

PHARMACEUTICAL BENEFITS

PRICING AUTHORITY

ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 30 June 2003





PHARMACEUTICAL

BENEFITS

PRICING

AUTHORITY

Annual Report

For the year ended 30 June 2003



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Minister The Hon Tony Abbott MP
Minister for Health and Ageing
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Mr Abbott

I present herewith the sixteenth 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 2003.

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 sincerely



Graham Glenn

Chairman

2003

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PREFACE

This is the sixteenth annual report of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Pricing Authority covering the operations of the Authority for the year ended 30 June 2003.

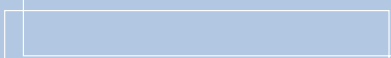
Tabling requirements

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 (PBPA) is an independent non-statutory body established in 1988 which is required to:

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

Membership

The Authority's membership for the 2002-2003 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 Medicines Australia. Mr Kieran Schneemann – replaced Mr Evans in this position, with effect from 18 March 2003 as the nominee of Medicines Australia. (Ms Fiona Woodard represented Industry between November 2002 and Mr Schneemann's appointment)
Consumer nominee	Ms Jo Watson - appointed with effect from 25 February 2002, as the nominee of the Consumers' Health Forum.
Department of Health and Ageing representative	Mr Brett Lennon - appointed with effect from 23 November 1998 to 4 March 2003. Ms Joan Corbett - appointed with effect from 4 March 2003.
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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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's budget, in addition to financing the PBS, 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 PIIP, provides funds for running costs associated with the Program.

For the year ended 30 June 2003 the Authority operating costs were:

<i>Authority operating costs 2002-2003</i>	<i>Health portfolio \$</i>	<i>Industry portfolio \$</i>	<i>Total costs \$</i>
Direct costs including Chairman's, industry and consumer nominees' expenses	9,787	0	9,787
Salaries	328,879	135,088*	463,967
Members & secretariat travel and allowances	2,447	3,103	5,550
Administrative and property costs	8,365	19,243**	27,608
Total costs	\$349,478	\$157,434	\$506,912

* 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 PBS 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 PBAC 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) PBAC 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 PIIP);
- (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 PBAC, the Authority recommends the prices to be negotiated by the Department of Health and Ageing.

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.

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 Health and Ageing, in consultation with 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 following products expected to cost more than \$10 million per annum were listed in 2002–2003:

Imatinib Mesylate (Glivec) – This was an extension of an existing listing to cover the treatment of Chronic Myeloid Leukaemia.

Montelukast Sodium (Singulair) - This drug has been listed for the treatment of asthma in children.

Tiotropium Bromide Monohydrate (Spiriva) – This drug is used in the management of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease.

Reviewing prices for existing items

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

- comparative prices of products that are considered by the PBAC 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 to the PBAC
- 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 remained suspended in 2002–2003 (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 available on the PBS website at <http://www.health.gov.au/pbs/pharm/pricing/therelativity.htm>. 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 pharmacists;
- 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 PBS.

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 first six months of the report was \$22.40 changing to \$23.10 effective 1 January 2003. The concessional rate for the first six months of the report was \$3.60 changing to \$3.70 effective 1 January 2003.

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 PBS, 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 PBS 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 2003 there were 303 benefit items with a brand premium that could be therapeutically interchanged. The average brand premium was \$3.06 and premiums ranged from \$0.06 cents 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 to 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.

Since 1 May 1999, sponsors have been able 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.

The following table shows the effect of brand substitution.

	May 2000	May 2001	May 2002	May 2003
Number of products with a premium	253	297	293	303
Average brand premium	\$2.12	\$2.20	\$2.83	\$3.06
Weighted average brand premium	\$1.45	\$1.68	\$1.57	\$1.57
Brand premium range	\$0.23 to \$43.28	\$0.01 to \$45.33	\$0.01 \$79.48	\$0.06 to \$79.48
Prescriptions dispensed with a brand premium in the previous 12 months	33.4m	33.4m	33.3m	32.6m
Prescriptions dispensed at the benchmark level in the previous 12 month period	26.3m	29.4m	32.6m	37.8m
Percentage at the benchmark level	44%	47%	49%	54%
Brands at the benchmark price	434	766	854	943

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 2003 there were 60 items within the four groups under the TGP policy. These consisted of 176 brands at the benchmark price, 33 brands with a brand premium and 14 with a therapeutic premium. The average TGP was \$4.09 and premiums ranged from \$1.60 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 methodology applies to groups of drugs that are considered to be therapeutically similar by the PBAC. 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.

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 by Ernst and Young ABC.

The Authority has considered the review report and recommended a number of changes to the operation of the WAMTC arrangement.

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.

The Minister has approved the use of a revised WAMTC methodology and it is intended that this will be implemented during 2003-2004.

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 HSDs 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 PBAC.

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 HSDs are separately listed in the Schedule of Pharmaceutical Benefits.

At 30 June 2003 there were 50 Highly Specialised Drugs listed under Section 100. Subject to reconciliation of expenditure, the expected cost is \$353.3 million for both Public and Private Hospitals, which is a 13.67% 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 PBS 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 2002-2003

In the 2002-2003 financial year, the Authority held four therapeutic group reviews, the summary results of which are compared below with those for the previous year:

Product review results	2001-2002	2002-2003
Number of products reviewed:	2,561	2,871
Number of products for which price applications were received:	558 21.8%	496 17.3%
Number of products for which price increases were granted:	117 4.6%	104 3.6%

The number of new items recommended for listing and new items actually listed for the financial year 2002-2003 was:

Number of items recommended for listing by the PBAC:	80	88
Section 100	7	18
(based on PBAC meetings held in 2002-2003 financial year, includes different strengths)		
Number of items listed	76	85
Section 100	28	14
(based on new items & strengths listed in the PBS Schedules for 2002-2003)		

Estimated cost of price increases of existing items 2002-2003

The general price increases granted to suppliers in 2002-2003 are collectively estimated to add \$5.26 million to the cost of the PBS 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	2001-2002	2002-2003
	\$ million	\$ million
Recommended by Authority and subsequently approved by the Minister	3.14	5.26

These cost estimates do not include any expenditure for increased Australian activities considered under the PIIP.

Cost of Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme, 2002-2003

The total cost of the PBS for 2002-2003 was \$5,054.7 million. This comprised \$3,665.2 million for persons covered by concession cards, and \$912.2 million for general patients, ie those patients not covered by concession cards. PB Other expenditure was \$477.3 million which includes a range of categories of expenditure, including Highly Specialised Drugs.

Category	Processed Script numbers	Cost to Govt (excludes patient contributions)
	# million	\$ million
General	25.9	912.2
Concessional	132.7	3,665.2
PB Other	*	477.3
Total	158.6	\$5,054.7

* PB Other contains diverse programs. The majority of data is collected by State Govts and script volume is unavailable

Note: For the general public, where a pharmaceutical benefit has a dispensed price below the general patient contribution (that is, below \$23.10), the consumer pays the full amount. The above figures do not include these amounts.

The 2002-2003 PBS expenditure figures have been expressed in accrual/expense terms to reflect the reporting requirements of the Department of Health and Ageing's annual report.

CHAPTER 3

Pharmaceutical Industry Investment Program

A supplementary Annual Report on the PIIP for the full 2001-02 financial year was released in June 2003.

The PIIP commenced on 1 July 1999 and will run to 30 June 2004. Total funding of up to \$300 million was 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 PBS. 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 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
- FH Faulding and Co Limited (now Mayne Pharma Pty Ltd)
- Glaxo Wellcome Australia Pty Ltd (now GlaxoSmithKline Australia Pty Ltd)
- Janssen-Cilag Pty Ltd
- Pfizer Pty Ltd
- Pharmacia and Upjohn Pty Ltd (now Pharmacia Australia Pty Ltd)

2002-2003 Activity

Payments totalling \$38,571,861 were made for activity undertaken in the first three quarters of 2002-03. This included \$27,103,056 for production value added and \$11,468,805 for research and development. Data for payments made for activity undertaken in the full financial year only becomes available in December.

A supplementary Annual Report for the PIIP for the year ended 30 June 2003 will be released by the Department of Industry, Tourism and Resources in 2004. The supplementary report will contain complete financial data for activity undertaken in 2002-03.

CHAPTER 4

Tables and figures

- Table 1: Summary of therapeutic group reviews for 2002-2003.
- Table 2: Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme-highest cost items 12 months to 30 June 2003.
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- Table 4: Top 20 suppliers by total cost for 2002-2003 (from processed PBS prescriptions).
- Table 5: Top 20 suppliers by script volume for 2002-2003 (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: Significant drugs (incl Dr's Bag) sorted by highest change to Government cost.
- Table 7b: Significant drugs (incl Dr's Bag) - sorted by highest volume change.

Table 1 **Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme**
Summary of ATC Minor Group reviews for 2002 - 2003

ATC group	Minor Group	No. of Products Reviewed	Script Volume	Govt Cost \$	Total Cost \$	Estimated cost to Government of Price Increases \$
A02	Antiacids, Drugs for Treatment of Peptic Ulcer & Flatulence	137	11,291,472	428,527,814	503,333,267	61,493
A04	Anilemics and Antinauseants	22	793,344	14,675,371	18,224,803	0
A06	Laxatives	18	587,372	9,289,871	10,846,397	68,340
A07	Antidiarrheals, Intestinal Antinflammatory/Antiinflective Agents	23	884,656	31,774,770	38,024,253	1,085,681
A10	Drugs used in Diabetes	79	4,630,466	152,633,689	168,702,981	29,097
B01	Antithrombotic Agents	38	3,936,792	123,746,618	138,180,344	0
B05	Plasma Substitutes and Perfusion Solutions	11	42,264	792,966	1,031,033	141,814
C01	Cardiac Therapy	71	3,485,989	60,831,109	71,977,886	34,786
C02	Antihypertensives	35	737,039	10,378,235	13,323,499	859
C03	Diuretics	44	2,430,026	22,685,732	29,562,200	0
C07	Beta Blocking Agents	56	4,342,791	57,038,283	70,316,472	0
C08	Calcium Channel Blockers	84	7,308,106	149,135,783	187,675,374	0
C09	Agents Acting on the Renin-Angiotensin System	149	17,775,765	366,439,144	500,877,361	0
C10	Serum Lipid Reducing Agents	35	13,320,021	731,459,087	834,056,359	8,158
D07	Corticosteroids, Dermatological Preparations	30	2,353,840	20,342,717	28,679,246	0
G03	Sex Hormones and Modulators of the Genital System	138	4,370,599	91,284,414	110,205,268	413,515
H02	Corticosteroids for Systemic Use	31	1,571,602	10,861,947	15,649,531	567,152
J01	Antibacterials for Systemic Use	373	10,910,845	130,435,199	168,825,427	100,517
J05	Antivirals for Systemic Use	32	341,031	71,487,369	76,771,835	0
L01	Antineoplastic Agents	113	396,299	156,165,639	159,931,848	10,106
L02	Endocrine Therapy	37	387,190	965,466,669	99,607,628	0
L03	Immunomodulating Agents	20	74,136	82,691,806	83,639,127	0
M01	Antiinflammatory and Antirheumatic Products	104	9,184,867	226,763,372	284,008,199	0
M03	Muscle Relaxants	20	112,870	5,597,609	6,263,933	0
M04	Antigout Preparations	13	847,048	6,801,945	9,163,810	50,942
M05	Drugs for Treatment of Bone Diseases	16	1,966,630	110,739,959	120,724,968	0
N02	Anaesthetics	90	10,588,558	130,774,063	160,742,278	3,393

Table 1 Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme

Summary of ATC Minor Group reviews for 2002 - 2003 (continued)

ATC group	Minor Group	No. of Products Reviewed	Script Volume	Govt Cost \$	Total Cost \$	Estimated cost to Government of Price Increases \$
N03	Antiepileptics	72	1,524,052	83,966,068	95,266,862	0
N04	Anti-Parkinson drugs	39	582,138	28,789,937	31,521,671	0
N05	Psycholeptics	108	7,245,658	227,409,173	250,359,041	28,357
N06	Psychoanaesthetics	96	11,104,099	317,253,523	413,323,120	18,009
R03	Anti-Asthmatics	90	9,485,438	322,017,132	383,165,145	0
S01	Ophthalmologicals	103	5,964,619	83,438,278	103,749,357	356,499
S02	Otologicals	10	763,990	2,865,393	5,116,698	0
V04	Diagnostic Agents	22	530,992	24,791,792	27,191,256	0
V06	General Nutrients	56	55,116	16,337,713	16,973,502	42,055
	Section 100	170	863,323	#not calculated	295,783,102	602,464
	*Ad hoc	286	5,884,798	#not calculated	595,488,311	1,638,061
Total		2,871	138,675,831	-4,406,770,188	6,128,283,391	5,261,298

*Ad hoc - comprised of groups with less than 4 manufacturers and/or less than 10 products (for confidentiality) and items on an ad hoc basis.

#not calculated - figure not available due to diversity of group

-- This figure does not include S100 or Ad hoc Govt cost

Table 2: Highest Government cost drug by PBS item, year ending: June 2003

Rank	Item	Drug	Form	Volume	Gort.Cost \$	Total Cost \$	Ave.Price \$
1	8333	OMEPRAZOLE	Tablet 20 mg 30	3,853,807	169,280,902	198,515,450	51.51
2	8214	ATORVASTATIN	Tablet 20 mg	2,317,116	117,718,808	138,068,125	59.59
3	2012	SIMVASTATIN	Tablet 20 mg	2,273,229	117,450,363	132,712,814	58.38
4	8173	SIMVASTATIN	Tablet 40 mg	1,376,133	101,786,484	112,288,590	81.60
5	8215	ATORVASTATIN	Tablet 40 mg	1,306,787	98,461,023	109,918,533	84.11
6	8187	OLANZAPINE	Tablet 10 mg 30	246,094	83,740,957	340,28	340.28
7	8358	CLOPIDOGREL	Tablet 75mg	1,023,755	81,175,216	86,023,463	84.03
8	8440	CLECOXIB	Capsule 200 mg 60	2,973,244	78,949,011	99,621,361	33.51
9	8008	PANTOPRAZOLE	Tablet (enteric coated) equivalent to 40mg	1,645,377	71,335,683	83,234,644	50.59
10	8511	ALENDRONIC ACID	Tablet 70 mg alendronic acid	1,356,453	68,721,158	75,760,145	55.85
11	8213	ATORVASTATIN	Tablet 10 mg	1,943,180	67,685,139	83,659,658	43.05
12	8197	PRAVASTATIN	Tablet 40 mg 30	919,179	66,274,264	73,348,010	79.80
13	8432	SALMETEROL and FLUTICASON	Per oral inhal breath act dev 50ug/500ug	858,102	61,566,040	69,184,909	80.63
14	8472	ROFECOXIB	Tablet 25 mg 30	1,767,781	61,489,864	75,841,435	42.90
15	2242	PAROXETINE	Tablet 20 mg (base)	1,306,325	40,637,900	54,316,472	41.58
16	8220	CITALOPRAM	Tablet 20 mg (base)	1,546,341	40,586,734	57,309,669	37.06
17	8519	SALMETEROL and FLUTICASON	Oral Press inhal 25ug/250ug	573,657	40,578,345	45,667,130	79.61
18	8405	IRBESARTAN with HYDROCHLOROTHIAZIDE	Tablet 300 mg-12.5 mg	1,553,056	38,701,055	52,936,436	34.09
19	8101	INTEFERON	BETA-1b Injection set 1 vial powder dose 8,000,000i.u.	32,005	37,294,479	37,704,332	1178.08
20	2011	SIMVASTATIN	Tablet 10 mg	1,015,466	37,055,533	42,977,779	42.32
21	8313	SIMVASTATIN	Tablet 80 mg	341,596	36,626,869	39,245,190	114.89
22	8243	LATANOPROST	Eye drops 50 ug per mL (0.005%), 2.5 mL	1,222,628	35,315,296	41,659,421	34.07
23	2241	LANSOPRAZOLE	Capsule 30 mg	767,598	34,715,549	41,367,353	53.89
24	8302	VENLAFAXINE	Capsule 150 mg (base)/modified release	642,211	34,400,854	40,912,566	63.71
25	2236	SERTRALINE	Tablet 50 mg (base)	1,249,865	33,945,988	46,816,570	37.46
26	2237	SERTRALINE	Tablet 100 mg (base)	1,072,123	33,034,945	44,445,570	41.46
27	8093	GOSERLIN	Subcutaneous implant 10.8 mg (base) in prefilled i	28,083	32,024,636	32,172,716	1145.63
28	8601	ESOMEPRAZOLE	Tablet 40 mg (enteric coated),30	475,741	31,453,112	36,806,887	75.27
29	2834	PRAVASTATIN	Tablet 20 mg 30	689,896	31,398,993	36,244,385	52.54

Table 2: Highest Government cost drug by PBS item, year ending: June 2003 (continued)

Rank	Item	Drug	Form	Volume	Govt Cost \$	Total Cost \$	Ave Price \$
30	8521	ATORVASTATIN	Tablet 80 mg	281,194	30,565,345	33,043,427	117.51
31	8431	SALMETEROL and FLUTICASONIDE	Pbf oral inhaler breath actuator 50ug/250ug	608,901	29,889,855	36,190,473	59.44
32	3051	PERINDOPRIL	Tablet 4 mg 30	1,513,858	28,934,285	40,831,726	26.97
33	8288	SALBUTAMOL	Oral pressurised inhaler 100 ug (base) CFC-free	2,116,124	28,108,492	34,193,494	16.16
34	8134	VALACLOVR	Tablet 500 mg	157,089	27,941,588	30,546,677	194.45
35	8248	IRBESARTAN	Tablet 300 mg	1,117,737	27,875,305	37,347,034	33.41
36	8247	IRBESARTAN	Tablet 150 mg	1,486,395	27,269,544	40,631,851	27.34
37	8238	IPRATROPIUM BROMIDE	Nebuliser solution single dose 500 ug 1 mL	457,461	26,772,531	28,196,151	61.64
38	1978	RAMITIDINE HYDROCHLORIDE	Tablet 150 mg (base)	1,392,592	26,741,366	30,449,316	21.87
39	8449	PERINDOPRIL and INDAPAMIDE	Tablet 4 mg-1.25 mg	1,092,871	26,354,930	36,270,462	33.19
40	8185	OLANZAPINE	Tablet 5 mg 30	196,315	26,313,662	27,424,850	139.70
41	1763	INSULIN (HUMAN)	Injection 100 units (30 units-70 units)	115,606	25,676,184	26,334,488	227.80
42	2430	METFORMIN HYDROCHLORIDE	Tablet 500 mg	1,817,442	22,835,606	28,143,841	15.49
43	8471	ROFECOXIB	Tablet 12.5 mg 30	938,071	21,378,400	27,696,765	29.53
44	1434	FLUOXETINE HYDROCHLORIDE	Capsule 20 mg (base)	648,469	21,200,643	28,085,671	43.31
45	8294	RITUXIMAB	Soln for IV infusion 500mg/50ml	7,639	20,741,820	20,835,933	2727.57
46	8301	VENLAFAXINE	Capsule 75 mg (base) modified release	568,161	20,728,772	26,803,644	47.18
47	1746	PARACETAMOL	Tablet 500 mg	3,843,871	19,998,440	29,671,822	7.72
48	1081	ATEMOLOL	Tablet 50 mg	2,718,486	19,775,545	27,681,546	10.18
49	2752	AMLODIPINE BESYLATE	Tablet 10 mg (base), 30	790,692	19,715,101	26,897,102	34.02
50	1761	INSULIN (HUMAN)	Injection 100 units per ml, 3ml,5	89,762	19,594,504	20,439,223	227.70

Table 3: Highest volume drug by PBS item, year ending: June 2003

Rank	Item	Drug	Form	Volume	Govt Cost \$	Total Cost \$	Ave Price \$
1	8333	OMEPRAZOLE	Tablet 20 mg 30	3,853,807	169,280,902	198,515,450	51.51
2	1746	PARACETAMOL	Tablet 500 mg	3,843,871	19,988,440	29,671,822	7.72
3	8440	CELECOXIB	Capsule 200 mg 60	2,973,244	78,949,011	99,621,361	33.51
4	1081	ATELOXIB	Tablet 50 mg	2,718,486	19,775,545	27,681,546	10.18
5	1275	CODINE with PARACETAMOL	Tablet 30 mg-500 mg	2,481,299	18,939,264	26,064,545	10.50
6	8214	ATORVASTATIN	Tablet 20 mg	2,317,116	11,778,808	138,068,125	59.59
7	2012	SIMVASTATIN	Tablet 20 mg	2,273,229	117,460,363	132,712,814	58.38
8	8288	SALBUTAMOL	Oral pressurised inhal 100 ug (base) CFC-free	2,116,124	28,108,492	34,193,494	16.16
9	2089	TEMAZEPAM	Tablet 10 mg 25	2,035,954	8,045,426	13,434,695	6.60
10	8213	ATORVASTATIN	Tablet 10 mg	1,943,180	67,885,139	83,669,658	43.05
11	2430	METFORMIN HYDROCHLORIDE	Tablet 500 mg	1,817,442	22,835,606	28,143,841	15.49
12	8472	ROFECOXIB	Tablet 25 mg 30	1,767,781	61,489,864	75,841,435	42.90
13	8008	PANTOPRAZOLE	Tablet (enteric coated) equivalent to 40mg	1,645,377	71,335,683	83,234,644	50.59
14	8405	IBRESARTAN with HYDROCHLORTHIAZIDE	Tablet 300 mg-12.5 mg	1,553,056	38,701,055	52,956,436	34.09
15	8220	CITALOPRAM	Tablet 20 mg (base)	1,546,341	40,586,734	57,309,669	37.06
16	3051	PERINDOPRIL	Tablet 4 mg 30	1,513,858	28,934,285	40,831,726	26.97
17	8247	IBRESARTAN	Tablet 150 mg	1,486,395	27,269,544	40,631,851	27.34
18	1978	RAMITIDINE HYDROCHLORIDE	Tablet 150 mg (base)	1,392,592	26,741,366	30,449,316	21.87
19	3162	DIAZEPAM	Tablet 5 mg	1,383,555	5,677,873	9,592,644	6.93
20	8173	SIMVASTATIN	Tablet 40 mg	1,376,133	101,786,484	112,288,590	81.60
21	8511	ALENDRONIC ACID	Tablet 70 mg alendronic acid	1,356,453	68,721,158	75,760,145	55.85
22	3119	CEPHALEXIN	Capsule 500 mg	1,307,678	11,094,750	15,192,322	11.62
23	8215	ATORVASTATIN	Tablet 40 mg	1,306,787	98,461,023	109,918,533	84.11
24	2242	PAROXETINE	Tablet 20 mg (base)	1,306,325	40,637,900	54,316,472	41.58
25	2236	SERTRALINE	Tablet 50 mg (base)	1,249,865	33,945,988	46,816,570	37.46
26	8243	LATANOPROST	Eye drops 50 ug per ml (0.005%) 2.5 mL	1,222,628	35,315,296	41,659,421	34.07
27	8248	IBRESARTAN	Tablet 300 mg	1,117,737	27,875,305	37,347,034	33.41
28	8449	PERINDOPRIL and INDAPAMIDE	Tablet 4 mg-1.25 mg	1,092,871	26,354,930	36,270,482	33.19
29	2237	SERTRALINE	Tablet 100 mg (base)	1,072,123	33,084,945	44,445,570	41.46
30	3133	OXAZEPAM	Tablet 30 mg	1,064,135	3,754,038	6,537,188	6.14
31	1889	AMOXICILLIN	Capsule 500 mg	1,048,437	8,505,069	11,855,635	11.31

Table 3: Highest volume drug by PBS item, year ending: June 2003 (continued)

Rank	Item	Drug	Form	Volume	Govt Cost \$	Total Cost \$	Ave Price \$
32	1946	RAMIPRIL	Capsule 5.0 mg 28	1,045,596	18,621,696	27,011,361	25.83
33	8358	CLOPIDOGREL	Tablet 75mg	1,023,755	81,173,216	86,023,463	84.03
34	2412	FRUSEMIDE	Tablet 40 mg	1,017,711	5,464,891	7,951,599	7.81
35	2011	SIMVASTATIN	Tablet 10 mg	1,015,466	37,055,533	42,977,779	42.32
36	8471	ROFECOXIB	Tablet 12.5 mg 30	938,071	21,378,400	27,696,765	29.53
37	8197	PRAVASTATIN	Tablet 40 mg 30	919,179	66,274,264	73,348,010	79.80
38	8254	AMINOXYLLIN with CLAVULANIC ACID	Tablet 875 mg-125 mg	911,193	13,063,532	15,920,496	17.47
39	2751	AMLODIPINE BESYLATE	Tablet 5 mg (base), 30	895,123	16,925,767	19,527,975	21.82
40	8432	SALMETEROL and FLUTICASONE	Pdfr oral inhal.breath.acu dev.50ug/500ug	858,102	61,566,040	69,184,909	80.63
41	1558	ISOSORBIDE MONONITRATE	Tablets sustained release 60mg, 30	793,366	9,169,135	11,109,886	14.00
42	2752	AMLODIPINE BESYLATE	Tablet 10 mg (base), 30	790,692	19,715,101	26,897,102	34.02
43	8202	ASPIRIN	Tablet 100mg	773,438	2,631,349	4,697,868	6.07
44	2241	LANISOPRAZOLE	Capsule 30 mg	767,598	34,715,549	41,367,353	53.89
45	2449	GLICLAZIDE	Tablet 80 mg	762,637	9,887,505	11,915,879	15.62
46	1300	DICLOFENAC	Tablet 50 mg (enteric coated), 50	716,522	5,630,694	7,788,884	10.84
47	1369	EWALAPRIL MALEATE	Tablet 20 mg	703,285	16,107,038	21,397,338	30.42
48	1241	VERAPAMIL HYDROCHLORIDE	Tablet 240 mg (sustained release)	691,172	10,373,470	12,509,442	18.10
49	8404	IRBESARTAN with HYDROCHLOROTHIAZIDE	Tablet 150 mg-12.5 mg	690,857	13,009,959	19,390,860	28.07
50	2834	PRAVASTATIN	Tablet 20 mg, 30	689,896	31,398,993	36,244,385	52.54

**Table 4: Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme
Top 20 suppliers by total cost 2002 - 2003 (from processed PBS prescriptions)**

Rank	Manufacturer	Script Vol	Gort Cost \$	Total Cost \$	Sales (Ex-Manufacturer) \$
1	Pfizer	11,973,118	486,329,468.96	581,877,388.36	430,823,114
2	GlaxoSmithKline	10,320,769	393,265,788.09	463,050,451.59	339,846,954
3	Alphapharm	22,797,991	364,821,664.40	453,844,479.00	285,150,895
4	Merck Sharp & Dohme	9,627,041	378,057,735.49	437,646,997.19	321,684,601
5	AstraZeneca	9,180,802	329,365,419.29	389,854,373.89	284,268,329
6	Bristol-Myers Squibb	7,654,738	265,304,860.93	320,904,149.93	233,623,031
7	Pharmacia	8,547,391	263,322,034.52	317,054,631.82	227,099,197
8	Aventis	8,852,273	200,558,513.31	243,345,140.41	165,638,977
9	Eli Lilly	2,168,743	206,067,317.11	217,303,409.61	169,595,850
10	Sanoofi Synthelabo	8,938,333	158,040,273.00	198,065,775.70	128,266,918
11	Wyeth	3,720,437	113,618,631.93	139,558,342.03	100,120,846
12	Amrad	2,388,669	120,908,881.57	136,785,221.27	102,866,012
13	Roche	1,940,309	116,780,925.08	127,656,738.08	97,112,054
14	Novartis	3,213,001	106,234,870.51	120,409,539.41	86,371,752
15	Servier	4,217,655	79,359,926.48	105,702,543.58	70,541,163
16	Boehringer Ingelheim	2,774,209	79,552,144.30	96,842,225.50	68,748,038
17	Sigma	7,702,103	65,786,127.53	90,545,532.63	44,968,759
18	Novo Nordisk	876,887	83,675,471.56	88,278,797.86	68,913,474
19	Janssen-Cilag	1,188,268	74,220,530.85	82,023,213.35	62,618,249
20	Schering	1,045,754	64,850,056.91	71,039,933.31	54,170,632
	Others	29,857,408	634,587,226	762,668,595	511,140,576
	Total	158,985,899	4,584,713,868	5,444,457,480	3,853,589,422

Note: Includes branded and unbranded scripts and Doctors Bag scripts written for Extemporaneously-prepared items contained in Others total.

Table 5: Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme

Top 20 suppliers by script volume for 2002 - 2003 (from processed PBS prescriptions)

Rank	Manufacturer Code	Script Vol	Cost \$	Total Cost \$	% of Total	Sales (Ex-Manufacturer) \$
1	Alphapharm	22,797,991	364,827,664.40	453,844,479.00	14.34	285,150,895
2	Pfizer	11,973,118	486,329,468.96	581,877,388.36	7.53	430,823,114
3	GlaxoSmithKline	10,320,769	393,265,788.09	463,050,451.59	6.49	339,846,954
4	Merck Sharp & Dohme	9,627,041	378,057,735.49	437,646,997.19	6.06	321,684,601
5	Astrazeneca	9,180,802	329,365,419.29	389,854,373.89	5.77	284,268,329
6	Sano/Synthelabo	8,938,333	158,040,273.00	198,065,775.70	5.62	128,266,918
7	Aventis	8,852,273	200,558,513.31	248,345,140.41	5.57	165,638,977
8	Pharmacia	8,547,391	263,322,034.52	317,054,631.82	5.38	227,099,197
9	Sigma	7,702,103	65,786,127.53	90,545,632.63	4.84	44,968,759
10	Bristol-Myers Squibb	7,654,738	265,304,860.93	320,904,149.93	4.81	233,623,031
11	Sevier	4,217,655	79,359,926.48	105,702,543.58	2.65	70,541,163
12	Wyeth	3,720,437	113,618,631.93	139,558,342.03	2.34	100,120,846
13	Novartis	3,213,001	106,234,870.51	120,409,539.41	2.02	86,371,752
14	CSL	2,887,457	50,078,571.81	60,800,267.71	1.82	38,831,086
15	Boehringer Ingelheim	2,774,209	79,552,144.30	98,842,225.50	1.74	68,746,038
16	Faulding	2,461,752	38,219,135.50	47,332,716.70	1.55	29,421,346
17	Abbott	2,390,673	50,450,083.58	57,977,001.28	1.50	38,398,984
18	Amrad	2,388,669	120,908,881.57	136,785,221.27	1.50	102,886,012
19	Eli Lilly	2,168,743	206,067,317.11	217,303,409.61	1.36	169,595,850
20	Roche	1,940,309	116,780,925.08	127,656,738.08	1.22	97,112,054
	Total Top 20	133,757,464	3,866,128,373	4,606,556,926	84%	3,263,397,907
	Others	25,228,435	718,585,494	837,900,554	16%	590,191,514
	Total	158,985,899	4,584,713,868	5,444,457,480	100%	3,853,589,422

Note: Includes branded and unbranded scripts and Doctors Bag scripts written for Extemporaneously-prepared items contained in Others total.

Table 6(a): Significant drug groups (incl Dr's Bag) by highest Government cost, year end: June 2002 to year: June 2003

ATC Group Level 2	Year ending June 2002				Year ending June 2003				
	Scripts Volume	Govt Cost \$m	Total Cost \$m	Ave Price \$	Scripts Volume	Govt Cost \$m	Total Cost \$m	Ave Price \$	(% diff)
SERUM LIPID LOWERING AGENTS	12,300,820	647.3	741.5	60.28	13,320,021	8.3	834.1	62.62	3.9
DRUGS FOR ACID RELATED DISORDERS	10,162,715	359.3	421.5	41.48	11,291,472	11.1	503.3	44.58	7.5
AGENTS ACTING ON RENIN-ANGIOTENSIN SYSTEM	16,112,858	328.5	449.5	27.90	17,775,765	10.3	500.9	28.18	1.0
DRUGS FOR OBSTRUCTIVE AIRWAY DISEASES	9,969,971	306.8	368.4	36.95	9,485,438	-4.9	383.2	40.40	9.3
PSYCHONALEPTICS	10,396,045	293.3	379.5	36.51	11,104,099	6.8	413.3	37.22	2.0
PSYCHOLEPTICS	7,481,733	203.2	226.2	30.24	7,245,658	-3.2	250.4	34.55	14.3
ANTIINFLAMMATORY AND ANTIRHEUMATIC PRODUCTS	8,730,343	217.3	269.9	30.92	9,184,867	5.2	284.0	30.92	0.0
ANTINEOPLASTIC AGENTS	348,994	122.5	125.7	360.22	396,299	13.6	159.9	403.56	12.0
ANTIDIABETIC THERAPY	4,283,232	142.3	157.1	36.69	4,630,466	8.1	168.7	36.43	-0.7
CALCIUM CHANNEL BLOCKERS	7,214,908	146.0	183.2	25.39	7,308,106	1.3	149.1	25.68	1.1
ANALGESICS	10,437,953	114.7	143.8	13.77	10,588,558	1.4	160.7	15.18	10.2
ANTIBACTERIALS FOR SYSTEMIC USE	11,610,507	136.8	177.0	15.24	10,910,845	-6.0	130.4	15.47	1.5
ANTITHROMBOTIC AGENTS	3,311,436	91.4	102.7	31.02	3,936,792	18.9	123.7	35.10	13.2
DRUGS FOR TREATMENT OF BONE DISEASES	1,370,183	80.5	87.4	63.81	1,966,630	43.5	120.7	61.39	-3.8
ENDOCRINE THERAPY	376,386	90.9	93.7	249.05	387,190	2.9	99.6	257.26	3.3
SEX HORMONES AND MODULATORS OF THE GENITAL SYSTEM	5,738,153	107.2	130.3	22.71	4,370,599	-23.8	110.2	25.22	11.0
ANTI-EPILEPTICS	1,478,709	78.9	89.6	60.58	1,524,052	3.1	95.3	62.51	3.2

Table 6(b): Significant drug groups (incl Dr's Bag) by highest volume, to year end: June 2002 to year end: June 2003

ATC Group/Level 2	Year ending June 2002				Year ending June 2003						
	Scripts Volume	Govt Cost \$m	Total Cost \$m	Ave Price \$	Scripts Volume	Govt Cost \$m	Total Cost \$m	Ave Price \$	(% diff)	(% diff)	(% diff)
AGENTS ACTING ON RENIN-ANGIOTENSIN SYSTEM	16,112,858	328.5	449.5	27.90	17,775,765	10.3	500.9	28.18	11.4	11.4	1.0
SERUM LIPID LOWERING AGENTS	12,800,820	647.3	741.5	60.28	13,320,021	8.3	834.1	62.62	12.5	12.5	3.9
DRUGS FOR ACID RELATED DISORDERS	10,162,715	358.3	421.5	41.48	11,291,472	11.1	428.5	44.58	19.4	19.4	7.5
PSYCHOANALPTICS	10,396,045	293.3	379.5	36.51	11,104,099	6.8	317.3	37.22	8.9	8.9	2.0
ANTIBACTERIALS FOR SYSTEMIC USE	11,610,507	136.8	177.0	15.24	10,910,845	-6.0	130.4	15.47	-4.7	-4.6	1.5
ANALGESICS	10,437,953	114.7	143.8	13.77	10,588,558	1.4	130.8	15.18	14.0	11.8	10.2
DRUGS FOR OBSTRUCTIVE AIRWAY DISEASES	9,969,921	306.8	368.4	36.95	9,485,438	-4.9	322.0	40.40	5.0	383.2	4.0
ANTINEPLASMATORY AND ANTIRHEUMATIC PRODUCTS	8,730,343	277.3	269.9	30.92	9,184,867	5.2	226.8	30.92	4.4	284.0	5.2
CALCIUM CHANNEL BLOCKERS	7,214,908	146.0	183.2	25.39	7,308,106	1.3	149.1	25.68	2.1	187.7	2.4
PSYCHOLEPTICS	7,481,733	203.2	226.2	30.24	7,245,658	-3.2	227.4	34.55	11.9	250.4	14.3
OPHTHALMOLOGICALS	5,807,048	78.1	97.3	16.75	5,964,619	2.7	83.4	17.39	6.9	103.7	3.8
ANTIDIABETIC THERAPY	4,283,232	142.2	157.1	36.69	4,630,466	8.1	152.6	36.43	7.3	168.7	7.4
SEX HORMONES AND MODULATORS OF THE GENITAL SYSTEM	5,738,153	107.2	130.3	22.71	4,370,599	-23.8	91.3	25.22	-14.8	110.2	-15.4
BETA BLOCKING AGENTS	4,111,499	48.8	61.2	14.88	4,342,791	5.6	57.0	16.19	16.8	70.3	14.9
ANTI THROMBOTIC AGENTS	3,311,436	91.4	102.7	31.02	3,936,792	18.9	123.7	35.10	35.5	138.2	34.5
CARDIAC THERAPY	3,540,383	65.3	76.6	21.63	3,485,959	-1.5	60.8	20.65	-6.8	72.0	-6.0
DIURETICS	2,560,240	24.0	31.2	12.23	2,430,026	-4.7	22.7	12.17	-5.5	29.6	-5.2

Table 7(a): Significant drugs (incl Dr's Bag) – sorted by highest change to Government cost, year end: June 2002 to year end: June 2003

Rank	Drug	Year ending June 2002			Year ending June 2003			Change	
		Volume	Govt Cost \$	Total Cost \$	Volume	Govt Cost \$	Total Cost \$	Govt Cost \$	%
1	ESOMEPRAZOLE	0	0	0	944,849	48,661,880	57,445,910	48,861,880	New
2	AORVASTATIN	5,196,822	269,423,120	314,294,212	5,846,277	314,430,313	364,689,743	45,007,214	16.71
3	SALMETEROL and FLUTICASON	1,774,014	109,388,060	126,123,988	2,354,087	144,983,983	167,545,052	35,595,923	32.54
4	SIMVASTATIN	4,762,333	263,947,940	296,081,002	5,056,541	294,159,174	328,778,719	30,211,234	11.45
5	CLOPIDOGREL	696,369	55,310,635	58,535,911	1,023,755	81,173,216	86,022,463	25,862,580	46.76
6	ALENDRONIC ACID	959,760	50,963,471	55,920,169	1,445,217	74,623,621	82,072,489	23,660,150	46.43
7	OMEPRAZOLE	3,673,863	172,217,031	201,483,167	4,281,913	187,616,176	220,104,641	15,399,144	8.94
8	PRAVASTATIN	1,607,168	88,461,661	100,189,666	1,796,074	103,032,372	116,150,045	14,570,712	16.47
9	RABEPRAZOLE	122,513	5,082,825	6,245,956	486,786	18,942,004	23,281,321	13,879,179	274.14
10	ROFECOXIB	2,343,087	69,279,339	87,019,143	2,709,713	82,972,554	103,676,594	13,693,215	19.77
11	MELNIXAM	89,089	1,842,479	2,591,431	663,799	14,884,745	19,926,770	13,042,266	707.86
12	OLANZAPINE	601,876	127,976,466	131,243,352	656,166	140,283,078	143,898,046	12,366,612	9.67
13	IRBESARTAN with HYDROCHLOROTHALIZIDE	1,750,067	39,999,932	56,043,212	2,243,913	51,711,014	72,327,296	11,711,082	29.28
14	TRAMADOL	839,050	9,056,377	11,578,780	1,378,006	19,434,192	23,604,304	10,377,815	114.59
15	PANTOPRAZOLE	1,628,881	67,963,653	80,659,908	1,845,851	77,953,816	91,369,013	9,990,163	14.70
16	PERINDOPRIL and INDAPAMIDE	679,588	16,403,629	22,542,742	1,092,871	26,354,930	36,270,482	9,951,301	60.67
17	RAMIPRIL	1,849,269	36,875,398	49,715,574	2,277,813	46,768,502	62,862,126	9,893,104	26.83
18	RITUXIMAB	11,080	22,412,632	22,549,365	16,233	31,883,984	32,002,607	9,391,352	41.90
19	OCALIPLATIN	2,745	3,171,090	3,204,374	9,941	12,273,416	12,388,450	9,102,326	287.04
20	VENLAFAXINE	1,167,744	52,210,953	63,872,115	1,358,842	61,188,159	75,171,786	8,977,205	17.19
21	MIRAZAPINE	114,380	3,600,595	4,643,062	374,829	11,951,329	15,169,530	8,350,735	231.93
22	IRBESARTAN	2,524,289	52,275,925	73,742,208	2,859,697	59,565,886	83,763,075	7,289,961	13.95
23	TIOTROPUM BROMIDE	0	0	0	97,217	7,006,564	7,528,038	7,006,564	New
24	CARVEDILOL	213,807	19,855,372	21,019,323	292,713	26,676,865	28,239,616	6,821,493	34.36
25	VALACLOLVIR	156,404	28,657,761	31,068,595	194,765	35,423,035	38,557,808	6,763,274	23.60
26	QUETIAPINE	77,302	14,460,636	14,923,858	103,361	20,940,796	21,575,394	6,490,160	44.91
27	LEFCARNIPIDINE	71,178	1,172,368	1,709,778	362,356	6,288,030	8,935,120	5,215,671	444.88
28	AMISULPRIDE	0	0	0	26,814	4,826,835	4,997,960	4,826,835	New
29	OXCODONE	520,070	13,300,819	15,123,497	597,262	17,644,481	19,774,395	4,343,662	32.66
30	DOXORUBIN HYDROCHLORIDE	11,691	5,154,868	5,335,870	15,867	9,243,079	9,488,448	4,088,210	79.31

Table 7(a): Significant drugs (incl Dr's Bag) – sorted by highest change to Government cost, year end: June 2002 to year end: June 2003 (Continued)

Rank	Drug	Year ending June 2002			Year ending June 2003			Change			
		Volume	Govt Cost \$	Total Cost \$	Ave Price \$	Volume	Govt Cost \$	Total Cost \$	Ave Price \$	Govt Cost \$	%
31	CITALOPRAM	1,290,796	36,616,304	50,318,139	38.98	1,546,341	40,586,734	57,309,669	37.06	3,970,430	10.84
32	ENOXAPARIN	50,031	5,700,526	6,285,867	125.64	107,688	9,629,890	10,881,094	101.04	3,929,364	68.93
33	RISEDRONIC ACID	83,316	5,063,979	5,485,464	65.84	158,824	8,953,481	9,753,580	61.41	3,889,502	76.81
34	CANDESARTAN with HYDROCHLOROTHIAZIDE	183,034	3,516,463	5,217,444	28.51	383,934	7,397,415	10,958,868	28.54	3,880,952	110.37
35	INTERFERON BETA-1a	22,516	26,135,416	26,426,379	1173.67	25,252	30,004,967	30,337,154	1,201.38	3,869,551	14.81

Table 7(b): Significant Drugs (incl Drs Bag) - sorted by highest volume change, year end: June 2002 and June 2003

Rank	Drug	Year ending June 2002				Year ending June 2003				Change	
		Volume	Govt Cost \$	Total Cost \$	Ave Price \$	Volume	Govt Cost \$	Total Cost \$	Ave Price \$	Volume	%
1	ESOMEPRAZOLE	0	0	0	New	944,849	48,861,880	57,445,910	60.80	944,849	New
2	ATORVASTATIN	5,196,822	2,694,233,100	314,294,212	60.48	5,848,277	3,144,830,315	364,689,743	62.36	651,455	12.54
3	OMEPRAZOLE	3,673,863	17,227,031	201,483,767	54.84	4,281,913	18,716,176	220,104,641	51.40	608,050	16.55
4	SALMETEROL and FLUTICASSONE	1,774,014	109,388,060	126,123,398	71.09	2,354,087	144,983,983	167,543,052	71.17	588,073	32.70
5	MELoxicAM	89,089	1,842,477	2,591,431	29.09	663,799	14,884,745	19,926,770	30.02	574,710	645.10
6	TRAMADOL	839,050	9,056,377	11,578,780	13.80	1,378,006	19,434,192	23,604,304	17.13	538,956	64.23
7	IRBE SARTAN with HYDROCHLOROTHIAZIDE	1,750,067	39,999,932	56,043,212	32.02	2,243,913	51,711,014	72,327,296	32.23	493,846	28.22
8	ALENDRONIC ACID	959,760	50,963,471	55,920,169	58.26	1,445,217	74,623,621	82,072,489	56.79	485,457	50.58
9	RAMIPRIL	1,849,269	36,875,398	49,715,574	26.88	2,277,813	46,768,502	62,862,126	27.60	428,544	23.17
10	PERINDOPRIL and INDAPAMIDE	679,588	16,403,629	22,942,742	33.17	1,092,871	26,354,930	36,270,482	33.19	413,283	60.81
11	ROFECOXIB	2,343,087	69,279,339	87,019,143	37.14	2,709,713	82,972,554	103,676,594	38.26	366,626	15.65
12	RABEPRAZOLE	122,513	5,062,825	6,245,956	50.98	486,786	18,942,004	23,281,321	47.83	364,273	297.33
13	IRBE SARTAN	2,524,289	52,275,925	73,742,208	29.21	2,859,697	59,565,886	83,763,075	29.29	335,408	13.29
14	CLOPIDOGREL	696,369	55,310,636	58,535,911	84.06	1,023,755	81,173,216	86,023,463	84.03	327,386	47.01
15	SIMVASTATIN	4,762,333	263,947,940	296,081,002	62.17	5,066,541	294,159,174	328,778,719	65.02	294,208	6.18
16	LERCAMPIDINE	71,178	1,172,368	1,709,778	24.02	362,356	6,388,039	8,935,120	24.66	291,178	409.08
17	MIRIZAPINE	114,380	3,600,595	4,643,062	40.59	374,829	11,951,329	15,169,530	40.47	260,449	227.71
18	CITALOPRAM	1,290,796	36,616,304	50,318,139	38.98	1,546,341	40,586,734	57,309,669	37.06	255,545	19.80
19	METFORMIN HYDROCHLORIDE	2,038,368	25,778,551	31,758,769	15.58	2,281,837	28,817,185	36,574,815	15.59	243,469	11.94
20	PANTOPRAZOLE	1,628,881	67,963,653	80,659,908	49.52	1,845,851	77,953,816	91,369,013	49.50	216,970	13.32
21	CANDESARTAN with HYDROCHLOROTHIAZIDE	183,034	3,516,463	5,271,444	28.51	383,934	7,397,415	10,968,868	28.54	200,900	109.76
22	VENLAFAXINE	1,167,744	52,210,953	63,872,115	54.70	1,358,842	61,188,159	75,171,786	55.32	191,098	16.36
23	PRAVASTATIN	1,607,768	88,461,661	100,189,666	62.34	1,796,074	103,032,372	116,150,045	64.67	188,306	11.75
24	ATENOLOL	2,589,583	18,909,637	26,938,216	10.19	2,718,486	19,775,545	27,681,546	10.18	128,903	4.98
25	PERINDOPRIL	2,037,653	38,460,851	51,425,774	25.24	2,161,837	39,632,199	53,454,433	24.73	124,184	6.09
26	GLIMEPIRIDE	304,767	3,143,218	3,991,125	13.10	422,077	4,633,659	5,806,972	13.76	117,310	38.49
27	CANDESARTAN	651,520	10,744,761	16,204,717	24.87	767,552	13,529,916	19,184,044	24.99	116,012	17.81
28	LATANOPROST	1,108,318	33,640,622	39,468,644	35.61	1,222,628	35,315,296	41,659,421	34.07	114,310	10.31
29	WARFARIN	1,452,033	7,391,250	11,188,905	7.71	1,563,699	7,958,322	12,076,077	7.72	111,666	7.69
30	TELMISARTAN	705,923	11,727,318	18,089,067	25.62	814,529	13,727,102	21,083,645	25.88	108,606	15.38
31	SERTRALINE	2,215,095	63,970,970	86,521,300	39.06	2,321,988	66,980,933	91,262,139	39.30	106,893	4.83
32	TIOURIDIUM BROMIDE	0	0	0	New	97,217	7,006,564	7,528,038	77.44	97,217	New
33	LANSOPRAZOLE	736,119	35,219,114	41,750,747	56.72	826,600	37,081,916	44,251,349	53.53	90,481	12.29
34	METHYLPREDNISOLONE-ACETONATE	225,291	2,555,757	3,537,416	15.70	312,228	3,611,780	4,975,711	15.94	86,937	38.59
35	CARVEDILOL	213,807	19,855,372	21,019,323	98.31	292,713	26,676,865	28,230,616	96.44	78,906	36.91

