



Ministerie van  
Volksgezondheid,  
Welzijn en Sport



## The Netherlands

Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sports.

Mrs. dr. M.M. van den Berg, Mrs. M. Schreurs.

### Pricing

- **Price policies for pharmaceuticals**  
Maximum price law for non-reimbursable and reimbursable products: external reference pricing (Belgium, France, Germany and UK) since 1996.  
  
OTC pharmaceuticals have no maximum price.
- **Wholesale Mark-ups**  
The government does not know the mark-ups.
- **Pharmacy Mark-ups**  
Maximum dispensing fee € 6,10 per prescription  
  
Claw back 6,82% of public list price with a maximum of €6,80 per prescription.
- **VAT**  
19% standard rate  
  
6% rate on pharmaceuticals
- **Reforms**  
Since 2004 there is an agreement between innovative industry, generic industry, pharmacists, health insurers and the Ministry of Health. This agreement implies a price cut of 40% for those pharmaceuticals of which there are generics and multi-source available. Competition between parties is being encouraged.

### Reimbursement

- **Positive / negative list**  
Approximately 71% of all pharmaceuticals on the market are fully reimbursed. Of which 31% are generics.
- **Reference Price System**  
Internal reference pricing since 1992.  
  
For cost-effective products with added therapeutic value, there is premium pricing.
- **Co-payment**  
Negligible, less than 0,5%
- **Mechanisms for vulnerable groups**  
Some non-reimbursable drugs are reimbursed for chronically-ill patients.