

BULGARIA

Recent and planned developments in pharmaceutical policies 2016

Special topic: Out-of pocket payments

D E V E L O P M E N T S	<p style="text-align: center;">CHANGES IN PRICING</p> <p>Change of Generic price policy: Since August 2016 in the Positive Drug List all generic medicines are included if the ex-factory price does not exceed 70 percent of the ex-factory price of the reference product (originator).</p> <p>The old requirement was 80% of the ex-factory price of the reference product only for the first generic.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">CHANGES IN REIMBURSEMENT</p> <p>Confidential agreements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Since the end of 2015 mandatory confidential agreements between the marketing authorization holder and the National Health Insurance Fund for all new INN are applied for inclusion of medicinal products in PDL. • NHIF annually conducts mandatory centralized negotiating discounts only for medicines which are not subject to internal referring in the INN. • At the end of 2015 was introduced reassessment of the reimbursement conditions of medicinal products in the PDL which is done every three years. 2030 products were subject to reevaluation. As a result to October 2016, 34 products are excluded from the PDL, and 9 have changed indications. <p>Increase level of reimbursement: Since May 2016 the level of reimbursement has been increased for all mono products for treatment of Essential (primary) hypertension from 25% to 100%.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Other Changes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Since the beginning of 2016 was established HTA body – up to now published 11 reports. New INNs are included in PDL only after a positive decision of HTA. <p>Upcoming changes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Centralized electronic tender, conducted by the Ministry of Health for medicinal products paid by the budget of hospitals. • Agreement between Bulgaria and Romania on cooperation for access to effective drug treatment is in process of approval. 	
S P E C I A L T O P I C	<p style="text-align: center;">OUT-OF POCKET PAYMENTS</p> <p>OUT-PATIENT SECTOR:</p> <p>Co - payment from patients - additional payment for the patient depends on the level of reimbursement and the internal price referencing.</p> <p>Mandatory payment of a fixed fee (2,90 BGN) at each visit to the GP doctor or specialist.</p> <p>Medicines, which are not included in PDL and OTC medicines are fully paid out-of pocket by the patient.</p> <p>IN-PATIENT SECTOR:</p> <p>In hospitals there is no out-of-pocket payment. Medicinal products are completely free for the patient.</p>	