AUSTRIA

Recent and planned developments in pharmaceutical policies 2017

Special topic: e-health for medicines launched by public authorities or addressing them

DEVELOPMENTS

CHANGES IN REIMBURSEMENT

Prescription fee 2017
5.85 Euro (annual adjustment of prescription fee)

CHANGES IN PRICING AND REIMBURSEMENT

An amendment to the General Social Insurance Law with changes to some pricing and reimbursement provisions for the out-patient sector was approved in Parliament on 31 March 2017:

- New regiment for determination of maximum reimbursement prices: The Pricing Commission determines prices 6, 24, and 48 months after the application for reimbursement of a product has been submitted. There is a further possibility of re-assessment after 66 months.

- Products outside Code of Reimbursement: So called No-Box products that are not listed in the Code of Reimbursement (EKO) but are reimbursable due to their added therapeutic value are reimbursed at EU average price if a product surpasses a threshold of € 750.000 of annual revenue with the Social Insurance. The Social Insurance notifies the Pricing Commission at the Ministry if this applies for a product.

- Generics and Biosimilars price linkage: A differentiation has been introduced, where Biosimilars will enjoy easier access to the Code of Reimbursement.

- Products already listed in the green box of the Code of Reimbursement are only allowed to be priced up to 30% above the cheapest product within their group of identical active ingredient. This will be evaluated in 2017 and 2019.

SPECIAL TOPIC

E-HEALTH FOR MEDICINES LAUNCHED BY PUBLIC AUTHORITIES OR ADDRESSING THEM

- **Measure:** Electronic health record (ELGA)
- **Provided by:** MASSI (social health insurance)
- **Aim:** Collect information on the medication of one patient (including information on non-reimbursable medicines)
- **Target group:** patients, doctors, pharmacists

- **Measure:** App for mobile devices for using the out-patient reimbursement list
- **Provided by:** MASSI (social health insurance)
- **Aim:** Helps the user to search for a medicine, price and reimbursement conditions
- **Target group:** patients, doctors