

ICELAND

Recent and planned developments in pharmaceutical policies 2019

Special topic: patient-based reimbursement decisions

CHANGES IN PRICING

Pharmacy margins increased 1st. of January 2019 on the fixed handling fee.

| Wholesale price: | Pharmacy margins: |
|------------------|--------------------------------|
| 0 – 145 EUR | 11,0% + 8,7 EUR (was 8,1 EUR) |
| 146 – 723 EUR | 2,0% + 19,0 EUR (was 17,9 EUR) |
| > 724 EUR | 0,3% + 37,7 EUR (was 35,6 EUR) |

Price review of the total pricelist is ongoing in 2019. Wholesale prices are compared to prices in Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden.

CHANGES IN REIMBURSEMENT

- No changes in reimbursement.
- Increased cooperation with the National Hospital, regarding implementation of high-cost medicines.
- Priority list - which medicines are in priority.

OTHERS CHANGES

- New Medicinal Products Act is now being written in Ministry of Health and will be laid for The Icelandic Parliament in autumn 2019 for approval. Implementation will take place after Parliament approval.

SPECIAL TOPIC: patient-based reimbursement decisions

OUT-PATIENT

Reimbursement of medicines that are not included in the reimbursement list (non reimbursable medicines and medicines not applied for inclusion in the reimbursement list):

Medicines not included in the reimbursement list are only allowed to be prescribed and covered by the health insurance funds in justified cases: When the treatment with such a medicine is necessary for compelling therapeutic reasons and no alternative (reimbursed) medicine is available.

The individual applications per patient have to be approved by the Icelandic Medicine Pricing and Reimbursement Committee (IMPRC). The prescriber is in charge of getting the approval from the IMPRC.

The approval or rejection decision will be made at an IMPRC meeting as soon as possible after receiving an application. The IMPRC may only approve the application in case a physician's justification is available and the principles of appropriateness and economic efficiency of the prescription are considered.

In case the medicine has no marketing authorisation in Iceland, the individual application may be approved if an authorised medicine is not available or has been unsuccessful.

IN-PATIENT

For medicines not included in the hospital formularies (each hospital has its own hospital formulary) the prescribing physician has to submit a justification and together with the Hospital Pharmacy Committee the decision is taken. If the medicine is very expensive an additional approval of the medical director of the hospital is needed.