

# PHARMACEUTICAL BENEFITS

## PRICING AUTHORITY

### ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 30 June 2006



**PHARMACEUTICAL**

**BENEFITS**

**PRICING**

**AUTHORITY**

**Annual Report**

**For the year ended 30 June 2006**

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**PBPA**

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Pricing Authority

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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 nineteenth annual report of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Pricing Authority on the operations of the PBPA, and on the PBPA's interpretation of its operating guidelines for the year ended 30 June 2006.

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 should be furnished to you as soon as practicable after the end of the report period.

Yours sincerely



Joan Corbett  
Acting Chair  
2006

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## PREFACE

This is the nineteenth annual report of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Pricing Authority covering the operations of the PBPA for the year ended 30 June 2006.

### Tabling requirements

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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

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The report is divided into three chapters:

- chapter 1 provides basic information about the PBPA's genesis, membership and financial arrangements;
- chapter 2 addresses the factors considered by the PBPA for pricing of pharmaceutical benefits made available under the Government's Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme administered by the Department of Health and Ageing;
- chapter 3 contains related tables and figures.

## CHAPTER 1

### Pharmaceutical Benefits Pricing Authority

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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); and
- recommend prices for new items that are recommended for listing on the PBS.

### Membership

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The PBPA's membership for the 2005-2006 financial year was:

Chairman	Mr Graham Glenn – appointed with effect from 1 June 1992. Resigned 31 May 2006.
Industry nominee	Mr Kieran Schneemann – appointed with effect from 18 March 2003, as the nominee of Medicines Australia. Resigned 1 July 2006.
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	Ms Joan Corbett – appointed with effect from 4 March 2003.
Department of Industry, Tourism and Resources	Mr Craig Penniford – appointed with effect from 15 December 1999. Mr Michael Schwager – appointed with effect from December 2005.

## Secretariat Support

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The PBPA is serviced by a Secretariat located within the Pharmaceutical Evaluation Branch of the Department of Health and Ageing.

The PBPA supports best management practice in communicating with suppliers and other interested parties to make the PBPA'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 PBPA'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 PBPA.

## Co-ordination to achieve timely outcomes

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

## Financial arrangements

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The Department of Health and Ageing 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.

For the year ended 30 June 2006 the PBPA operating costs were:

<i>PBPA operating costs 2005-2006</i>	<i>Total costs \$</i>
Direct costs including Chairman's, industry and consumer nominees' expenses	26,040
Salaries	505,518
Members & secretariat travel and allowances	3,059
Administrative and property costs	5,559
Total costs	540,176

## CHAPTER 2

### Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme

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The PBPA'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 PBPA 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 Secretariat also conducts negotiations with suppliers, where necessary, on proposed prices.

### Factors considered by the PBPA

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In reviewing the price of listed items and in considering the price of items recommended for listing, the PBPA 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 PBPA;
- (e) prescription volumes, economies of scale and other factors such as expiry dating, storage requirements, product stability and special manufacturing requirements;
- (f) level of activity being undertaken by the company in Australia, including new investment, production, research and development\*;
- (g) prices of the drug in reasonably comparable overseas countries;
- (h) other relevant factors which the applicant company may wish the PBPA to consider; and
- (i) any directions of the Minister.

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

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\* Factor (f) is presently not taken into consideration in determining prices. The Pricing Authority is presently seeking advice on this matter.

## Establishing prices for new listings

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For new listings recommended by the PBAC, the PBPA recommends the prices to be negotiated by the Department of Health and Ageing.

The advice of the PBAC is a major consideration in determining initial prices.

Increasingly, the PBPA considers the use of risk share pricing arrangements to help contain costs for drugs that are a significant annual cost to the PBS. One type of arrangement is a price-volume agreement, where the sponsor of a particular drug agrees to a price reduction for any sales that exceed a pre-agreed sales volume.

Example: A sponsor agrees to reduce the price of the drug by 15% once the sales volume exceeds \$20 million in any year.

There are a number of other types of risk share pricing arrangements negotiated with pharmaceutical companies. These include:

1. Estimating the potential use outside the PBS restriction and rebating a proportion of this use.  
Example: the sponsor accepts that 25% of a particular drug's sales may be for uses that are not subsidised by the PBS. The sponsor agrees to rebate 20% of that drug's total sales to the government.
2. Agreeing to an annual cap (based on cost or script volumes) for a drug and rebating any excess over the cap.
3. Agreeing to a common annual sales cap for all the drugs used to treat a particular condition and rebating any excess according to each sponsor's market share.

Example: Four drugs are used to treat a particular condition and the agreed cap for their combined sales is \$80 million per year. In a particular year, sales are \$100 million, with the four sponsors having sold: \$10 million, \$20 million, \$30 million and \$40 million respectively. Sponsors agree to rebate a total of \$20 million to the government, paying: \$2 million, \$4 million, \$6 million and \$8 million, respectively.

Currently there are 34 risk share pricing arrangements in place or in development.

All proposed listings with a predicted net cost to the PBS in excess of \$10 million per annum in at least one of the first four years of listing 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 or extension to 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 (and considered by the Cabinet) were listed in 2005-2006:

Ezetimibe with Simvastatin (Vytorin®) – Vytorin® is a combination product to replace the use of the ezetimibe and a statin in patients who meet the certain eligibility criteria for the currently listed products. This drug was listed on 1 February 2006.

Eplerenone (Inspra®) – is used for the treatment of heart failure with a left ventricular ejection fraction of 40% or less occurring within three to fourteen days following an acute myocardial infarction. Inspra® was listed on 1 April 2006.

Efalizumab (Raptiva®) – was listed on 1 April 2006 as the first available mono- systemic therapy for severe chronic plaque psoriasis.

Oxaliplatin (Eloxatin®) – had an extension to listing in 1 October 2005 for the adjuvant treatment of Stage III (Duke's C) colon cancer in combination with 5-fluorouracil and folinic acid, following complete resection of the primary tumour. Prior to this listing, Eloxatin® was only listed for the treatment of metastatic colon cancer.

Anastrozole (Arimidex®) had an extension to listing on 1 December 2005 for the treatment of hormone dependent breast cancer in all post menopausal women, removing the restriction of degree of disease status (early or advanced breast cancer) and the need to have had unsatisfactory treatment with tamoxifen prior to treatment with Arimidex®.

### Reviewing prices for existing items

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

- reference pricing, ie comparing the prices of products that are considered by the PBAC to produce similar health benefits, or where this is not available;
- on the basis of further cost effectiveness justification by the sponsor to the PBAC; or
- a margin on the cost of manufacture, or landed cost.

The PBPA 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 Cost (WAMTC) is a form of reference pricing applied to specified groups of drugs considered by the PBAC as having similar therapeutic outcomes.

## Therapeutic Relativities

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The PBPA 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

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Prices or price adjustments determined or recommended by the PBPA 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 PBS.

The prices set by the PBPA 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 general patients for the period of the report was \$28.60 changing to \$29.50 effective 1 January 2006.

## Brand Substitution

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The Government introduced a policy of brand substitution from 1 December 1994. Under the 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 PBPA. Applications for increases to the benchmark prices continue to be considered by the PBPA.

The following table shows the effect of brand substitution\*.

	<i>June 2003</i>	<i>June 2004</i>	<i>June 2005</i>	<i>June 2006</i>
Number of products with a premium	315	323	335	345
Average brand premium	\$2.79	\$2.85	\$2.78	\$2.76
Weighted average brand premium**	\$1.73	\$1.89	\$1.77	\$1.76
Brand premium Range	\$0.01 to \$79.48	\$0.06 to 79.48	\$0.06 to \$79.48	\$0.06 to \$79.48
Prescriptions dispensed with a brand premium in the previous 12 months	30.1m	28.5m	30.0m	30.1m
Prescriptions dispensed at the benchmark level in the previous 12 month period	39.7m	43.1m	50.5m	51.9m
Percentage at the benchmark level	57%	60%	63%	63%
Products at the Benchmark price	953	979	996	1,014

Note: In previous Annual Reports this table used end of May data. These have been changed to end of June data in line with other data in this report.

\* Figures only include those scripts processed by Medicare Australia, so general scripts that fall under the co-payment are not included.

\*\* Weighted average brand premium is calculated by:

Scripts x premium = total premium value,

Total premium value/total scripts = weighted average brand premium

## Special Patient Contributions

Special patient contributions may apply when a manufacturer and the Government can not agree about the price of a product listed on the PBS. In these cases, the product continues to be listed on the PBS, but patients pay an additional amount on top of the standard patient co-payment. These additional amounts are paid to the supplier of the product, not to the Government.

The advantage of special patient contributions is that patients are not denied subsidised access to the drugs altogether, increasing the treatment options available for doctors and patients. There are usually means of avoiding special patient contributions.

There are three types of special patient contributions, which are discussed below.

## Special Patient Contributions Other Than Premiums

There are currently six products with special patient contributions other than premiums listed on the PBS. Five of these have been introduced because the companies and the Minister could not agree on a new price when a price reduction was required by the 12.5% price reduction policy. The sixth, bleomycin, has had this type of special patient contribution for a number of years.

<i>Drug</i>	<i>Use</i>	<i>SPC</i>
Bleomycin	Some cancers	\$445.90
Levetiracetam	Epilepsy	\$7.13 – \$19.84
Topiramate	Epilepsy	\$2.32 – \$2.62
Escitalopram	Depression	\$3.20 – \$4.33
Pemetrexed	Non-small cell lung cancer	\$398.72
Lansoprazole (oral solution)	Proton pump inhibitor	\$3.63

The Government has ensured that patients will not be financially disadvantaged with the recent introduction of the five new special patient contributions. The treating doctor can seek an authority from Medicare Australia to waive this type of special patient contribution where there is no clinically suitable alternative listed on the PBS at the benchmark price. Doctors are encouraged to seek a waiver whenever appropriate so that patients are not financially disadvantaged.

## Brand Premium Policy

The Brand Premium Policy was introduced in December 1990, at the request of the industry. The policy allows suppliers to set their own prices on PBS listed products in particular circumstances. It applies mainly to drugs which are no longer under patent.

The policy operates where there are a number of therapeutically equivalent brands available. The Government subsidises each of the available brands to the level of the lowest priced brand. Suppliers of other brands are able to set a price higher than the price of the lowest priced brand. Patients then pay the difference between the price of the lowest priced brand and the price of the brand which is dispensed to them – this is known as the brand premium.

The brand premium is not paid to the Government. The supplier receives the benefit of the brand premium paid.

The principle is that there should always be available at least one therapeutically equivalent brand without a brand premium. Unless the prescribing doctor has specifically indicated otherwise on the prescription, a pharmacist can dispense another brand of the same medicine at the patient's request. In this way, patients can avoid paying a brand premium.

As at 30 June 2006, 345 of the approximately 2800 products listed on the PBS attracted a brand premium. The average brand premium was \$2.76, and premiums ranged from \$0.06 to \$79.48. The majority of brand premiums was in the range of \$1.00 to \$4.00.

### Therapeutic Group Premium (TGP) Policy

The Therapeutic Group Premium Policy was introduced by the Government in 1998.

The policy applies within specifically defined groups of drugs which have similar safety and health outcomes. Within these groups, the drugs can be interchanged at the patient level. The Government subsidises all drugs within a group to the level of the lowest priced drug. The difference in price between the lowest priced drug and higher priced drugs within the group is called a therapeutic group premium (TGP). The TGP is paid by the patient and goes to the supplier, not to the Government.

The principle is that there is always at least one drug within each group of drugs available without a TGP. In addition, when a patient, for a medical reason, is only able to take a drug with a premium, the prescribing doctor can request an exemption from the premium from Medicare Australia.

There are currently four groups of drugs affected by the Therapeutic Group Premium Policy. These are ACE inhibitors and Calcium Channel Blockers that are used to treat cardiovascular disease, HMG CoA reductase inhibitors (statins) used for lowering blood cholesterol and the H2 receptor antagonists for the treatment of peptic ulcers. The prices of items in these groups are reviewed by the PBPA each year, as for all drugs listed on the PBS. As at 30 June 2006, there were 75 items within the four groups. Nine of the items attracted TGPs, which ranged from \$1.35 to \$7.01.

### Implementation 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 PBPA 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.

Each WAMTC group is reviewed annually in line with PBPA meetings, and may be subject to ad hoc reviews if a price reduction is requested for any of the drugs in a group.

There are two categories of drug groups to which the WAMTC methodology applies:

- Therapeutic group premium (TGP) drugs; and
- Non-TGP drugs, where the mode of action is not necessarily the same but the drugs have been listed on a cost minimisation basis as providing similar health outcomes. In some cases, it may be that the group could form a TGP class but has not been designated so by a decision of the Government.

There are currently four TGP WAMTC groups:

- H2 receptor antagonists (cimetidine, ranitidine, nizatidine, famotidine)
- CCBs (dihydropyridines) (amlodipine, felodipine, lercanidipine, nifedipine)
- ACE inhibitors (captopril, enalapril, fosinopril, lisinopril, perindopril, quinapril, ramipril, trandolapril)
- HMGs (statins) (atorvastatin, pravastatin, simvastatin)

There are also three non-TGP WAMTC groups:

- Antidepressants (SSRIs plus) (citalopram, fluoxetine, fluvoxamine, mirtazapine, moclobemide, reboxetine, paroxetine, sertraline)
- Proton Pump Inhibitors (PPIs) (esomeprazole, lansoprazole, omeprazole, omeprazole magnesium, pantoprazole, rabeprazole)
- Angiotensin II receptor antagonists (ATRA) (candesartan, eprosartan, irbesartan, telmisartan).

The SSRIs-plus WAMTC review was conducted in April 2005 with resultant price adjustments commencing from 1 August 2005.

The PPIs and H2 receptor antagonists were reviewed in December 2005, with resultant price adjustments commencing from 1 April 2006.

The cardiovascular groups (CCBs, statins, ATRA, and ACEs) were all reviewed in April 2005, with resultant price adjustments commencing from 1 August 2006.

## 12.5% Price Reduction Policy

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In general, the prices Australian taxpayers pay for generic medicines are high compared to some other OECD countries. In October 2004, the Australian Government announced new pricing arrangements for the listing of any new brand of an existing PBS medicine. Under the new policy, for the first new generic brand of a medicine already listed on the PBS, the sponsor must offer a price reduction of at least 12.5% compared to the current lowest priced brand.

The first new brands subject to the price reduction were listed on 1 August 2005. In this financial year there have been three rounds of reductions, occurring in August and December 2005 and in April 2006. As at April 2006, prices of drugs in thirteen of the (then) 105 reference pricing groups have been affected. Implementation of this policy has been through agreement with the industry rather than through legislation.

Price reductions under this policy help to reduce the cost of the PBS, thereby helping to maintain its affordability into the future.

## The Highly Specialised Drugs Program

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### Program overview

Alternative arrangements for PBS subsidised supply of medicines are necessary, where dispensing through community pharmacies is not appropriate. Such supply is provided for under Section 100 (s100) of the National Health Act 1953 (the Act). A vital and quickly growing program under s100 is the Highly Specialised Drugs (HSD) Program. The Australian Government provides for certain specialised medications under this Program including immunosuppressive agents, which prevent transplant rejection; drugs related to cancer therapy, and drugs to treat HIV/AIDS and hepatitis.

HSDs are for the treatment of chronic conditions and are restricted to supply through public and private hospitals that have appropriate specialist facilities. To prescribe these drugs as pharmaceutical benefit items, medical practitioners are required to be affiliated with these specialist hospital units.

Subsidy for drugs under this program commences following recommendation by the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC), approval by the Australian Government and the States and Territories accepting the offer of subsidy.

To gain access to a Government funded drug under this program, a patient must attend a participating hospital and be a day admitted patient, a non-admitted patient (for instance, attending a special clinic for chemotherapy) or a patient on discharge. Government subsidy is not available for hospital in-patients.

Patients must also be under appropriate specialist medical care and meet the other normal requirements for PBS eligibility.

A patient will be required to pay a contribution for each supply of a HSD at a similar rate to that for the PBS.

### Highly Specialised Drugs Working Party

The Australian Health Ministers' Advisory Council established the HSD Working Party in 1991. The Working Party consists of representatives from the Health Department of each of the States and Territories, the Australian Private Hospitals Association and the Commonwealth as chair.

The Working Party's terms of reference are:

- selecting drugs proposed for inclusion in the funding arrangements for highly specialised drugs;
- referring proposed drugs with supporting information to the PBAC for consideration for listing as pharmaceutical benefits under section 100 supply arrangements;
- monitoring information on potential new highly specialised drugs which might come under the funding arrangements;
- monitoring the quality use of drugs supplied under these arrangements; and
- investigating and making recommendations on procedures to monitor drugs supplied by public hospitals under the section 100 arrangements to patients in community settings.

### Program expenditure

During 2005–2006 there were 69 drugs subsidised under the HSD Program, compared to 2004–2005 when 65 were subsidised. The new drug listings are:

1. Abacavir Sulfate with Lamivudine
2. Everolimus
3. Tenofovir Disporoxil Fumarate with Emtricitabine
4. Thalidomide

Of the four new inclusions, two are HIV/AIDS Antiretroviral Agents and two are Immunosuppressive Agents.

Before reconciliation\*, the expenditure for 2005–2006, with the drugs categorised, is as follows:

<i>Indications Grouping</i>	<i>Number of Drugs</i>	<i>Public Hospital</i>	<i>Private Hospital</i>	<i>Combined</i>
Acromegaly Agents	3	\$12,471,398	\$5,321,007	\$17,792,405
Antiarthritic Agents	2	\$2,615,423	\$12,864,259	\$15,479,682
Bisphosphonates Agents	2	\$14,798,848	\$9,738,426	\$24,537,274
Haemopoietic Agents	2	\$95,024,756	\$19,542,954	\$114,567,710
Hepatitis B or C Agents	7	\$32,935,679	\$6,494,262	\$39,429,941
HIV/AIDS Antiretroviral Agent	23	\$107,314,892	\$402,767	\$108,093,760
Immunocompromised Conditions	9	\$7,815,866	\$315,156	\$8,069,351
Immunosuppressive Agents	7	\$54,110,434	\$3,562,748	\$57,673,182
Iron Overload Agents	2	\$3,862,919	\$192,518	\$4,055,437
Malignancy Agents	5	\$50,287,242	\$27,635,204	\$77,922,446
Other Conditions	5	\$42,982,905	\$3,039,676	\$46,022,581
Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension Agents	2	\$3,255,189	\$9,390,914	\$12,646,103
Grand Total	69	\$427,475,552	\$98,499,890	\$526,289,872

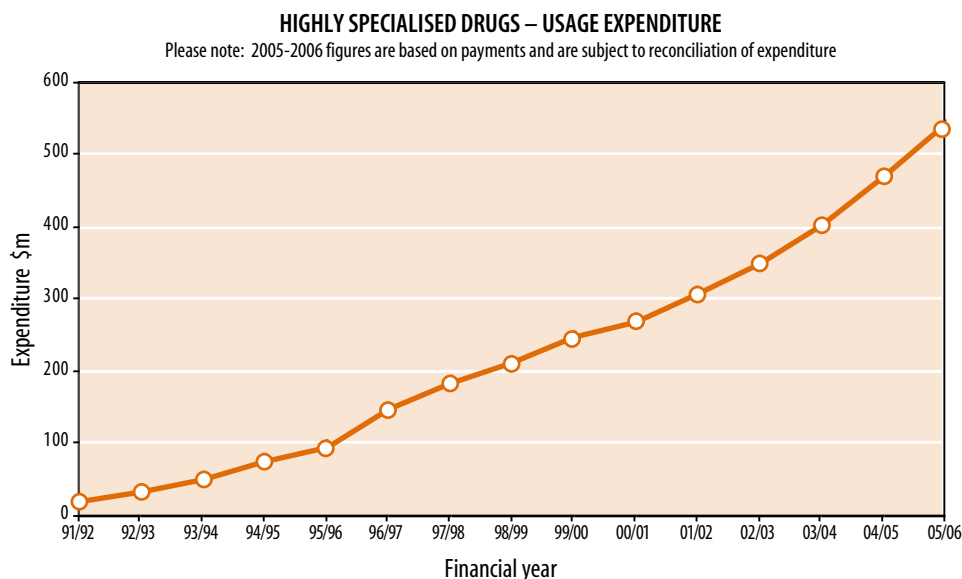
\* On receipt of a certified statement of acquittal, financial adjustments are made for each State/Territory to account for actual utilisation as compared to forecast usage.

The expenditure through the HSD program in 2004–2005 was \$470.9 million. Before reconciliation, 2005–2006 costs totalled \$526.3 million, an increase of 11.8% from 2004–2005. At the end of the financial year, payments made to public hospitals via grants to the States and Territories will be reconciled against the actual drug usage.

Australian Government expenditure for HSDs is processed through two avenues; a grant process for public hospitals and through Medicare Australia for private hospital usage. For 2005–2006 the expenditure in public hospitals was \$427.5 million, an increase of 11 per cent from the 2004–2005 expenditure of \$385.02 million. HSD expenditure processed through Medicare Australia for private hospitals showed an increase of 14.8 per cent from the \$85.9 million in 2004–2005 to \$98.5 million in 2005–2006.

The HSD Program continues to increase at a steady rate across both public and private hospitals. This increase in expenditure is due to the increase in number of drugs listed on the program, patients accessing drugs, and the number of new hospitals, specifically private, participating in the program.

The Highly Specialised Drugs – Usage Expenditure chart outlines the program expenditure from 1991-1992 to 2005-2006 financial years.



### Therapeutic Group Reviews

The PBPA 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 PBPA to consider in reviewing product prices.

### Confidentiality of information

All information provided on a confidential basis to the PBPA is strictly treated as such. This confidential information is not disclosed to any person apart from members of the PBPA 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 2005-2006

In the 2005-2006 financial year, the PBPA held three therapeutic group reviews, the summary results of which are compared below with those for the previous year:

<i>Product review results</i>	<i>2004-2005</i>	<i>2005-2006</i>
Number of products reviewed:	2,586	2,780
Number of products (includes individual brands) for which price applications were received:	364 14.07%	449 16.15%
Number of products for which price increases were granted:	114 4.4%	140 5.04%

The number of new items recommended for listing and new items actually listed for the financial year 2005-2006 was:

Number of items recommended for listing by the PBAC:	69	52
Section 100 (based on PBAC meetings held in 2005-2006 financial year, includes different strengths):	10	14
Number of items listed:	74	138
Section 100 (based on new items listed in the PBS Schedules for 2005-2006):	12	13
Estimate of additional cost of drugs newly listed during 2005-06*:	—	\$58.6 million**

\* Values are estimated costs to PBS and RPBS for first 12 months of listing each drug, based on estimated net costs from major PBAC submissions for drugs listed on PBS between 1 July 04 to 30 June 05. Note that drugs are listed at stages throughout the year so the value is not the estimated cost to PBS and RPBS in financial year 2004-05. This is \$17 million less than the estimate for 2004-05. This is because the average cost of each new listing in 2005-06 is lower than that of listings in 2004-05 rather than any specific issue.

\*\* \$18.1 million of this value is for drugs that were not considered by Cabinet.

### Estimated cost of price increases of existing items 2005-2006

The general price increases granted to suppliers in 2005-2006 are collectively estimated to add \$14.4 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:

<i>Approval of price increases</i>	<i>2004-2005 \$ million</i>	<i>2005-2006 \$ million</i>
Recommended by the PBPA and subsequently approved by the Minister	9.8	14.4

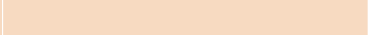
### Cost of Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme, 2005-2006

The total cost of the PBS for 2005-2006 was \$6,163.13 million. This comprised \$4,320.98 million for persons covered by concession cards, and \$1,074.26 million for general patient, ie those patients not covered by concession cards. PB Other expenditure was \$767.89 million, which includes a range of categories of expenditure, including Highly Specialised Drugs.

<i>Category</i>	<i>Processed Script numbers # million</i>	<i>Cost to Government (excludes patient contributions) \$ million</i>
General	26.83	1,074.26
Concessional	141.10	4,320.98
PB Other	*	767.89
Total	167.93	6,163.13

\* PB Other contains diverse programs. The majority of data is collected by State Governments 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 \$29.50), the consumer pays the full amount. The above figures do not include these amounts.



## CHAPTER 3

### Tables and figures

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Table 1: Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme — Summary of Therapeutic Group Reviews for 2005–2006

ATC group	Minor Group	Number Products Reviewed	Script Volume	Govt Cost (\$)	Total Cost (\$)	Estimated Cost to Government of Price Increases (\$)
A02	Drugs for acid related disorders	86	13,680,432	503,996,202	626,749,699	241,301
A04	Antiemetics and antinauseants	26	798,249	15,197,341	20,383,658	—
A06	Laxatives	19	637,208	10,400,535	12,430,274	—
A07	Antidiarrheals, intestinal antiinflammatory/ antiinfective agents	30	852,492	39,648,087	47,805,946	314,168
A10	Drugs used in diabetes	79	5,508,145	208,163,251	232,935,447	—
B01	Antithrombotic agents	45	5,501,332	194,777,668	222,238,098	534,192
B05	Blood substitutes and perfusion solutions	11	40,991	1,118,376	1,342,526	—
C01	Cardiac therapy	69	3,251,681	60,275,692	72,610,876	80,196
C02	Antihypertensives	25	707,196	10,272,598	12,784,565	—
C03	Diuretics	40	2,255,281	20,460,675	28,409,591	—
C07	Beta blocking agents	58	5,097,677	83,529,703	103,618,010	—
C08	Calcium channel blockers	69	7,388,143	150,892,812	193,191,326	—
C09	Agents acting on the renin-angiotensin system	140	19,798,050	417,340,415	561,004,067	—
C10	Lipid modifying agents	86	17,365,169	940,650,611	1,114,784,039	—
D07	Corticosteroids, dermatological preparations	38	2,269,450	19,659,565	29,286,895	—
D10	Anti-acne preparations	10	124,424	15,514,367	18,356,935	—
G03	Sex hormones and modulators of the genital system	138	3,245,802	72,495,895	91,135,898	755,012
H02	Corticosteroids for systemic use	34	1,658,523	11,490,587	17,333,539	170,553
J01	Antibacterials for systemic use	330	11,306,843	129,317,850	178,650,723	18,464
J05	Antivirals for systemic use	29	420,217	85,165,357	93,715,013	—
L01	Antineoplastic agents	130	464,943	226,591,528	232,540,826	4,862
L02	Endocrine therapy	37	431,599	121,472,024	126,212,143	2,418

Table 1: Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme – Summary of Therapeutic Group Reviews for 2005–2006 (continued)

ATC group	Minor Group	Number Products Reviewed	Script Volume	Govt Cost (\$)	Total Cost (\$)	Estimated Cost to Government of Price Increases (\$)
L03	Immunostimulants	18	86,915	93,733,051	95,194,421	–
L04	Immunosuppressive agents	48	298,609	97,629,573	101,562,542	–
M01	Antiinflammatory and antirheumatic products	77	5,873,572	100,691,700	140,410,880	–
M03	Muscle relaxants	18	132,178	6,289,012	7,270,334	–
M04	Antigout preparations	18	896,019	7,312,349	10,420,988	26,867
M05	Drugs for treatment of bone diseases	16	3,145,888	163,735,344	184,117,926	–
N02	Analgesics	120	10,699,437	159,517,995	197,291,243	122,776
N03	Antiepileptics	128	1,676,189	95,884,453	111,006,508	5,272
N04	Anti-Parkinson drugs	39	644,306	35,309,964	39,148,270	11,725
N05	Psycholeptics	116	7,316,315	313,394,268	344,069,028	–
N06	Psychoanaleptics	120	12,180,626	329,593,062	457,698,732	236,315
R03	Drugs for obstructive airway diseases	88	9,178,632	363,842,287	439,271,899	17,774
S01	Ophthalmologicals	104	6,678,446	96,022,823	125,016,769	5,808,095
V03	All other therapeutic products	10	43,043	5,951,198	6,326,627	–
V04	Diagnostic agents	26	461,167	21,782,295	24,271,624	–
V06	General nutrients	73	58,293	20,031,180	20,986,908	–
	*Ad hoc	232	6,149,133	145,236,893	176,073,486	5,303,042
	#Total (excludes section 100 drugs)	2,780	168,322,615	5,394,388,587	6,517,658,279	13,653,032

\*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.

**Table 2: Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme – Highest Cost Items – 12 Months to 30 June 2006**

Rank	Item	Drug	Form	Volume	Govt Cost (\$)	Total Cost (\$)	Average Price (\$)
1	8215	ATORVASTATIN CALCIUM	Tablet 40mg (atorvastatin)	2,537,385	179,744,552	208,749,004	82.27
2	8214	ATORVASTATIN CALCIUM	Tablet 20mg (atorvastatin)	3,156,964	153,271,842	188,698,030	59.77
3	8358	CLOPIDOGREL HYDROGEN SULFATE	Tablet 75mg (base)	1,893,034	146,814,709	159,334,336	84.17
4	8173	SIWASTATIN	Tablet 40mg	2,378,695	142,976,385	165,780,515	69.69
5	8333	OMEPRAZOLE	Tablet 20mg	3,433,750	123,565,852	154,365,535	44.96
6	8511	ALENDRONATE SODIUM	Tablet equivalent to 70mg alendronic acid	2,038,729	99,003,002	112,273,584	55.07
7	8521	ATORVASTATIN CALCIUM	Tablet 80mg (atorvastatin)	901,881	93,961,177	104,109,847	115.44
8	2012	SIWASTATIN	Tablet 20mg	2,141,792	88,968,353	106,944,762	49.93
9	8187	OLANZAPINE	Tablet 10mg	262,782	86,971,934	88,837,664	338.07
10	8601	ESOMEPRAZOLE MAGNESIUM TRIHYDRATE	Tablet (enteric coated), equivalent to 40mg esomeprazole	1,337,126	84,119,120	98,402,578	73.59
11	8008	PANTOPRAZOLE SODIUM SESQUIHYDRATE	Tablet (enteric coated), equivalent to 40mg pantoprazole	2,097,012	82,035,583	100,687,868	48.01
12	8626	TIOTROPIUM BROMIDE MONOHYDRATE	Capsule containing powder for oral inhalation 18micrograms (base) (for use in HandiHaler)	1,025,874	74,100,445	79,677,993	77.67
13	8600	ESOMEPRAZOLE MAGNESIUM TRIHYDRATE	Tablet (enteric coated), equivalent to 20mg esomeprazole	2,066,632	71,390,412	93,681,699	45.33
14	8197	PRAVASTATIN SODIUM	Tablet 40mg	1,111,793	66,592,472	76,688,181	68.98
15	8213	ATORVASTATIN CALCIUM	Tablet 10mg (atorvastatin)	1,902,639	60,498,589	79,972,531	42.03
16	8519	FLUTICASON PROPIONATE with SALMETEROL XINAFOATE	Oral pressurised inhalation 250micrograms-25micrograms (base) per dose (120 doses), GFC-free formulation	843,914	57,637,792	67,288,361	79.73
17	8313	SIWASTATIN	Tablet 80mg	616,292	54,392,742	60,424,971	98.05
18	8302	VENLAFAXINE HYDROCHLORIDE	Capsule 150mg (base) (modified release)	973,985	49,682,663	62,815,853	64.49
19	8432	FLUTICASON PROPIONATE with SALMETEROL XINAFOATE	Powder for oral inhalation in breath actuated device 500micrograms-50micrograms (base) per dose (60 doses)	704,062	48,941,855	56,792,893	80.66
20	8405	IRBESARTAN with HYDROCHLOROTHIAZIDE	Tablet 300mg-12.5mg	2,285,795	46,713,183	73,066,379	31.97
21	8508	RABEPRAZOLE SODIUM	Tablet 20mg (enteric coated)	1,179,024	44,511,224	57,192,125	48.51
22	8134	VALACICLOVIR HYDROCHLORIDE	Tablet 500mg (base)	235,646	41,255,310	46,323,788	196.58
23	8243	LATANOPROST	Eye drops 50micrograms per mL (0.005%), 2.5mL	1,394,845	39,182,300	48,534,972	34.80
24	8093	GOSERELIN ACETATE	Subcutaneous implant (long acting) 10.8mg (base) in pre-filled injection syringe	34,313	39,156,556	39,393,580	1,148.07

**Table 2: Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme — Highest Cost Items — 12 Months to 30 June 2006 (continued)**

Rank	Item	Drug	Form	Volume	Govt Cost (\$)	Total Cost (\$)	Average Price (\$)
25	8101	INTERFERON BETA-1b	Injection set comprising 1 vial powder for injection (250micrograms) and solvent	33,642	39,079,525	39,641,592	1,178.34
26	8449	PERINDOPRIL ERBUMINE with INDAPAMIDE HEMIHYDRATE	Tablet 4mg-1.25mg	1,703,190	36,115,384	55,954,680	32.85
27	8621	RISERDONATE SODIUM	Tablet 35mg	714,069	34,559,245	39,307,394	55.05
28	8440	CELECOXIB	Capsule 200mg	1,489,831	34,144,780	47,320,439	31.76
29	8431	FLUTICASONE PROPIONATE with SALMETEROL XINAFOATE	Powder for oral inhalation in breath actuated device (50micrograms (base) per dose (60 doses))	697,243	32,162,217	41,552,597	59.60
30	8757	EZETIMIBE	Tablet 10mg	514,861	31,529,685	36,939,746	71.75
31	8248	IRBESARTAN	Tablet 300mg	1,314,635	30,423,936	40,071,103	30.48
32	8220	CITALOPRAM HYDROBROMIDE	Tablet 20mg (base)	1,085,125	30,389,730	39,022,067	35.96
33	8562	MELOXICAM	Tablet 15mg	1,318,955	29,081,768	42,142,214	31.95
34	2241	LANSOPRAZOLE	Capsule 30mg	754,453	28,267,477	36,372,780	48.21
35	3051	PERINDOPRIL ERBUMINE	Tablet 4mg	1,294,661	27,845,258	32,779,059	25.32
36	8301	VENLAFAXINE HYDROCHLORIDE	Capsule 75mg (base) (modified release)	833,716	27,694,405	39,664,267	47.58
37	8470	RAMIPRIL	Capsule 10mg	1,254,425	27,189,325	41,513,858	33.09
38	2242	PAROXETINE HYDROCHLORIDE	Tablet 20mg (base)	1,131,211	26,454,800	41,922,810	37.06
39	8288	SALBUTAMOL SULFATE	Oral, pressurised inhalation (200 doses), (CFE-free formulation)	2,055,567	26,302,179	33,650,686	16.37
40	8185	OLANZAPINE	Tablet 5mg	201,905	26,111,961	27,689,805	137.14
41	1763	INSULIN NEUTRAL-INSULIN ISOPHANE (N.P.H.), (MIXED) (Biphasic isophane)	Injections (human) 100units (30units-70units) per mL, 3mL, 5	115,807	25,379,335	26,163,429	225.92
42	8247	IRBESARTAN	Tablet 150mg	1,167,627	24,548,622	28,917,104	24.77
43	8704	PERINDOPRIL ERBUMINE	Tablet 8mg	764,716	24,391,356	32,969,142	43.11
44	1761	INSULIN ISOPHANE (N.P.H.)	Injections (human) 100units per mL, 3mL, 5	111,979	23,976,428	25,313,655	226.06
45	2237	SERTRALINE HYDROCHLORIDE	Tablet 100mg (base)	1,101,743	23,871,711	39,493,596	35.85
46	8258	CARVEDILOL	Tablet 25mg	211,123	22,687,631	24,331,658	115.25
47	8294	RITUXIMAB	Solution for I.V. infusion 500mg in 50mL	8,833	22,385,306	22,516,472	2,549.13
48	8513	MIRTAZAPINE	Tablet 30mg	787,541	21,783,051	29,643,687	37.64
49	2236	SERTRALINE HYDROCHLORIDE	Tablet 50mg (base)	1,190,176	21,709,925	38,062,073	31.98
50	2011	SIMVASTATIN	Tablet 10mg	741,382	21,348,012	26,841,034	36.20

**Table 3: Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme — Most Prescribed Items — 12 Months to 30 June 2006**

Rank	Item	Drug	Form	Volume	Govt Cost (\$)	Total Cost (\$)	Average Price (\$)
1	8333	OMEPRAZOLE	Tablet 20mg	3,433,750	123,565,852	154,365,535	44.96
2	8214	ATORVASTATIN CALCIUM	Tablet 20mg (atorvastatin)	3,156,964	153,271,842	188,698,030	59.77
3	1081	ATENOLOL	Tablet 50mg	2,998,648	20,342,542	31,047,016	10.35
4	1746	PARACETAMOL	Tablet 500mg	2,542,678	12,155,737	19,565,583	7.69
5	8215	ATORVASTATIN CALCIUM	Tablet 40mg (atorvastatin)	2,537,385	179,744,552	208,749,004	82.27
6	8173	SIMVASTATIN	Tablet 40mg	2,378,695	142,976,385	165,780,515	69.69
7	8405	IRBESARTAN with HYDROCHLOROTHIAZIDE	Tablet 300mg-12.5mg	2,285,795	46,713,183	73,066,379	31.97
8	2012	SIMVASTATIN	Tablet 20mg	2,141,792	88,968,353	106,944,762	49.93
9	8008	PANTOPRAZOLE SODIUM SESQUIHYDRATE	Tablet (enteric coated), equivalent to 40mg pantoprazole	2,097,012	82,035,583	100,687,868	48.01
10	8600	ESOMEPRAZOLE MAGNESIUM TRIHYDRATE	Tablet (enteric coated), equivalent to 20mg esomeprazole	2,066,632	71,390,412	93,681,699	45.33
11	8288	SALBUTAMOL SULFATE	Oral pressurised inhalation 100micrograms (base) per dose (200 doses), CFC-free formulation	2,055,567	26,302,179	33,650,686	16.37
12	8511	ALENDRONATE SODIUM	Tablet equivalent to 70mg alendronic acid	2,038,729	99,003,002	112,273,584	55.07
13	1215	CODEINE PHOSPHATE with PARACETAMOL	Tablet 30mg-500mg	2,009,875	10,965,746	17,992,683	8.95
14	2089	TEMAZEPAM	Tablet 10mg	1,905,019	6,691,950	12,936,025	6.79
15	8213	ATORVASTATIN CALCIUM	Tablet 10mg (atorvastatin)	1,902,639	60,498,589	79,972,531	42.03
16	8358	CLOPIDOGREL HYDROGEN SULFATE	Tablet 75mg (base)	1,893,034	146,814,709	159,334,336	84.17
17	8449	PERINDOPRIL ERBUMINE with HEMIHYDRATE	Tablet 4mg-1.25mg INDAPAMIDE	1,703,190	36,115,384	55,954,680	32.85
18	3119	CEPHALEXIN	Capsule 500mg	1,616,217	12,558,803	18,853,145	11.66
19	2430	METFORMIN HYDROCHLORIDE	Tablet 500mg	1,598,920	17,774,707	23,089,087	14.44
20	8440	CELECOXIB	Capsule 200mg	1,489,831	34,144,780	47,320,439	31.76
21	3162	DIAZEPAM	Tablet 5mg	1,429,208	5,039,204	10,164,991	7.11
22	8243	LATANOPROST	Eye drops 50micrograms per mL (0.005%), 2.5mL	1,394,845	39,182,300	48,534,972	34.80
23	8601	ESOMEPRAZOLE MAGNESIUM TRIHYDRATE	Tablet (enteric coated), equivalent to 40mg esomeprazole	1,337,126	84,119,120	98,402,578	73.59
24	8562	MELOXICAM	Tablet 15mg	1,318,955	29,081,768	42,142,214	31.95
25	8248	IRBESARTAN	Tablet 300mg	1,314,635	30,423,936	40,071,103	30.48

Table 3: Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme – Most Prescribed Items – 12 Months to 30 June 2006 (continued)

Rank	Item	Drug	Form	Volume	Govt Cost (\$)	Total Cost (\$)	Average Price (\$)
26	3051	PERINDOPRIL ERBUMINE	Tablet 4mg	1,294,661	27,845,258	32,779,059	25.32
27	8470	RAMIPRIL	Capsule 10mg	1,254,425	27,189,325	41,513,858	33.09
28	2236	SERTRALINE HYDROCHLORIDE	Tablet 50mg (base)	1,190,176	21,709,925	38,062,073	31.98
29	8508	RABEPRAZOLE SODIUM	Tablet 20mg (enteric coated)	1,179,024	44,511,224	57,192,125	48.51
30	8247	IRBESARTAN	Tablet 150mg	1,167,627	24,548,622	28,917,104	24.77
31	1889	AMOXICILLIN	Capsule 500mg	1,142,508	8,374,906	12,976,634	11.36
32	2242	PAROXETINE HYDROCHLORIDE	Tablet 20mg (base)	1,131,211	26,454,800	41,922,810	37.06
33	8197	PRAVASTATIN SODIUM	Tablet 40mg	1,111,793	66,592,472	76,688,181	68.98
34	2237	SERTRALINE HYDROCHLORIDE	Tablet 100mg (base)	1,101,743	23,871,711	39,493,596	35.85
35	8220	CITALOPRAM HYDROBROMIDE	Tablet 20mg (base)	1,085,125	30,389,730	39,022,067	35.96
36	8254	AMOXICILLIN with CLAVULANIC ACID	Tablet 875mg-125mg	1,044,405	14,319,899	18,443,764	17.66
37	8626	TIOTROPIUM BROMIDE MONOHYDRATE	Capsule containing powder for oral inhalation 18micrograms (base) (for use in HandiHaler)	1,025,874	74,100,445	79,677,993	77.67
38	2412	FRUSEMIDE	Tablet 40mg	1,002,621	5,015,417	7,989,678	7.97
39	8202	ASPIRIN	Tablet 100mg	979,612	3,170,549	6,304,855	6.44
40	8302	VENLAFAXINE HYDROCHLORIDE	Capsule 150mg (base) (modified release)	973,985	49,682,663	62,815,853	64.49
41	3133	OXAZEPAM	Tablet 30mg	941,306	2,886,531	5,972,694	6.35
42	2751	AMLODIPINE BESYLATE	Tablet 5mg (base)	906,367	15,558,010	18,846,868	20.79
43	8521	ATORVASTATIN CALCIUM	Tablet 80mg (atorvastatin)	901,881	93,961,176	104,109,847	115.44
44	2752	AMLODIPINE BESYLATE	Tablet 10mg (base)	886,633	18,909,521	29,043,304	32.76
45	8519	FLUTICASONE PROPIONATE with XINAFOATE	Oral pressurised inhalation 250micrograms-25micrograms (base) per dose (120 doses), CFC-free formulation	843,914	57,637,792	67,288,361	79.73
46	1978	RANITIDINE HYDROCHLORIDE	Tablet 150mg (base)	837,624	15,632,855	18,438,317	22.01
47	1946	RAMIPRIL	Tablet 5mg	834,093	14,971,432	18,247,609	21.88
48	8301	VENLAFAXINE HYDROCHLORIDE	Capsule 75mg (base) (modified release)	833,716	27,694,405	39,664,267	47.58
49	8504	CANDESARTAN CILEXTEL with HYDROCHLOROTHIAZIDE	Tablet 16mg-12.5mg	797,666	15,420,826	24,717,470	30.99
50	1300	DICLOFENAC SODIUM	Tablet 50mg (enteric coated)	791,959	5,707,510	8,641,296	10.91

Table 4: Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme — Top 20 Suppliers by Total Cost for 2005-2006 (from processed PBS prescriptions)

Rank	Manufacturer	Script Volume	Govt Cost (\$)	Total Cost (\$)	Sales (Ex-Manufacturer) (\$)
1	Pfizer	21,240,656	853,314,362	1,050,567,595	777,239,295
2	Alphapharm	27,138,845	444,323,272	577,746,345	364,712,749
3	Sanofi-Aventis	17,105,509	440,296,490	535,775,719	374,611,174
4	AstraZeneca	10,366,579	433,048,377	521,919,623	389,000,497
5	GlaxoSmithKline	8,706,855	367,829,658	446,008,341	329,907,833
6	Merck Sharp & Dohme	7,025,580	300,600,484	352,478,956	260,895,460
7	Bristol Myers Squibb	7,752,146	283,403,179	340,434,472	249,342,750
8	Arrow	6,510,304	191,272,380	241,159,678	171,712,133
9	Eli Lilly	1,322,951	218,541,077	228,779,442	184,007,027
10	Wyeth	4,019,593	158,415,762	198,422,776	148,203,754
11	Boehringer	4,040,208	145,982,359	170,360,751	123,567,808
12	Janssen-Cilag	2,247,830	147,392,178	167,507,889	129,621,281
13	Roche Products	2,067,350	144,330,925	157,601,357	123,756,969
14	Servier	5,732,332	117,190,215	157,418,312	106,375,658
15	Novartis	2,687,253	101,333,764	116,869,420	86,435,858
16	Novo Nordisk	955,033	108,619,938	115,378,870	92,057,321
17	Sigma	9,329,816	74,221,311	107,997,608	50,126,064
18	Schering	1,173,924	78,573,345	87,705,519	69,444,235
19	Abbott	1,600,802	72,421,817	79,517,184	61,034,446
20	Hexal	2,504,645	55,858,376	70,693,594	48,174,355
	Others	24,794,404	657,419,320	793,314,828	551,566,378
	Total	168,322,615	5,394,388,587	6,517,658,279	4,691,793,047

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

Table 5: Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme – Top 20 Suppliers by Market Share (Scripts) for 2005–2006 (from processed PBS prescriptions)

Rank	Manufacturer	Script Volume	Govt Cost (\$)	Total Cost (\$)	% of Total	Sales (Ex-Manufacturer) (\$)
1	Alphapharm	27,138,845	444,323,272	577,746,345	16.12	364,712,749
2	Pfizer	21,240,656	853,314,362	1,050,567,595	12.62	777,239,295
3	Sanofi-Aventis	17,105,509	440,296,490	535,775,719	10.16	374,611,174
4	AstraZeneca	10,366,579	433,048,377	521,919,623	6.16	389,000,497
5	Sigma	9,329,816	74,221,311	107,997,608	5.54	50,126,064
6	GlaxoSmithKline	8,706,855	367,829,658	446,008,341	5.17	329,907,833
7	Bristol Myers Squibb	7,752,146	283,403,179	340,434,472	4.61	249,342,750
8	Merck Sharp & Dohme	7,025,580	300,600,484	352,478,956	4.17	260,895,460
9	Arrow	6,510,304	191,272,380	241,159,678	3.87	171,712,133
10	Servier	5,732,332	117,190,215	157,418,312	3.41	106,375,658
11	Boehringer	4,040,208	145,982,359	170,360,751	2.40	123,567,808
12	Wyeth	4,019,593	158,415,762	198,422,776	2.39	148,203,754
13	Novartis	2,687,253	101,333,764	116,869,420	1.60	86,435,858
14	Aspen	2,574,139	21,243,333	30,717,298	1.53	14,697,437
15	Hexal	2,504,645	55,858,376	70,693,594	1.49	48,174,355
16	GenRx	2,298,520	39,359,779	51,127,544	1.37	32,533,568
17	Janssen-Cilag	2,247,830	147,392,178	167,507,889	1.34	129,621,281
18	Mayne	2,093,954	59,127,733	69,292,404	1.24	49,536,656
19	Roche Products	2,067,350	144,330,925	157,601,357	1.23	123,756,969
20	Allergan	1,607,007	22,270,504	28,692,737	0.95	17,216,408
	Total Top 20	147,049,121	4,400,814,439	5,392,792,419	87%	3,847,667,708
	Others	21,273,494	993,574,148	1,124,865,860	13%	844,125,339
	Total	168,322,615	5,394,388,587	6,517,658,279	100%	4,691,793,047

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

**Table 6a: Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme – Significant Drug Groups (incl Dr’s Bag) by Highest Government Cost – Year End June 2005 to Year End June 2006**

ATC Group Level 2	Year Ending June 2005					Year Ending June 2006						
	Script Volume	Govt Cost (\$)	Total Cost (\$)	Average Price (\$)	Script Volume	Govt Cost (\$)	Total Cost (\$)	Average Price (\$)	Script Volume	Govt Cost (\$)	Total Cost (\$)	Average Price (\$)
Lipid modifying agents	16,215,278	918,740,374	1,062,593,113	65.53	17,365,169	940,650,611	1,114,784,039	64.20	17,365,169	940,650,611	1,114,784,039	64.20
Drugs for acid related disorders	13,147,448	504,362,281	608,511,692	46.28	13,680,432	503,996,202	626,749,699	45.81	13,680,432	503,996,202	626,749,699	45.81
Agents acting on the renin-angiotensin system	19,901,853	419,765,729	566,875,473	28.48	19,798,050	417,340,415	561,004,067	28.34	19,798,050	417,340,415	561,004,067	28.34
Drugs for obstructive airway diseases	9,409,505	365,128,310	434,522,671	46.18	9,178,632	363,842,287	439,271,899	47.86	9,178,632	363,842,287	439,271,899	47.86
Psychoanaesthetics	12,595,291	360,111,529	488,986,698	38.82	12,180,626	329,593,062	457,698,732	37.58	12,180,626	329,593,062	457,698,732	37.58
Psycholeptics	7,299,988	272,719,845	299,491,398	41.03	7,316,315	313,394,268	344,069,028	47.03	7,316,315	313,394,268	344,069,028	47.03
Antineoplastic agents	439,848	199,821,921	204,788,268	465.59	464,943	226,591,528	232,540,826	500.15	464,943	226,591,528	232,540,826	500.15
Drugs used in diabetes	5,245,377	191,338,930	212,065,298	40.43	5,508,145	208,163,251	232,935,447	42.29	5,508,145	208,163,251	232,935,447	42.29
Antithrombotic agents	5,158,431	177,220,579	199,772,409	38.73	5,501,332	194,777,668	222,238,098	40.40	5,501,332	194,777,668	222,238,098	40.40
Drugs for treatment of bone diseases	2,835,103	153,758,487	170,150,958	60.02	3,145,888	163,735,344	184,117,926	58.53	3,145,888	163,735,344	184,117,926	58.53
Analgesics	11,183,969	153,387,586	190,472,773	17.03	10,699,437	159,517,995	197,291,243	18.44	10,699,437	159,517,995	197,291,243	18.44
Calcium channel blockers	7,484,348	152,198,989	193,071,216	25.80	7,388,143	150,892,812	193,191,326	26.15	7,388,143	150,892,812	193,191,326	26.15
Antibacterials for systemic use	11,316,053	133,286,487	177,619,177	15.70	11,306,843	129,317,850	178,650,723	15.80	11,306,843	129,317,850	178,650,723	15.80
Endocrine therapy	405,932	109,507,753	113,331,321	279.19	431,599	121,472,024	126,212,143	292.43	431,599	121,472,024	126,212,143	292.43
Antiinflammatory and antirheumatic products	7,695,891	159,623,334	208,747,990	27.12	5,873,572	100,691,700	140,410,880	23.91	5,873,572	100,691,700	140,410,880	23.91
Immunosuppressive agents	259,251	67,148,120	70,100,959	270.40	298,609	97,629,573	101,562,542	340.12	298,609	97,629,573	101,562,542	340.12
Ophthalmologicals	6,576,334	94,755,247	120,472,817	18.32	6,678,446	96,022,823	125,016,769	18.72	6,678,446	96,022,823	125,016,769	18.72

**Table 6b: Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme — Significant Drug Groups (incl. Dr's Bag) by Highest Script Volume — Year End June 2005 to Year End June 2006**

ATC Group Level 2	Year Ending June 2005				Year Ending June 2006			
	Script Volume	Govt Cost (\$)	Total Cost (\$)	Average Price (\$)	Script Volume	Govt Cost (\$)	Total Cost (\$)	Average Price (\$)
Agents acting on the renin-angiotensin system	19,901,853	419,765,729	566,875,473	28.48	19,798,050	417,340,415	561,004,067	28.34
Lipid modifying agents	16,215,278	918,740,374	1,062,593,113	65.53	17,365,169	940,650,611	1,114,784,039	64.20
Drugs for acid related disorders	13,147,448	504,362,281	608,511,692	46.28	13,680,432	503,996,202	626,749,699	45.81
Psychoanaesthetics	12,595,291	360,111,529	488,986,698	38.82	12,180,626	329,593,062	457,698,732	37.58
Antibacterials for systemic use	11,316,053	133,286,487	177,619,177	15.70	11,306,843	129,317,850	178,650,723	15.80
Analgesics	11,183,969	153,387,586	190,472,773	17.03	10,699,437	159,517,995	197,291,243	18.44
Drugs for obstructive airway diseases	9,409,505	365,128,310	434,522,671	46.18	9,178,632	363,842,287	439,271,899	47.86
Calcium channel blockers	7,484,348	152,198,989	193,071,216	25.80	7,388,143	150,892,812	193,191,326	26.15
Psycholeptics	7,299,988	272,719,845	299,491,398	41.03	7,316,315	313,394,268	344,069,028	47.03
Ophthalmologicals	6,576,334	94,755,247	120,472,817	18.32	6,678,446	96,022,823	125,016,769	18.72
Antiinflammatory and antirheumatic products	7,695,891	159,623,334	208,747,990	27.12	5,873,572	100,691,700	140,410,880	23.91
Drugs used in diabetes	5,245,377	191,338,930	212,065,298	40.43	5,508,145	208,163,251	232,935,447	42.29
Antithrombotic agents	5,158,431	177,220,579	199,772,409	38.73	5,501,332	194,777,668	222,238,098	40.40
Beta blocking agents	4,946,575	76,258,362	93,610,274	18.92	5,097,677	83,529,703	103,618,010	20.33
Cardiac therapy	3,387,350	61,073,672	72,889,642	21.52	3,251,681	60,275,692	72,610,876	22.33
Sex hormones and modulators of the genital system	3,563,199	77,046,408	94,868,295	26.62	3,245,802	72,495,895	91,135,898	28.08
Drugs for treatment of bone diseases	2,835,103	153,758,487	170,150,958	60.02	3,145,888	163,735,344	184,117,926	58.53

Table Za: Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme — Significant Drugs (Incl. Dr's Bag). Sorted by Highest Change to Government Cost — Year End June 2005 to Year End June 2006

Rank	Drug	Year Ending June 2005			Year Ending June 2006			Change		
		Volume	Govt Cost (\$)	Total Cost(\$)	Volume	Govt Cost (\$)	Total Cost (\$)	Average Price (\$)	%	
1	ATORVASTATIN CALCIUM	7,629,221	433,526,445	508,279,562	8,498,869	487,476,160	581,529,412	68.42	53,949,715	12.44
2	ESOMEPRAZOLE MAGNESIUM TRIHYDRATE	2,745,394	130,782,301	157,316,523	3,413,518	155,787,449	192,485,918	56.39	25,005,147	19.12
3	RISPERIDONE	245,659	35,961,783	37,575,787	346,117	59,497,765	61,959,424	179.01	23,535,982	65.45
4	EZETIMIBE	219,944	13,410,384	15,720,458	514,861	31,529,685	36,939,746	71.75	18,119,301	135.11
5	CLOPIDOGREL HYDROGEN SULFATE	1,665,471	130,283,908	139,951,859	1,893,034	146,814,709	159,334,336	84.17	16,530,802	12.69
6	ADALIMUMAB	5,295	9,935,361	9,995,538	13,481	25,266,309	25,432,217	1,886.52	15,330,948	154.31
7	ETANERCEPT	12,875	24,233,858	24,353,047	18,945	35,804,211	36,037,059	1,902.19	11,570,353	47.74
8	PERINDOPRIL ERBUMINE	2,609,633	53,172,307	69,291,212	2,829,757	64,490,930	80,857,142	28.57	11,318,623	New
9	ROSIGLITAZONE MALEATE	129,274	8,939,007	9,940,378	281,991	19,081,627	21,587,065	76.55	10,142,620	113.46
10	TIOTROPIUM BROMIDE MONOHYDRATE	885,784	64,398,798	68,659,649	1,025,874	74,100,445	79,677,993	77.67	9,701,648	15.06
11	BIDESONIDE with EFORMOTEROL FUMARATE DIHYDRATE	464,286	24,440,881	29,552,307	610,446	33,960,771	41,548,809	68.06	9,519,890	38.95
12	QUETIAPINE FUMARATE	163,013	33,670,217	34,769,335	206,853	42,356,058	43,954,847	212.49	8,685,840	25.80
13	RITUXIMAB	24,344	44,623,298	44,954,102	28,440	52,613,723	53,037,304	1,864.88	7,990,426	17.91
14	RABEPRAZOLE SODIUM	1,141,132	43,743,625	54,806,673	1,388,346	51,568,805	66,382,042	47.81	7,825,180	17.89
15	ANASTROZOLE	47,969	9,886,850	10,405,030	88,983	17,277,676	18,421,585	207.02	7,390,826	74.75
16	OXYCODONE HYDROCHLORIDE	886,411	28,899,867	32,326,411	1,087,412	35,703,079	40,137,611	36.91	6,803,212	23.54
17	OXALIPLATIN	15,423	22,479,571	22,691,233	17,982	28,965,149	29,245,127	1,626.36	6,485,578	28.85
18	RISEDRONATE SODIUM	590,651	30,581,947	34,092,769	743,495	37,016,496	41,933,070	56.40	6,434,548	21.04

Table 7a: Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme – Significant Drugs (incl Dr's Bag) Sorted by Highest Change to Government Cost – Year End June 2005 to Year End June 2006 (continued)

Rank	Drug	Year Ending June 2005			Year Ending June 2006			Change			
		Volume	Govt Cost (\$)	Total Cost (\$)	Average Price (\$)	Volume	Govt Cost (\$)	Total Cost (\$)	Average Price (\$)	Govt Cost (\$)	%
19	ALENDRONATE SODIUM	1,894,038	96,720,775	107,739,213	56.88	2,054,529	101,505,602	114,866,472	55.91	4,784,827	4.95
20	ARIPRAZOLE	54,168	13,487,922	13,913,837	256.86	71,305	18,254,612	18,870,464	264.64	4,766,690	35.34
21	CANDESARTAN CILEXETIL	944,178	18,890,698	23,740,920	25.14	1,137,079	23,319,372	29,375,764	25.83	4,428,674	23.44
22	INSULIN ASPART-INSULIN ASPART PROTAMINE SUSPENSION	55,299	14,348,180	14,799,158	267.62	72,089	18,641,886	19,300,157	267.73	4,293,707	29.93
23	LERCANIDIPINE HYDROCHLORIDE	851,565	19,511,324	24,950,585	29.30	978,108	23,801,008	29,738,641	30.40	4,289,684	21.99
24	OLANZAPINE	675,996	145,327,914	149,588,746	221.29	708,783	149,601,053	154,832,750	218.45	4,273,139	2.94
25	PEMETREXED DISODIUM	102	389,616	391,209	3,835.38	1,213	4,458,688	4,475,382	3,689.51	4,069,072	1,044.38
26	THYROXINE SODIUM	651,286	4,243,470	6,376,171	9.79	646,424	8,120,176	10,483,010	16.22	3,876,706	91.36
27	VENLAFAXINE HYDROCHLORIDE	1,797,874	78,372,000	100,106,031	55.68	1,940,639	82,006,292	108,713,231	56.02	3,634,293	4.64
28	TEMOZOLOMIDE	5,022	10,130,406	10,196,989	2,030.46	7,327	13,733,358	13,842,118	1,889.19	3,602,952	35.57
29	ESCITALOPRAM OXALATE	627,708	15,593,122	24,434,359	38.93	682,119	19,156,919	27,861,801	40.85	3,563,797	22.85
30	LEVODOPA with CARBIDOPA and ENTICAPONE	906	318,239	326,683	360.58	10,456	3,740,790	3,821,231	365.46	3,422,551	1,075.47
31	IRINOTECAN HYDROCHLORIDE TRIHYDRATE	6,930	8,536,085	8,624,801	1,244.56	8,563	11,950,565	12,069,326	1,409.47	3,414,479	40.00
32	INSULIN ASPART	57,749	14,050,894	14,773,195	255.82	72,512	17,458,058	18,487,130	254.95	3,407,163	24.25
33	LEUPRORELIN ACETATE	23,802	25,338,952	25,475,505	1,070.31	25,812	28,653,760	28,820,924	1,116.57	3,314,808	13.08
34	VALACLOLVIR HYDROCHLORIDE	258,976	46,543,600	51,339,761	198.24	279,688	49,659,613	55,547,223	198.60	3,116,013	6.69
35	BISOPROLOL FUIMARATE	76,575	4,940,454	5,431,051	70.92	122,662	8,026,954	8,870,259	72.31	3,086,499	62.47

Table 7b: Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme — Significant Drugs (incl Dr's Bag) — Sorted by Highest Volume Change — Year End June 2005 to Year End June 2006

Rank	Drug	Year Ending June 2005				Year Ending June 2006				Change	
		Volume	Govt Cost (\$)	Total Cost (\$)	Average Price (\$)	Volume	Govt Cost (\$)	Total Cost (\$)	Average Price (\$)	Volume	%
1	ATORVASTATIN CALCIUM	7,629,221	433,526,445	508,279,562	66.62	8,498,869	487,476,160	581,529,412	68.42	869,648	11.40
2	ESOMEPRAZOLE MAGNESIUM TRIHYDRATE	2,745,394	130,782,301	157,316,523	57.30	3,413,518	155,787,449	192,485,918	56.39	668,124	24.34
3	EZETIMIBE	219,944	13,410,384	15,720,458	71.47	514,861	31,529,685	36,939,746	71.75	294,917	134.09
4	RABEPRAZOLE SODIUM	1,141,132	43,743,625	54,806,673	48.03	1,388,346	51,568,805	66,382,042	47.81	247,214	21.66
5	CLOPIDOGREL HYDROGEN SULFATE	1,665,471	130,283,908	139,951,859	84.03	1,893,034	146,814,709	159,334,336	84.17	227,563	13.66
6	PERINDOPRIL ERBUMINE	2,609,633	53,172,307	69,291,212	26.55	2,829,757	64,490,930	80,857,142	28.57	220,124	8.44
7	OXYCODONE HYDROCHLORIDE	886,411	28,899,867	32,326,411	36.47	1,087,412	35,703,079	40,137,611	36.91	201,001	22.68
8	CANDESARTAN CILEXETIL	944,178	18,890,698	23,740,920	25.14	1,137,079	23,319,372	29,375,764	25.83	192,901	20.43
9	ALENDRONATE SODIUM	1,894,038	96,720,775	107,739,213	56.88	2,054,529	101,505,602	114,866,472	55.91	160,491	8.47
10	RISEDRONATE SODIUM	590,651	30,581,947	34,092,769	57.72	743,495	37,016,496	41,933,070	56.40	152,844	25.88
11	ROSIGLITAZONE MALEATE	129,274	8,939,007	9,940,378	76.89	281,991	19,081,627	21,587,065	76.55	152,717	118.13
12	BUDESONIDE with EFORMOTEROL FUMARATE DIHYDRATE	464,286	24,440,881	29,552,307	0.00	610,446	33,960,771	41,548,809	68.06	146,160	0.00
13	VENLAFAXINE HYDROCHLORIDE	1,797,874	78,372,000	100,106,031	55.68	1,940,639	82,006,292	108,713,231	56.02	142,765	7.94
14	TIOTROPUM BROMIDE MONOHYDRATE	885,784	64,398,798	68,659,649	77.51	1,025,874	74,100,445	79,677,993	77.67	140,090	15.82
15	LERCANIDIPINE HYDROCHLORIDE	851,565	19,511,324	24,950,585	29.30	978,108	23,801,008	29,738,641	30.40	126,543	14.86
16	CANDESARTAN CILEXETIL with HYDROCHLOROTHIAZIDE	671,977	12,747,922	19,643,749	29.23	797,666	15,420,826	24,717,470	30.99	125,689	18.70
17	PANTOPRAZOLE SODIUM SESQUIHYDRATE	2,375,124	95,142,299	114,027,965	48.01	2,499,328	94,565,931	116,172,935	46.48	124,204	5.23
18	PERINDOPRIL ERBUMINE with INDAPAMIDE HEMIHYDRATE	1,586,178	35,457,092	51,678,904	32.58	1,703,190	36,115,384	55,954,680	32.85	117,012	7.38

Table 7b: Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme - Significant Drugs (incl Dr's Bag) - Sorted by Highest Volume Change - Year End June 2005 to Year End June 2006 (continued)

Rank	Drug	Year Ending June 2005				Year Ending June 2006				Change	
		Volume	Govt Cost (\$)	Total Cost (\$)	Average Price (\$)	Volume	Govt Cost (\$)	Total Cost (\$)	Average Price (\$)	Volume	%
19	RAMIPRIL	2,655,596	52,599,945	69,632,279	26.22	2,768,437	53,590,363	74,195,408	26.80	112,841	4.25
20	RISPERIDONE	245,659	35,961,783	37,575,787	152.96	346,117	59,497,765	61,959,424	179.01	100,458	40.89
21	MELOXICAM	1,732,160	39,483,197	52,792,274	30.48	1,829,193	39,248,187	54,179,400	29.62	97,033	5.60
22	CARMELOSE SODIUM	405,122	5,146,764	6,481,528	16.00	500,411	5,461,502	7,246,138	14.48	95,289	23.52
23	WARFARIN SODIUM	1,870,426	9,107,420	14,600,627	7.81	1,964,684	9,287,242	15,630,631	7.96	94,258	5.04
24	MIRTAZAPINE	713,789	22,797,609	29,273,929	41.01	798,221	22,064,820	30,030,812	37.62	84,432	11.83
25	POLYETHYLENE GLYCOL 400 with PROPYLENE GLYCOL	140,687	829,232	1,240,780	8.82	216,543	1,262,707	1,941,608	8.97	75,856	53.92
26	SERTRALINE HYDROCHLORIDE	2,473,884	64,549,584	94,836,955	38.34	2,546,213	49,907,769	85,684,008	33.65	72,329	2.92
27	FLUTICASONE PROPIONATE with SALMETEROL XINAFOATE	2,626,899	156,522,842	185,480,569	70.61	2,698,851	156,244,566	189,988,085	70.40	71,952	2.74
28	CEPHALEXIN	1,950,588	15,247,547	22,211,425	11.39	2,022,360	15,366,559	23,351,141	11.55	71,772	3.68
29	GLICLAZIDE	1,073,228	13,468,287	16,657,923	15.52	1,140,503	13,914,074	17,622,210	15.45	67,275	6.27
30	FENOFIBRATE	8,253	207,463	321,527	38.96	73,646	1,947,561	2,883,236	39.15	65,393	792.35
31	LATANOPROST	1,331,499	37,585,735	45,463,297	34.14	1,394,845	39,182,300	48,534,972	34.80	63,346	4.76
32	SIMVASTATIN	5,849,104	344,032,752	390,347,804	66.74	5,911,956	308,467,308	360,924,585	61.05	62,852	1.07
33	METHYLPHENIDATE HYDROCHLORIDE	0	0	0	0.00	57,022	785,994	1,042,199	18.28	57,022	New
34	TELMISARTAN with HYDROCHLOROTHIAZIDE	377,017	6,746,539	10,667,131	28.29	432,916	8,707,765	12,200,987	28.18	55,899	14.83
35	ESCITALOPRAM OXALATE	627,708	15,593,122	24,434,359	38.93	682,119	19,156,919	27,861,801	40.85	54,411	8.67

