

CZECH REPUBLIC

State Institute for Drug Control

Major reforms from 2007 till now

- VAT on pharmaceuticals increased from 5 to 9 % (1/2008)
- Responsibility for prices and reimbursement shifted to SÚKL
- External and internal price reference systems implemented
- Physician, hospital and prescription fees and co-payment cap introduced
- Price limits terminated in some reimbursed ATC groups (with high level of competition)
- Possibility to set two reimbursement prices

Current and planned measures

- Fine-tuning of fees and co-payment cap (under discussion)
- Definition of minimal health care standard covered by insurance fund (draft law)
- Electronic prescription (in force but not implemented)

Current pharmaceutical pricing and reimbursement system (as of 2/2009)

Pricing

- Statutory ex-factory price limits and regressive mark-up limits for most reimbursable pharmaceuticals
- reimbursed ATC groups with high level of competition: regulation by regressive mark-up limits only
- No price regulation of pharmaceuticals reimbursed only in hospitals
- Non-reimbursable pharmaceuticals – no price regulation
- VAT rate of 9% on pharmaceuticals (standard rate: 19%)

Reimbursement

- Positive list in place up-dated monthly (no negative)
- Fixed reimbursement price (several fully reimbursed)
- Reference price system in place (internal+external)
- Prescription fee in pharmacy (30 CZK) + difference between reimbursement and trade price (+ deduction mechanism on prescription drugs)

