 to reduce price control where possible by allowing pharmaceutical suppliers to set their own prices on multi-branded and therapeutically interchangeable brands listed on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme, provided one brand was available at the subsidised price. This also encourages the development of the generic pharmaceutical industry in Australia.

The policy for alternative brands has the effect of making it possible for prescribers and patients to be more aware of the price of drugs. The policy also allows companies to establish prices taking into account competition and the heightened consumer awareness of price differentials.

The policy operates where there is more than one brand of a particular drug available through the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme and where the brands are therapeutically interchangeable. The policy mainly applies, therefore, to out of patent drugs.

Under the policy, suppliers of multi-branded items are able to set their own prices at a level they think the market will bear. At the same time, prescribers, pharmacists and patients can decide whether it is necessary to pay more for a particular brand when a cheaper equivalent and therapeutically interchangeable brand is available.

Basically, the policy operates by:

- the Commonwealth subsidising a drug to the level of the lowest priced brand;
- suppliers of other brands of that drug being able to set a price above the price charged by the supplier of the lowest priced brand, where the brands are therapeutically equivalent (usually bio-equivalent); and
- the patient paying the brand premium which is the price difference between the lowest priced brand and the brand prescribed.

As the brand premium is not a Government charge, it does not count toward a patient's safety net. The premium arises from the supplier's price setting and the majority of it goes to the supplier, with wholesalers and pharmacists receiving a percentage.

As at 30 June 2002 there were 293 benefit items with a brand premium that could be therapeutically interchanged. The average brand premium was \$2.80 and premiums ranged from \$0.01 cent to \$79.48. The majority of brand premiums were in the range of \$1.00 to \$2.25.

## Brand Substitution

---

The Government introduced a policy of brand substitution from 1 December 1994. Under that policy, a pharmacist can substitute a brand other than that prescribed by the patient's doctor without reference back to the prescriber. This practice is only allowed in cases where the brand to be substituted is equivalent to that prescribed by the doctor.

Equivalent brands are shown in the Schedule of Pharmaceutical Benefits as having been demonstrated to be bio-equivalent or therapeutically equivalent, or that justification for not needing bio-equivalence or therapeutic equivalence data has been provided and accepted by the Therapeutic Goods Administration. If other brands are not shown in this way it does not imply that they are not equivalent, but simply that it is unknown whether or not they are equivalent.

The following table shows the effect of brand substitution.

	Dec 1994	May 2000	May 2001	May 2002
Number of products with a premium	124	253	297	293
Average brand premium	\$1.54	\$2.12	\$2.20	\$2.83
Weighted average brand premium	\$1.07	\$1.45	\$1.68	\$1.57
Brand premium Range	\$0.19 to \$11.26	\$0.23 to \$43.28	\$0.01 to \$45.33	\$0.01 \$79.48
Prescriptions dispensed with a brand premium in the previous 12 months	26.0m	33.4m	33.4m	33.3m
Prescriptions dispensed at the benchmark level in the previous 12 month period	5.4m	26.3m	29.4m	32.6m
Percentage at the benchmark level	17%	44%	47%	49%
Brands at the benchmark price		434	766	854

Weighted average brand premium is calculated by:  
 Scripts x premium = total premium value,  
 Total premium value/total scripts = weighted average brand premium

## Therapeutic Group Premium (TGP) Policy

The TGP policy was introduced in 1998 as an extension to the Brand Premium Policy. Under this approach, the Government subsidy is based on the benchmark price (ie. the lowest priced drug/s in each group) and the price difference for a more expensive drug within the relevant group is paid by the patient over and above the relevant patient co-payment.

There are four drug groups under the TGP policy. These are ACE Inhibitors and Calcium Channel Blockers that are used to treat cardiovascular disease, HMG CoA reductase inhibitors used for lowering blood cholesterol and the H2 receptor antagonists for the treatment of peptic ulcers.

Under the TGP policy, where a patient cannot for clinical or compliance reasons tolerate the benchmark priced drug, the prescriber can apply to the Health Insurance Commission for an exemption to supply the dearer alternative drug at no extra cost to the patient.

The prices of items in the four therapeutic groups under the TGP policy are reviewed by the Authority on a weighted average monthly treatment cost basis. However, price adjustments using this methodology have not been made since January 2001 pending the outcome of the review of the Weighted Average Monthly Treatment Cost methodology.

As at 30 June 2002 there were 69 items within the four groups under the TGP policy. These consisted of 179 brands at the benchmark price, 39 brands with a brand premium and 14 with a therapeutic premium. The TGP's ranged from \$2.14 to \$7.01.

## Review of the Weighted Average Monthly Treatment Cost (WAMTC) methodology

The comparison of monthly treatment costs is a pricing tool which has been used by the Authority to review prices of closely related drugs for many years.

The WAMTC applies to groups of drugs that are considered to be therapeutically similar by the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee. Under the evidenced-based approach used for the listing and pricing of drugs, it is the practice to price these at the same level.

In 1999, the Minister for Health and Ageing announced a review of the WAMTC methodology following concern being expressed about aspects of its operation.

Ernst & Young ABC was selected to undertake the review and reported in March 2001.

Pharmaceutical suppliers, Medicines Australia, the Department of Health and Ageing and the Department of Industry Tourism and Resources were all consulted during the course of the review.


The Authority has considered the recommendations in the report and agreed on a number of changes to the operation of the WAMTC arrangement. At 30 June 2002 further discussions were taking place between the Department of Health and Ageing and Medicines Australia on some aspects of the review.

Since January 2001, pending finalisation of the WAMTC review, prices of products that would normally have been adjusted through the WAMTC process have been frozen.

### Extra Pricing Procedure

---

A pricing procedure came into effect from 1 May 1999 to allow variations to premiums and benchmark prices to occur with minimum delay.

The procedure allows sponsors to vary premium prices or reduce benchmark prices without reference to the Authority. Applications for increases to the benchmark prices continue to be considered by the Authority.

### Highly Specialised Drugs


---

Section 100 of the National Health Act provides for an alternative means of providing a pharmaceutical benefit in circumstances where the usual PBS supply arrangements are unsuitable.

There are certain drugs that because of their clinical use or other special features are restricted to prescription through hospitals having access to appropriate specialist facilities. These drugs, called Highly Specialised Drugs (HSDs), are among those supplied via Section 100. The Highly Specialised Drugs Program is a Commonwealth Government subsidy mechanism for the supply of HSDs. The Commonwealth provides funding for the drug cost for community based patients. The State and Territory Governments fund the in-patient usage of Highly Specialised Drugs within public hospitals.

For a drug to be approved under these arrangements and be included in the scheme, it must comply with specific criteria agreed between the Commonwealth and the State and Territory governments and be recommended by the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee.

If a drug is suitable for supply through the normal PBS arrangements it is not eligible for funding through the Highly Specialised Drugs Program. The funding to the States and Territories, additional to the Australian Health Care Agreement funding, is only available when the public hospitals are used as the necessary mode of supply to PBS patients.



The Authority's role in respect of these drugs is to review and negotiate national prices for their supply. Prices are negotiated at ex-manufacturer level. The prices and prescribing restrictions for these Highly Specialised Drugs are separately listed in the Schedule of Pharmaceutical Benefits.

At 30 June 2002 there were 46 Highly Specialised Drugs listed under Section 100. Subject to reconciliation of expenditure, the expected cost is \$306.02 million for both Public and Private Hospitals, which is a 13.99% increase on the previous year.

### Special Pharmaceutical Benefits

A product may require a special patient contribution when a pricing agreement between the Government and supplier cannot be reached for unique products. Such products are 'special pharmaceutical benefits'. There is currently one product listed that has a special patient contribution.

The special patient contribution is the difference between the dispensed price requested by the supplier and the Government's dispensed price. The special patient contribution is payable by all patients in addition to the relevant patient contribution for concessional and general patients.

### Therapeutic Group Reviews

The Authority reviews annually the price of each drug listed in the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme by therapeutic groupings. Suppliers are asked to submit cost and other data that they wish the Authority to consider in reviewing product prices.

### Confidentiality of information

All information provided on a confidential basis to the Authority is strictly treated as such. This confidential information is not disclosed to any person apart from members of the Authority and relevant officers of the Department of Health and Ageing and the Department of Industry, Tourism and Resources, without the express permission of the Chairman and the company concerned.



**Results of therapeutic group reviews 2001-2002**

In the 2001-2002 financial year, the Authority held four therapeutic group reviews, the summary results of which are compared below with those for the previous year:

<b>Product review results</b>	<b>2000-2001</b>	<b>2001-2002</b>
Number of products reviewed:	2,435	2,561
Number of products for which price applications were received:	575 23.6%	558 21.8%
Number of products for which price increases were granted:	153 6.3%	117 4.6%

The number of new items recommended for listing and new items actually listed for the financial year 2001-2002 was:

Number of items recommended for listing by the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee:	80
Section 100	7
(based on PBAC meetings held in 2001-2002 financial year, includes different strengths)	
Number of items listed	76
Section 100	28
(based on new items & strengths listed in the PBS Schedules for 2001-2002)	

## Estimated cost of price increases of existing items 2001-2002

The general price increases granted to suppliers in 2001-2002 are collectively estimated to add \$3.14 million to the cost of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme in a full year based on the latest available twelve months prescription volume for each item at the time of review. A comparison with the estimated full year costs in the previous year is set out below:

Approval of price increases	2000-2001	2001-2002
	\$ million	\$ million
Recommended by Authority and subsequently approved by the Minister	6.44	3.14

These cost estimates do not include any expenditure for increased Australian activities considered under the Pharmaceutical Industry Investment Program.



Cost of Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme, 2001-2002

The total cost of the PBS for 2001-2002 was \$5,003.3 million. This comprised \$4,197.3 million for Commonwealth Government payments and patient contributions of \$806 million.

Category	Processed Script numbers	Cost to Govt (excludes patient contributions)	Total cost
	# million	\$ million	\$ million
General non Safety Net	19.3	691.2	1,118.2
General safety net	4.8	148.5	165.4
Concessional non Safety Net	102.0	2,569.4	2,931.6
Concessional safety net	28.4	778.41	778.43
Dr's Bag	0.45	9.8	9.8
Total	154.95	\$4,197.31	\$5,003.43

Note: For the general public, where a pharmaceutical benefit has a dispensed price below the general patient contribution (that is, below \$22.40), the consumer pays the full amount including an additional dispensing fee of 91 cents provided that the total cost does not exceed \$22.40. The above figures do not include these amounts.

## CHAPTER 3

### Pharmaceutical Industry Investment Program

---

A supplementary Annual Report on the Pharmaceutical Industry Investment Program for the full 2000-01 financial year was released in 2002.

The Pharmaceutical Industry Investment Program (PIIP) commenced on 1 July 1999 and will run to 30 June 2004. Total funding of \$300 million has been allocated for the five years. The Program was designed to compensate the pharmaceutical industry, in part, for the impact on activity of the Government exercising its monopsony purchasing power under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme. It also aims to increase the total level of activity undertaken in Australia that has a direct link to or is of direct relevance to the pharmaceutical industry.

Participating companies receive partial compensation for the effects of price and volume constraints under the PBS in exchange for performing additional Production Value Added and Research and Development activities. Partial compensation is paid in the form of either notional or actual price increases on PBS products nominated by participating companies.

### Participating companies

---

Nine companies were offered and signed contracts for entry into PIIP. The companies are:

- AMRAD Corporation Limited
- Bristol-Myers Squibb Australia Pty Ltd
- CSL Limited
- Eli Lilly Australia Pty Ltd
- F H Faulding and Co Limited (Now Mayne Pharma)
- Glaxo Wellcome Australia Pty Ltd (Now GlaxoSmithKline Australia Pty Ltd)
- Janssen-Cilag Pty Ltd
- Pfizer Pty Ltd
- Pharmacia & Upjohn Pty Ltd (Now Pharmacia Australia)


### 2001-2002 Activity

During 2001-02, payments totalling \$40,873,936 for production value added and \$9,994,287 for research and development were made.

A supplementary Annual Report for the PIP for the year ended 30 June 2002 is being prepared by the Department of Industry, Tourism and Resources and will be released in 2003. Please note that financial year data only becomes available in December of each year.

## CHAPTER 4

### Tables and figures

---

- Table 1: Summary of therapeutic group reviews for 2001-2002.
- Table 2: Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme highest cost items 12 months to 30 June 2002.
- Table 3: Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme most prescribed items - 12 Months to 30 June 2002.
- Table 4: Top 20 suppliers by value for 2001-2002
- Table 5: Top 20 suppliers by market share (scripts) for 2001-2002 (from processed PBS prescriptions).
- Table 6a: Significant drug groups (incl Dr's Bag) by highest Government cost.
- Table 6b: Significant drug groups (incl Dr's Bag) by highest script volume.
- Table 7a: PBS Drugs comparison (with Dr's Bag) sorted by highest change to Government cost.
- Table 7b: Significant Drugs (incl Drs Bag) - Sorted by highest volume change.

**Table 1 Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme  
Summary of ATC Minor Group reviews for 2001 - 2002**

ATC code	Minor Group	No. of Products Reviewed	Script Volume	Govt Cost \$	Total Cost\$	Estimated cost to Government of Price Increases \$
A01	Gastrointestinal preparations	4	245,623	1,507,954	2,138,426	30,506
A02	Antacids, drugs for treatment of peptic ulcer & flatulence	140	10,162,226	358,281,020	421,497,960	0
A03	Antispasmodic & anticholinergic agents & propulsives	10	684,108	6,226,086	8,206,202	0
A04	Antiemetics & antinauseants	22	774,571	12,727,802	15,970,779	0
A06	Laxatives	17	575,164	9,012,052	10,562,403	42,988
A07	Antidiarrheals, intestinal antiinflammatory / antimotives	19	888,634	28,078,173	34,133,962	353,089
A09	Digestives, inc. enzymes	5	49,330	7,379,381	7,689,149	0
A10	Drugs used in diabetes	73	4,283,020	142,243,802	157,126,136	0
A11	Vitamins	6	330,392	18,151,041	19,632,615	3,380
A12	Mineral supplements	6	1,020,469	9,353,277	12,009,961	0
A14	Anabolic agents for systemic use	2	52,652	934,494	1,065,144	85,118
B01	Antithrombotic Agents	41	3,311,112	91,344,571	102,696,863	0
B05	Blood substitutes and perfusion solutions	14	45,736	779,140	1,010,232	2,521
C01	Cardiac Therapy	63	3,262,095	59,083,726	68,911,725	189,307
C02	Antihypertensives	38	756,169	10,652,249	13,677,610	0
C03	Diuretics	45	2,550,014	24,008,977	31,197,086	0
C07	Beta Blocking Agents	50	4,389,237	54,996,105	68,867,505	0
C08	Calcium Channel Blockers	62	7,214,418	146,024,672	183,200,796	0
C09	Agents acting on the Renin-Angiotensin System	137	16,111,982	328,478,461	449,479,766	0
C10	Serum Lipid Reducing Agents	36	12,302,266	647,240,330	741,453,945	0
D07	Corticosteroids, Dermatological Preparations	30	2,449,897	20,795,493	29,257,632	283,130
G03	Sex hormones and modulators of the genital system	145	6,007,311	122,220,543	146,616,606	0
H02	Corticosteroids for systemic use	31	1,583,391	10,671,841	15,461,905	433,885
J01	Antibacterials for systemic use	29	11,328,417	135,318,895	174,566,850	72,612
J05	Antivirals for systemic use	301	301,911	63,430,681	67,931,004	0
L01	Antineoplastic Agents	109	348,976	122,537,698	125,707,250	1,161
L02	Endocrine Therapy	38	376,372	90,876,947	93,734,575	29,620
L03	Immunomodulating Agents	23	67,023	73,901,889	74,737,642	38,636
M01	Antiinflammatory and Antirheumatic Products	103	8,652,275	201,726,877	253,672,653	92,634
M03	Muscle relaxants	20	108,923	5,413,758	6,065,888	0
M04	Anigout Preparations	14	847,750	6,845,872	9,206,199	0
M05	Drugs for treatment of Bone Diseases	16	1,100,790	65,415,389	71,108,910	0

Table 1 Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme

Summary of ATC Minor Group reviews for 2001 - 2002

ATC code	Minor Group	No. of Products Reviewed	Script Volume	Govt Cost \$	Total Cost\$	Estimated cost to Government of Price Increases \$
N02	Analgesics	86	10,437,489	114,673,994	143,752,595	1,554
N03	Antiepileptics	57	1,478,676	78,872,424	89,572,603	4,495
N04	Anti-Parkinson drugs	39	566,648	27,130,995	29,757,681	0
N05	Psycholeptics	98	7,599,138	204,373,089	227,868,716	29,985
N06	Psychoanaleptics	95	10,297,287	292,336,835	378,139,719	0
R03	Anti-Asthmatics	95	9,969,484	306,761,219	368,385,088	105,754
S01	Ophthalmologicals	97	5,806,494	78,066,535	97,277,243	199,968
S02	Otologicals	10	808,701	3,027,014	5,394,963	17,594
V03	All other therapeutic products	9	19,994	1,283,268	1,351,278	0
V04	Diagnostic agents	23	524,643	24,095,235	26,520,436	40,522
V06	General nutrients	47	50,339	14,624,623	15,158,462	1,121,707
Ad hoc/Others		202	294,283	2,241,597	3,114,512	0
Total		2,561	150,033,830	4,023,146,389	4,804,872,664	3,140,166

Table 2: Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme  
Highest Government Cost Items - 12 months to end June 2002

Rank	Code	Drug	Form	Script Volume	Govt Cost \$	Total Cost \$	Ave Price \$
1	8333	OMEPRAZOLE	Tablet 20 mg, 30	3,307,281	155,688,640	182,099,396	55.06
2	2012	SINWASTATIN	Tablet 20 mg	2,270,194	117,151,599	132,494,311	58.36
3	8214	ATORWASTATIN	Tablet 20 mg	2,043,693	103,751,222	121,765,032	59.58
4	8440	CELECOXIB	Capsule 200 mg, 60	3,198,094	94,494,260	117,095,768	36.61
5	8215	ATORWASTATIN	Tablet 40 mg	1,124,538	88,303,842	98,105,405	87.24
6	8187	OLANZAPINE	Tablet 10 mg, 30	234,329	76,995,746	78,241,377	333.90
7	8173	SINWASTATIN	Tablet 40 mg	1,029,975	76,375,570	84,024,635	81.58
8	8213	ATORWASTATIN	Tablet 10 mg	1,932,821	66,993,016	83,178,597	43.03
9	8008	PANTOPRAZOLE	Tablet (enteric coated) equivalent to 40mg	1,427,965	61,086,795	72,147,754	50.52
10	8432	SALMETEROL and FLUTICASONE	Powder for oral inhal, 50mg/500ug	772,519	55,388,896	62,179,892	80.49
11	8358	CLOPIDOGREL	Tablet 75 mg	696,307	55,305,643	58,530,699	84.06
12	8197	PRAWASTATIN	Tablet 40 mg, 30	710,490	51,183,584	56,654,467	79.74
13	8472	ROFECOXIB	Tablet 25 mg, 30	1,339,955	46,627,155	57,416,490	42.85
14	2011	SINWASTATIN	Tablet 10 mg	1,154,174	41,965,545	48,815,134	42.29
15	2242	PAROXETINE	Tablet 20 mg (base)	1,312,287	41,961,629	55,333,834	42.17
16	8511	ALENDRONIC ACID	Tablet 70 mg alendronic acid	751,386	37,994,311	41,959,932	55.84
17	8220	CITALOPRAM	Tablet 20 mg (base)	1,290,771	36,615,521	50,317,267	38.98
18	1978	RANITIDINE HYDROCHLORIDE	Tablet 150 mg (base)	1,879,575	35,098,390	41,111,331	21.87
19	8101	INTERFERON BETA-1b	Injection set 1 vial powder dose 8,000,000 i.u.	29,334	34,192,182	34,554,473	1177.97
20	8243	LANANOPROST	Eye drops 50 ug per ml (0.005%), 2.5 mL	1,108,192	33,636,461	39,464,037	35.61
21	2241	LANSOPRAZOLE	Capsule 30 mg	690,137	33,374,775	39,496,589	57.23
22	2236	SERRALINE	Tablet 50 mg (base)	1,217,866	33,291,417	45,539,254	37.39
23	2834	PRAWASTATIN	Tablet 20 mg, 30	693,175	31,454,302	36,397,999	52.51
24	2237	SERRALINE	Tablet 100 mg (base)	997,184	30,678,040	40,980,354	41.10
25	8238	IPRATROPIUM BROMIDE	Nebuliser solution single dose 500 ug 1 mL	510,647	30,061,458	31,689,554	62.06
26	8288	SALBUTAMOL	Oral pressurised inhal 100 ug (base) CFC-free	2,252,970	29,928,362	36,348,287	16.13
27	8093	GOSRELIN	Subcutaneous implant 10.8 mg (base)	26,045	29,703,971	29,839,533	1145.69
28	8465	BUPROPION	Tablet 150 mg (sustained release)	127,965	28,826,538	30,563,776	238.84
29	8405	IBRESARTAN with HYDROCHLOROTHIAZIDE	Tablet 300 mg-12.5 mg	1,157,946	28,807,171	39,438,588	34.06
30	3051	PERINDOPRIL	Tablet 4 mg, 30	1,440,689	28,413,635	39,622,731	27.50

Table 2: Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme  
Highest Government Cost Items - 12 months to end June 2002 (continued)

Rank	Code	Drug	Form	Script Volume	Govt Cost \$	Total Cost \$	Ave Price \$
31	8302	VENLAFAXINE	Capsule 150 mg (base)modified release	519,793	27,607,752	32,747,518	63.00
32	8313	SINMUSTATIN	Tablet 80 mg	252,636	27,079,823	29,023,846	114.88
33	8431	SALMETEROL and FLUTICASON	Powder for oral inhalation, 50 ug/250 ug	522,266	25,780,170	31,038,029	59.43
34	2592	ISORETININ	Capsule 20 mg	182,706	25,114,981	28,120,068	153.91
35	8185	OLANZAPINE	Tablet 5 mg, 30	184,165	24,867,800	25,915,674	140.72
36	8247	IRBESARTAN	Tablet 150 mg	1,337,829	24,818,105	36,579,746	27.34
37	1763	INSULIN (HUMAN)	Injection 100 units (30 units-70 units)	108,554	24,119,887	24,754,538	228.04
38	8248	IRBESARTAN	Tablet 300 mg	956,214	23,866,613	31,951,898	33.41
39	8471	ROFECOXIB	Tablet 12.5 mg, 30	1,000,247	21,788,871	29,498,236	29.49
40	2430	METFORMIN HYDROCHLORIDE	Tablet 500 mg	1,724,985	21,520,824	26,816,361	15.55
41	8134	VALACLOMIR	Tablet 500 mg	120,873	21,520,824	23,452,372	194.02
42	1434	FLUOXETINE HYDROCHLORIDE	Capsule 20 mg (base)	646,489	20,831,124	21,456,447	42.47
43	8519	SALMETEROL and FLUTICASON	Oral Press inhal 25ug/250ug	293,163	20,717,249	23,335,232	79.60
44	1746	PARACETAMOL	Tablet 500 mg	3,969,943	20,561,942	30,645,249	7.72
45	8346	FLUTICASON	Oral press inhal 250ug/dose cfc-free	507,468	20,429,654	24,867,696	49.00
46	2752	AMLODIPINE BESYLATE	Tablet 10 mg (base), 30	789,252	19,665,408	26,802,258	34.00
47	1369	ENALAPRIL MALEATE	Tablet 20 mg	815,824	19,057,528	25,223,608	30.92
48	1081	ATENOLOL	Tablet 50 mg	2,589,398	18,908,418	26,396,344	10.19
49	1215	CODEINE with PARACETAMOL	Tablet 30 mg-500 mg	2,679,972	18,519,204	26,022,837	9.71
50	2072	BUDESONIDE	Powder for oral inhalation, 400 ug	516,112	18,147,964	22,846,145	44.27

Table 3: Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme  
Most Prescribed Items, 12 months to end June 2002

Rank	Item	Drug	Form	Script Volume	Govt Cost \$	Total Cost \$	Ave Price \$
1	1746	PARACETAMOL	Tablet 500 mg	3,969,943	20,561,942	30,645,249	7.72
2	8333	OMEPRAZOLE	Tablet 20 mg, 30	3,307,281	155,688,640	182,099,396	55.06
3	8440	CELECOXIB	Capsule 200 mg, 60	3,198,094	94,494,260	117,095,768	36.61
4	1215	CODINE with PARACETAMOL	Tablet 30 mg-500 mg	2,679,972	18,519,204	26,022,887	9.71
5	1081	ATENOLOL	Tablet 50 mg	2,589,398	18,908,418	26,396,344	10.19
6	2012	SIMVASTATIN	Tablet 20 mg	2,270,194	11,715,599	132,494,311	58.36
7	8288	SALBUTAMOL	Oral pressurised inhal 100 ug (base) CFC-free	2,252,970	29,928,362	36,348,287	16.13
8	8214	ATORVASTATIN	Tablet 20 mg	2,043,693	103,751,222	121,765,032	59.58
9	8213	ATORVASTATIN	Tablet 10 mg	1,932,821	66,993,016	83,178,597	43.03
10	1978	RANITIDINE HYDROCHLORIDE	Tablet 150 mg (base)	1,879,575	35,098,390	41,111,331	21.87
11	2430	METFORMIN HYDROCHLORIDE	Tablet 500 mg	1,724,985	21,788,871	26,816,361	15.55
12	2108	TEMAZEPAM	Capsule 10 mg	1,554,749	6,349,566	10,245,414	6.59
13	3051	PERINDOPRIL	Tablet 4 mg, 30	1,440,689	28,413,635	39,622,731	27.50
14	8008	PANTOPRAZOLE	Tablet (enteric coated) equivalent to 40mg	1,427,965	61,086,795	72,147,754	50.52
15	3162	DIAZEPAM	Tablet 5 mg	1,380,597	5,744,058	9,571,340	6.93
16	8472	ROFECOXIB	Tablet 25 mg, 30	1,339,955	46,627,155	57,416,490	42.85
17	8247	IRBESARTAN	Tablet 150 mg	1,337,829	24,818,105	36,579,746	27.34
18	2242	PAROXETINE	Tablet 20 mg (base)	1,312,287	41,961,629	55,333,834	42.17
19	8220	CITALOPRAM	Tablet 20 mg (base)	1,290,771	36,615,521	50,317,267	38.98
20	3119	CEPHALEXIN	Capsule 500 mg	1,266,634	10,841,351	14,756,121	11.65
21	2236	SERTRALINE	Tablet 50 mg (base)	1,217,866	33,291,417	45,539,254	37.39
22	8405	IRBESARTAN with HYDROCHLORTHIAZIDE	Tablet 300 mg-12.5 mg	1,157,946	28,807,171	39,438,588	34.06
23	2011	SIMVASTATIN	Tablet 10 mg	1,154,174	41,965,545	48,815,134	42.29
24	1889	AMOXYCILLIN	Capsule 500 mg	1,127,275	9,230,217	12,763,072	11.32
25	8215	ATORVASTATIN	Tablet 40 mg	1,124,538	88,303,842	98,105,405	87.24
26	8243	LATANOPROST	Eye drops 50 ug per mL (0.005%), 2.5 mL	1,108,192	33,636,461	39,464,037	35.61
27	3133	OXAZEPAM	Tablet 30 mg	1,092,308	3,860,508	6,697,485	6.13
28	2412	FRUSEMIDE	Tablet 40 mg	1,041,940	5,602,208	8,154,641	7.83
29	8173	SIMVASTATIN	Tablet 40 mg	1,029,975	76,375,570	84,024,635	81.58
30	8471	ROFECOXIB	Tablet 12.5 mg, 30	1,000,247	22,574,515	29,498,236	29.49
31	2237	SERTRALINE	Tablet 100 mg (base)	997,184	30,678,040	40,980,354	41.10

Table 3: Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme  
Most Prescribed Items, 12 months to end June 2002 (continued)

Rank	Item	Drug	Form	Script Volume	Govt Cost \$	Total Cost \$	Ave Price \$
32	8248	IRBESARTAN	Tablet, 300 mg	956,214	23,866,613	31,951,848	33.41
33	1946	RAMIPRIL	Capsule, 5.0 mg, 28	947,906	17,616,252	25,236,909	26.62
34	8254	AMINOXYLLIN with GLAUCILAMIC ACID	Tablet, 875 mg-125 mg	927,978	13,286,747	16,154,906	17.41
35	2751	AMLODIPINE BESYLATE	Tablet, 5 mg (base), 30	923,617	17,456,881	20,127,656	21.79
36	2449	GLICLAZIDE	Tablet, 80 mg	846,985	11,039,138	13,301,340	15.70
37	1558	ISOSORBIDE MONONITRATE	Tablets sustained release 60mg, 30	843,683	12,505,252	14,586,101	17.29
38	1369	ENALAPRIL MALEATE	Tablet, 20 mg	815,824	19,057,528	25,223,608	30.92
39	2089	TEMAZEPAM	Tablet, 10 mg, 25	801,268	2,941,150	5,281,820	6.59
40	2752	AMLODIPINE BESYLATE	Tablet, 10 mg (base), 30	788,252	19,665,408	26,802,258	34.00
41	8432	SALMETEROL and FLUTICASONE	Pdr oral inhal brth actu dev 50ug/500ug	772,519	55,388,896	62,179,892	80.49
42	1241	VERAPAMIL HYDROCHLORIDE	Tablet, 240 mg (sustained release)	751,412	11,252,954	13,552,252	18.04
43	8511	ALENDRONIC ACID	Tablet, 70 mg alemdronic acid	751,386	37,994,311	41,999,932	55.84
44	1300	DICLOFENAC	Tablet, 50 mg (enteric coated), 50	744,734	5,919,058	8,111,120	10.89
45	2367	FELODIPINE	Tablet, 10 mg (extended release)	720,257	18,117,901	23,286,964	32.33
46	8197	PRAWASTATIN	Tablet, 40 mg, 30	710,490	51,183,584	56,654,467	79.74
47	8358	CLOPIDOGREL	Tablet, 75mg	696,307	55,305,643	58,530,699	84.06
48	2001	SALBUTAMOL	Nebuliser solution single dose 5mg (base)	696,229	14,912,137	17,695,141	25.42
49	2834	PRAWASTATIN	Tablet, 20 mg, 30	693,175	31,454,302	36,397,999	52.51
50	8202	ASPIRIN	Tablet, 100mg	692,710	2,349,261	4,196,461	6.06

Table 4: Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme  
Top 20 suppliers by total cost 2001 - 2002 (from processed PBS prescriptions)

Rank	Manufacturer Code	Script Vol	Govt Cost \$	Total Cost \$	Sales to Ex-supplier
1	Pfizer	12,039,920	444,904,452	535,968,421	393,304,245
2	Merck Sharp & Dohme	11,574,391	442,071,407	512,456,367	375,815,383
3	GlaxoSmithKline	11,616,373	399,924,679	473,289,385	343,612,009
4	Alphapharm	21,174,074	320,884,746	398,584,319	246,596,170
5	Astrazeneca	8,861,100	295,064,160	350,633,748	253,604,699
6	Pharmacia Australia	8,955,126	273,472,105	329,666,097	236,096,238
7	Bristol-Myers Squibb	6,969,297	229,829,385	279,975,451	202,897,945
8	Aventis Pharma	9,149,941	181,553,523	223,109,118	148,181,637
9	Eli Lilly	2,402,426	193,637,247	205,788,947	159,350,573
10	Sanofi-Synthelabo	8,918,381	123,179,264	159,921,292	97,357,367
11	Wyeth	5,640,836	118,141,028	147,236,155	99,282,041
12	Roche	2,418,957	116,171,239	129,059,660	96,509,984
13	Novartis	3,565,392	105,872,732	120,914,333	85,540,242
14	Servier	3,592,949	66,922,885	88,399,310	58,833,551
15	Novo Nordisk	921,086	77,874,224	82,452,127	64,001,735
16	Sigma	6,174,915	54,182,729	74,417,586	37,697,503
17	Boehringer Ingelheim	2,023,393	60,724,125	72,209,598	51,481,820
18	Schering	1,178,742	62,057,733	68,746,241	51,820,213
19	Janssen-Cilag	819,567	54,678,396	59,272,522	45,417,853
20	Knoll	2,527,635	48,097,354	57,100,920	37,249,049
	Others	24,453,065	528,071,554	634,166,489	427,031,117
	Total	154,971,766	4,197,314,968	5,003,368,086	3,511,675,374

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

Table 5: Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme

Top 20 suppliers by market share for 2001 - 2002 (from processed PBS prescriptions)

Rank	Manufacturer Code	Script Vol	Govt Cost \$	Total Cost \$	% of Total	Sales to Ex-supplier
1	Alphapharm	21,174,074	320,884,746	398,584,319	13.70	246,596,170
2	Pfizer	12,039,920	444,904,462	535,968,421	7.79	393,304,245
3	GlaxoSmithKline	11,616,373	399,924,679	473,289,385	7.52	343,612,009
4	Merck Sharp & Dohme	11,574,391	442,071,407	512,456,367	7.49	375,815,383
5	Aventis Pharma	9,149,941	181,553,523	223,109,118	5.92	148,181,637
6	Pharmacia Australia	8,955,126	273,472,105	329,666,097	5.80	238,096,238
7	Sanofi Synthelabo	8,918,581	123,179,264	159,921,292	5.77	97,351,367
8	Astrazeneca	8,861,100	295,064,160	350,633,748	5.74	253,604,699
9	Bristol-Myers Squibb	6,969,297	229,829,385	279,975,451	4.51	202,897,945
10	Sigma	6,174,915	54,182,729	74,417,686	4.00	37,697,503
11	Wyeth	5,640,836	118,141,028	147,236,155	3.65	99,282,041
12	Servier	3,592,949	66,922,885	88,399,310	2.33	58,833,551
13	Novartis	3,565,392	105,872,732	120,914,333	2.31	85,540,242
14	Knoll	2,521,635	48,097,354	57,100,920	1.63	37,249,049
15	Roche	2,418,957	116,171,239	129,059,660	1.57	96,509,984
16	Eli Lilly	2,402,426	193,637,247	205,788,947	1.55	159,350,573
17	CSL	2,289,099	46,480,442	54,929,482	1.48	36,345,696
18	Faulding	2,051,027	29,606,284	36,822,483	1.33	22,425,111
19	Boehringer Ingelheim	2,023,393	60,724,125	72,209,598	1.31	51,481,820
20	Scheiring Plough	1,545,028	26,154,816	32,063,489	1.00	20,423,299
	Total Top 20	133,484,460	3,576,874,603	4,282,536,360	86%	3,002,598,563
	Others	21,487,306	620,440,366	720,831,726	14%	509,076,811
	Total	154,971,766	4,197,314,968	5,003,368,086	100%	3,511,675,374

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

**Table 6(a): Significant drug groups (incl Dr's Bag) by highest Government cost, financial year ending June 2001 and June 2002**

ATC Code	Minor Groups	Year ending June 2001			Year ending June 2002		
		Script Volume	Govt Cost \$	Ave Price \$	Script Volume	Govt Cost \$	Ave Price \$
C10	SERUM LIPID REDUCING AGENTS	11,430,524	570,921,711	49.94	12,300,266	647,240,330	52.61
A02	ANTACIDS, DRUGS FOR TREATMENT OF PEPTIC ULCER AND FLAULENCE	9,137,387	324,269,082	35.49	10,162,226	358,281,020	35.25
C09	AGENTS ACTING ON RENIN- ANGIOTENSIN SYSTEM	14,467,440	304,440,308	21.05	16,111,982	328,478,461	20.41
R03	ANTI-ASTHMATICS	10,124,812	274,322,216	27.08	9,969,484	306,761,219	30.76
N06	PSYCHOANALEPTICS	9,536,194	252,175,668	26.45	10,297,287	292,336,835	28.41
N05	PSYCHOLEPTICS	7,834,987	171,395,099	21.88	7,599,138	204,373,069	26.89
M01	ANTIINFLAMMATORY AND ANTIRHEUMATIC PRODUCTS	6,920,237	205,337,324	29.82	8,652,275	201,726,877	23.31
C08	CALCIUM CHANNEL BLOCKERS	7,420,001	144,680,684	19.36	7,214,418	146,024,672	20.11
A10	DRUGS USED IN DIABETES	3,856,089	129,940,486	33.71	4,283,020	142,243,802	33.23
J01	ANTIBACTERIALS FOR SYSTEMIC USE	11,588,438	135,548,320	11.69	11,328,417	135,318,895	11.95
L01	ANTINEOPLASTIC AGENTS	321,142	98,463,019	306.59	348,976	122,537,698	351.18
G03	SEX HORMONES AND MODULATORS OF THE GENITAL SYSTEM	5,865,528	98,113,855	16.73	6,007,311	122,220,543	20.34
N02	ANALGESICS	9,862,171	97,939,348	9.93	10,437,489	114,673,994	10.98
B01	ANTITHROMBOTIC AGENTS	2,729,805	62,462,765	22.88	3,311,112	91,344,957	27.59
L02	ENDOCRINE THERAPY	359,071	82,862,941	230.50	376,372	90,876,947	241.45
N03	ANTI-EPILEPTICS	1,430,920	72,607,535	50.75	1,478,676	78,872,424	53.35
S01	OPHTHALMOLOGICALS	5,499,042	71,734,585	12.86	5,806,494	78,066,535	13.44
							Total Cost \$
							741,453,945
							421,497,960
							449,479,766
							368,385,088
							378,139,719
							227,858,716
							253,672,653
							183,200,796
							157,126,136
							174,566,880
							125,707,250
							146,616,606
							143,752,585
							102,696,883
							93,734,575
							89,572,603
							91,277,243

Figures are an estimation only due to script volumes being updated by the Health Insurance Commission

Variation - Year ending June 2001 to year ending June 2002

ATC Code	ATC Group Level 2	Script Volume	Govt Cost \$	Total Cost \$	Ave Price \$	Vol %	Percentage Change		
							Govt Cost %	Total Cost %	Ave Price
C10	SERUM LIPID REDUCING AGENTS	869,742	76,318,618	83,234,697	2.70	7.61	13.37	12.65	4.68
A02	ANTIACIDS, DRUGS FOR TREATMENT OF PEPTIC ULCER AND FLATULENCE	1,024,839	34,011,937	40,860,522	-0.18	11.22	10.49	10.73	-0.43
C09	AGENTS ACTING ON RENIN-ANGIOTENSIN SYSTEM	1,644,542	24,038,154	34,630,885	-0.78	11.37	7.90	8.35	-2.71
R03	ANTI-ASTHMATICS	-155,328	32,439,003	35,813,114	4.10	-1.53	11.83	10.77	12.49
N06	PSYCHONALEPTICS	761,093	40,161,167	50,199,342	2.33	7.98	15.93	15.31	6.78
N05	PSYCHOLEPTICS	-235,849	32,977,970	33,372,808	5.16	-3.01	19.24	17.16	20.80
M01	ANTIINFLAMMATORY AND ANTIRHEUMATIC PRODUCTS	1,732,038	-3,610,447	11,228,817	-5.72	25.03	-1.76	4.63	-16.31
C08	CALCIUM CHANNEL BLOCKERS	-205,583	1,343,988	-1,428,562	0.51	-2.77	0.93	-0.77	2.05
A10	DRUGS USED IN DIABETES	426,931	12,303,316	13,912,027	-0.45	11.07	9.47	9.71	-1.22
J01	ANTIBACTERIALS FOR SYSTEMIC USE	-260,021	-229,425	-270,955	0.32	-2.24	-0.17	-0.15	2.14
L01	ANTINEOPLASTIC AGENTS	27,834	24,074,679	24,448,128	44.91	8.67	24.45	24.14	14.24
G03	SEX HORMONES AND MODULATORS OF THE GENITAL SYSTEM	141,783	24,106,688	25,996,088	3.84	2.42	24.57	21.55	18.68
N02	ANALGESICS	575,318	16,734,646	19,286,331	1.15	5.83	17.09	15.50	9.13
B01	ANTITHROMBOTIC AGENTS	581,307	28,892,192	31,461,795	4.92	21.29	46.26	44.17	18.86
L02	ENDOCRINE THERAPY	17,301	8,014,006	8,260,403	11.01	4.82	9.67	9.66	4.62
N03	ANTI-EPILEPTICS	47,756	6,264,889	6,792,718	2.73	3.34	8.63	8.21	4.71
S01	OPHTHALMOLOGICALS	307,452	6,331,950	7,821,585	0.49	5.59	8.83	8.74	2.99

Figures are an estimation only due to script volumes being updated by the Health Insurance Commission

Table 6(b): Significant drug groups (incl Dr's Bag) by highest script volume, year ending June 2001 and June 2002

ATC Code	Minor Groups	Year ending June 2001			Year ending June 2002		
		Script Volume	Govt Cost \$	Ave Price \$	Script Volume	Govt Cost \$	Ave Price \$
C09	AGENTS ACTING ON RENIN-ANGIOTENSIN SYSTEM	14,467,440	304,440,308	21.06	16,111,982	328,478,461	20.40
C10	SERUM LIPID REDUCING AGENTS	11,430,524	570,921,711	49.95	12,300,266	647,240,330	52.62
J01	ANTIBACTERIALS FOR SYSTEMIC USE	11,588,438	135,548,320	11.69	11,328,417	135,318,895	11.94
N02	ANALGESICS	9,862,171	97,939,348	9.93	10,437,489	114,673,994	10.98
N06	PSYCHONALEPTICS	9,536,194	252,175,668	26.44	10,297,287	292,336,835	28.40
A02	DRUGS FOR ACID RELATED DISORDERS	9,137,387	324,269,082	35.49	10,162,226	358,281,020	35.24
R03	ANTI-ASTHMATICS	10,124,812	274,322,216	27.08	9,969,484	306,761,219	30.77
M01	ANTIINFLAMMATORY AND ANTIRHEUMATIC PRODUCTS	6,920,237	205,337,324	29.82	8,652,275	201,726,877	23.31
N05	PSYCHOLEPTICS	7,834,987	171,395,099	21.88	7,599,138	204,373,069	26.89
C08	CALCIUM CHANNEL BLOCKERS	7,420,001	144,680,684	19.36	7,214,418	146,024,672	20.11
G03	SEX HORMONES AND MODULATORS OF THE GENITAL SYSTEM	5,865,528	98,113,855	16.73	6,007,311	122,220,543	20.35
S01	OPHTHALMOLOGICALS	5,499,042	71,734,685	12.88	5,806,494	78,066,535	13.45
C08	BETA BLOCKING AGENTS	4,147,589	47,093,533	11.35	4,389,237	54,996,105	12.53
A10	DRUGS USED IN DIABETES	3,856,089	129,940,486	33.71	4,283,020	142,243,802	33.21
B01	ANTITHROMBOTIC AGENTS	2,729,805	62,462,765	22.88	3,311,112	91,344,957	27.58
C01	CARDIAC THERAPY	3,305,199	58,190,100	17.60	3,262,095	59,083,726	18.11
C03	DIURETICS	2,670,335	24,591,669	9.21	2,550,014	24,008,977	9.41

Table 6(b): Significant drug groups (incl Dr's Bag) by highest script volume, year ending June 2001 and June 2002 (continued)

ATC Code	Minor Groups	Year ending June 2001				Year ending June 2002			
		Script Volume	Govt Cost \$	Total Cost \$	Ave Price \$	Script Volume	Govt Cost \$	Total Cost \$	Ave Price \$
C09	AGENTS ACTING ON RENIN-ANGIOTENSIN SYSTEM	1,644,542	24,038,154	34,630,885	-0.78	11.37	8.35	-2.71	
C10	SERUM LIPID REDUCING AGENTS	869,742	76,318,618	83,234,697	2.70	7.61	12.65	4.68	
J01	ANTIBACTERIALS FOR SYSTEMIC USE	-260,021	-229,425	-270,955	0.32	-2.24	-0.15	2.14	
N02	ANALGESICS	575,318	16,734,646	19,286,331	1.15	5.83	15.50	9.13	
N06	PSYCHOANALEPTICS	761,093	40,161,167	50,199,342	2.33	7.98	15.31	6.78	
A02	DRUGS FOR ACID RELATED DISORDERS	1,024,839	34,011,937	40,860,522	-0.18	11.22	10.49	-0.43	
R03	ANTI-ASTHMATICS	-155,328	32,439,003	35,813,114	4.10	-1.53	10.77	12.49	
M01	ANTIINFLAMMATORY AND ANTIRHEUMATIC PRODUCTS	1,732,038	-3,610,447	11,228,817	-5.72	25.03	4.63	-16.31	
N05	PSYCHOLEPTICS	-235,849	32,977,970	33,372,808	5.16	-3.01	17.16	20.80	
C08	CALCIUM CHANNEL BLOCKERS	-205,583	1,343,988	-1,428,562	0.51	-2.77	-0.77	2.05	
G03	SEX HORMONES AND MODULATORS OF THE GENITAL SYSTEM	141,783	24,106,688	25,996,088	3.84	2.42	21.55	18.68	
S01	OPHTHALMOLOGICALS	307,452	6,331,950	7,821,585	0.49	5.59	8.74	2.99	
C07	BETA BLOCKING AGENTS	241,648	7,902,572	8,908,032	1.23	5.83	14.86	8.53	
A10	DRUGS USED IN DIABETES	426,931	12,303,316	13,912,027	-0.45	11.07	9.71	-1.22	
B01	ANTITHROMBOTIC AGENTS	581,307	28,892,192	31,461,795	4.92	21.29	44.17	18.86	
C01	CARDIAC THERAPY	-43,104	893,626	870,240	0.54	-1.30	1.28	2.62	
C03	DIURETICS	-120,321	-582,692	-739,293	0.27	-4.51	-2.31	2.29	

Table 7(a): PBS Drugs comparison (with Dr's Bag) sorted by highest change to Government cost 2001 - 2002

Rank	Drug	Year ending June 2001				Year ending June 2002				Variation	
		Script Volume	Govt Cost \$	Total Cost \$	Ave Price \$	Script Volume	Govt Cost \$	Total Cost \$	Ave Price \$	Govt Cost \$	Change %
1	SALMETEROL and FLUTICASON	749,424	45,269,618	52,099,369	69.52	1,773,952	109,383,932	126,119,033	71.09	64,114,314	141.63
2	ROFECOXIB	490,592	13,268,400	17,456,719	35.58	2,342,979	69,276,012	87,015,378	37.14	56,007,611	422.11
3	PANTOPRAZOLE	402,806	22,956,412	26,079,762	64.75	1,628,825	67,961,137	80,657,175	49.52	45,365,726	200.77
4	ATORVASTATIN	4,512,127	226,244,410	266,458,793	58.83	5,196,628	269,412,718	314,283,143	60.48	43,168,308	19.08
5	SIMVASTATIN	4,498,294	237,015,067	267,113,173	59.38	4,762,075	263,933,460	296,065,589	62.17	26,918,393	11.36
7	ALENDRONIC ACID	495,897	29,572,656	32,048,983	64.63	959,692	50,959,702	55,976,159	58.26	21,387,046	72.32
8	OLANZAPINE	484,392	107,379,571	110,118,043	227.33	601,862	127,914,996	131,241,833	218.06	20,538,425	19.12
9	IRRESARTAN with HYDROCHLOROTHIAZIDE	952,776	21,360,380	30,082,090	31.57	1,749,996	39,997,947	56,040,977	32.02	18,637,567	87.25
10	PRAVASTATIN	1,372,311	71,593,634	81,552,379	59.43	1,607,080	88,456,587	100,184,281	62.34	16,862,953	23.55
11	ETONOGESTREL	2,075	428,119	457,095	220.29	83,324	17,232,908	18,362,762	220.38	16,800,789	3925.26
12	DONEPEZIL	29,024	4,459,392	4,627,052	159.42	122,730	19,090,502	19,668,760	160.18	14,631,110	328.10
13	PERINDOPRIL and INDAPAMIDE	133,755	3,141,174	4,403,460	32.92	679,560	16,402,819	22,541,833	33.17	13,261,645	422.19
14	OMEPRAZOLE	2,529,186	161,364,930	181,191,066	71.64	3,673,696	172,209,033	201,475,178	54.84	10,844,103	6.72
15	QUETIAPINE	22,050	3,820,603	3,965,323	179.83	71,302	14,450,636	14,925,858	193.09	10,630,033	278.23
16	VENLAFAXINE	964,315	42,670,820	52,119,259	54.05	1,167,730	52,210,326	63,871,438	54.70	9,559,506	22.36
17	CITALOPRAM	937,463	27,739,648	31,473,828	39.97	1,290,771	36,615,521	50,317,267	38.98	8,875,873	32.00
18	TRAMADOL	201,684	1,043,104	1,640,983	8.14	839,007	9,056,038	11,578,288	13.80	8,012,934	768.18
19	RAMIPRIL	1,436,205	28,997,815	39,826,420	27.73	1,849,106	36,871,949	49,711,548	26.88	7,874,134	27.15
20	INTERFERON BETA-1a	17,308	19,541,316	19,754,923	1141.38	22,516	26,135,416	26,426,379	1,173.67	6,594,100	33.74
21	CARVEDILOL	145,885	13,669,742	14,485,537	99.29	213,786	19,853,463	21,017,338	98.31	6,183,721	45.24
22	OXCODONE	414,169	8,050,226	9,395,263	22.68	520,060	13,330,710	15,122,335	29.08	5,250,483	65.22
23	VALACICLOVIR	128,288	23,599,733	25,483,899	198.65	156,401	28,657,032	31,067,855	198.64	5,057,299	21.43
24	RABEPRAZOLE	1,116	58,637	70,885	63.52	122,511	5,062,698	6,246,822	50.98	5,004,060	8533.91
25	RITUXIMAB	8,666	17,529,651	17,635,174	2035.05	11,080	22,412,632	22,549,365	2,035.14	4,882,980	27.86
26	CAPECTABINE	4,360	2,982,976	3,025,170	693.85	11,615	7,607,116	7,706,048	663.46	4,624,140	155.02
27	RALOXIFENE	191,955	10,639,410	11,606,228	60.46	269,291	15,044,139	16,316,691	60.59	4,404,729	41.40
28	RISERODNIC ACID	9,920	672,811	733,004	73.89	83,312	5,063,763	5,485,233	65.84	4,390,952	652.63
29	FOSINOPRIL with HYDROCHLOROTHIAZIDE	298,849	6,056,681	8,700,310	29.11	487,770	10,175,688	14,480,627	29.69	4,119,008	68.01
30	GLATIRAMER ACETATE	6,164	6,692,058	6,762,674	1097.12	9,929	10,721,213	10,842,219	1,091.97	4,029,156	60.21
31	LATANOPROST	905,220	29,716,868	34,480,955	38.09	1,108,192	33,636,461	39,464,037	35.61	3,919,594	13.19
32	DIPYRIDAMOLE with ASPRIN	114,861	3,308,650	3,864,230	33.64	239,943	7,039,784	8,110,072	33.80	3,731,134	112.77
33	IRRESARTAN	2,338,908	48,669,877	68,244,034	29.18	2,524,172	52,272,979	73,788,846	29.21	3,603,101	7.40
34	MIRTAZAPINE	1,288	35,607	49,483	38.42	114,375	3,600,431	4,642,824	40.59	3,564,824	10011.55
35	CANDESARTAN with HYDROCHLOROTHIAZIDE	4,928	91,506	139,597	28.33	183,027	3,516,289	5,217,244	28.51	3,424,783	3742.69

Table 7(b): Significant Drugs (incl Drs Bag) - sorted by highest volume change, year ending June 2001 and June 2002

Rank	Drug	Year ending June 2001				Year ending June 2002				Change	
		Script Volume	Govt Cost \$	Total Cost \$	Ave Price \$	Script Volume	Govt Cost \$	Total Cost \$	Ave Price \$	Volume	%
1	ROFECOXIB	490,592	13,268,400	17,456,719	35.58	2,342,979	69,276,012	87,015,378	37.14	1,852,387	377.58
2	PANTOPRAZOLE	402,806	22,595,412	26,079,762	64.75	1,628,825	67,961,137	80,657,175	49.52	1,226,019	304.37
3	OMEPRazole	2,529,186	161,364,930	181,191,066	71.64	3,673,696	172,209,033	201,475,178	54.84	1,144,510	45.25
4	SALMETEROL and FLUTICASONE	749,424	45,269,618	52,099,369	69.52	1,773,952	109,383,932	126,119,033	71.09	1,024,528	136.71
5	IRBESARTAN with HYDROCHLOROTHIAZIDE	952,776	21,360,380	30,082,090	31.57	1,749,996	39,997,947	56,040,977	32.02	797,220	83.67
6	ATORVASTATIN	4,572,127	226,244,410	265,465,793	58.83	5,196,628	269,412,718	314,283,143	60.48	684,501	15.17
7	TRAMADOL	201,684	1,043,104	1,640,983	8.14	839,007	9,056,038	11,578,288	13.80	637,323	316.00
8	PENICILLIN and INDAPAMIDE	133,755	3,141,174	4,403,450	32.92	679,560	16,402,819	22,541,833	33.17	545,805	408.06
9	ALENDRONIC ACID	495,897	29,572,656	32,048,983	64.63	959,692	50,959,702	55,916,159	58.26	463,795	93.53
10	RAMIPRIL	1,436,205	28,997,815	39,826,420	27.73	1,849,106	36,871,949	49,711,548	26.88	412,901	28.75
11	CITALOPRAM	937,463	27,739,648	37,473,828	39.97	1,290,771	36,615,521	50,317,267	38.98	353,308	37.69
12	CLOPIDOGREL	397,780	31,521,666	33,397,882	83.96	696,307	55,305,943	58,530,699	84.06	298,527	75.05
13	GLIMEPRIDE	38,351	323,595	450,306	11.74	304,745	3,143,054	3,990,883	13.10	266,394	694.62
14	SINASTATIN	4,498,294	237,015,067	267,113,173	59.38	4,762,075	263,933,460	296,065,599	62.17	263,781	5.86
15	CELECOXIB	3,312,211	160,554,639	184,000,321	55.55	3,549,018	103,415,761	128,289,462	36.15	236,807	7.15
16	PRAVASTATIN	1,372,311	71,593,634	81,552,379	59.43	1,607,080	88,456,587	100,184,281	62.34	234,769	17.11
17	METFORMIN HYDROCHLORIDE	1,820,551	22,789,147	27,970,637	15.36	2,088,279	25,777,497	31,757,400	15.58	217,728	11.96
18	VENLAFAXINE	964,315	42,670,820	52,719,259	54.05	1,167,730	52,210,326	63,871,438	54.70	203,415	21.09
19	LATANOPROST	905,220	29,716,868	34,480,955	38.09	1,108,192	33,636,461	39,464,037	35.61	202,972	22.42
20	FOSINOPRIL with HYDROCHLOROTHIAZIDE	298,849	6,056,681	8,700,310	29.11	487,770	10,175,688	14,480,627	29.69	188,921	63.22
21	IRBESARTAN	2,338,908	48,669,877	68,244,034	29.18	2,524,172	52,272,979	73,738,846	29.21	185,264	7.92
22	CANDESARTAN with HYDROCHLOROTHIAZIDE	4,928	91,506	139,597	28.33	183,027	3,516,289	5,271,244	28.51	178,099	3614.02
23	TELMISARTAN	528,193	8,499,017	13,265,624	25.12	705,895	11,726,723	18,088,373	25.62	177,702	33.64
24	CANDESARTAN	506,345	8,351,688	12,624,230	24.93	651,497	10,744,284	16,204,140	24.87	145,152	28.67
25	LANSOPRAZOLE	598,438	36,742,508	42,045,630	70.26	736,096	35,277,880	41,749,433	56.72	137,658	23.00
26	ATENOLOL	2,460,219	17,663,160	24,620,312	NEW	2,589,398	18,908,418	26,396,344	10.19	129,149	NEW
27	DIPYRIDAMOLE with ASPRIN	114,861	3,308,650	3,864,230	33.64	239,943	7,039,784	8,110,072	33.80	125,082	108.90
28	RABEPRAZOLE	1,116	58,637	70,885	63.52	122,511	5,062,698	6,245,822	50.98	121,395	10877.69
29	OLANZAPINE	484,392	107,379,571	110,118,043	227.33	601,862	127,914,996	131,241,833	218.06	117,470	24.25
30	MIRAZAPINE	1,288	35,607	49,483	38.42	114,375	3,600,431	4,642,881	40.59	113,087	8780.05
31	OXCODONE	414,169	8,050,226	9,395,263	22.68	520,060	13,300,710	15,122,335	29.08	105,891	25.57
32	DOMEPERIDONE	29,024	4,459,392	4,627,052	159.42	122,730	19,090,502	19,688,760	160.18	93,706	322.86
33	MELOXICAM	0	0	0	NEW	89,089	1,842,479	2,591,431	29.09	89,089	NEW
34	WARFARIN	1,368,293	6,817,405	10,314,183	7.54	1,451,880	7,390,589	11,187,709	7.71	83,587	6.11
35	MOXIFLOXACIN	547,687	6,157,791	8,357,487	15.26	629,583	7,435,558	10,081,020	16.01	81,896	14.95
