



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Seirbhís Aisíoca Príomhchúraim
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An Bóthar Thuaidh
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Primary Care Reimbursement Service
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Circular 019/14

1 July 2014

Dear Pharmacist,

As you are aware, the Minister for Health signed the Commencement Order for the Health (Pricing and Supply of Medical Goods) Act 2013 on 24 June 2013. Set out below are the reference prices for the next groups of interchangeable medicinal products, Candesartan, Candesartan / Hydrochlorothiazide, Olanzapine and Memantine, for which a reference price has been determined by the HSE.

Product	Group	Price per 28*	Price per 56*	Price per tablet
Candesartan 4mg tabs	IC0009-008-002	€5.04		€0.1800
Candesartan 8mg tabs	IC0009-009-002	€6.72		€0.2400
Candesartan 16mg tabs	IC0009-038-002	€8.40		€0.3000
Candesartan / Hydrochlorothiazide 16mg / 12.5mg tabs	IC0029-036-002	€8.68		€0.3100
Olanzapine 2.5mg tabs /orodispersible tabs	IC0007-018-035	€10.58		€0.3779
Olanzapine 5mg tabs /orodispersible tabs	IC0007-001-038	€17.99		€0.6425
Olanzapine 7.5mg tabs / orodispersible tabs	IC0007-041-038	€27.09		€0.9675
Olanzapine 10mg tabs / orodispersible tabs	IC0007-002-038	€35.99		€1.2854
Olanzapine 15mg tabs / orodispersible tabs	IC0007-032-038	€53.98		€1.9279
Olanzapine 20mg tabs / orodispersible tabs	IC0007-003-038	€71.97		€2.5704
Memantine 10mg film coated tablets	IC0022-002-003		€34.31	€0.6127

*Pro rata prices will apply for different pack sizes where such apply.

From 1 August 2014, the HSE will reimburse the notified reference price for the relevant interchangeable products detailed above unless informed by the pharmacist that the GP has stated 'Do not substitute' in his/her own handwriting on any prescription presented for dispensing for any of the products in interchangeable groups.

Where a product is prescribed that is within one of the groups of interchangeable medicinal products, having completed the dispensing function, Pharmacists are asked to record how the medical practitioner has prescribed by confirming one of the following:

- a) INN Prescribed
- b) Branded Generic Prescribed
- c) Proprietary Prescribed
- d) Do Not Substitute invoked.

If a patient presents a Non GMS prescription where the prescriber has written 'Do Not Substitute' it is important for the pharmacy to ensure that a photocopy of the prescription is retained so it can be made available to the PCRS as necessary to validate any claim for extra costs arising.

Your cooperation in ensuring a smooth transition for patients is requested.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Patrick Burke', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Patrick Burke
Primary Care Reimbursement Service