



The Netherlands

Recent and planned developments in pharmaceutical policies 2015

Pre-launch activities: horizon scanning and forecasting

D E V E L O P M E N T S	Changes in pricing	Changes in reimbursement
	<p>No noteworthy changes have been observed with regards to the pricing of pharmaceuticals in the Netherlands.</p> <p>No changes are planned for the near future</p>	<p>The reimbursement system for pharmaceuticals in the Netherlands has not changed significantly over the last years.</p> <p>However, at the moment government is reviewing the way in which reference pricing is used to determine prices of pharmaceuticals. This may have implications for prices of pharmaceuticals in the future as well as for future reimbursement.</p>
Other changes		
<p>The Netherlands has recently started using financial agreements (FAs) as a tool for improving affordability of innovative pharmaceuticals. Currently, FAs are used both in the inpatient and outpatient settings and are different from the standard way of pricing and reimbursement of pharmaceuticals. In the Netherlands, FAs were introduced in 2012 and so far ten pilots* have been set up and are currently running. These financial schemes are negotiated at a central level and are mostly price/volume agreements or comprise a confidential discount agreed with the manufacturer of the relevant pharmaceutical(s). This type of scheme is only used in exceptional circumstances, such as in cases where there is a lack of competition and/or a high budget impact.</p> <p>*Pilots: dabigatran, rivaroxaban, apixaban, alglucosidase alfa, agalsidase alfa, agalsidase beta, ruxolitinib, piferenidon, sofosbuvir, daclatasvir</p>		
S P E C I A L T O P I C	Pre-launch pharmaceutical policies: Horizon scanning and forecasts	
<p>Currently there is no formal horizon scanning scheme in the Netherlands. However as part of the pilot 'financial arrangements' a horizon scan has been set up by the Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sports. Other parties contributing to the scan include the Care Institute (Zorginstituut Nederland), health insurers, specialists and occasionally patient organisations. At the moment, however, there are no formal procedures or guidelines. Results of the horizon scan have not been published.</p>		