



## SLOVAK REPUBLIC

### Recent changes in pharmaceutical policy measures and developments in pharmaceutical expenditure

#### Major changes in pharmaceutical policy in 2012-2013

##### Pricing

- Change in External price referencing (EPR): Slovak maximal ex-factory price is set on the **average of three lowest prices in EU** – valid from 1JAN2013 & effectiveness from 1APR2013
- MoH expected to decrease the price for more than **800** pharmaceuticals due to EPR changes
- Change in Internal price referencing: **14** new clusters, including 144 pharmaceuticals, valid from 15MAR2013

##### Reimbursement

- No changes/modifications

##### Other changes

- New in legislation: Amendments to the Act No.363/2011 Coll. on Scope of Health Care Services and Act No.362/2011 Coll. on Medicines and Medical Devices in place since January 2013
- Possibility to reduce the amount of patient co-payment by cutting pharmacy margin up to 50% of the co-payment
- Reporting of educational activities (monthly) and marketing expenditure (yearly) from pharmaceutical companies to MoH

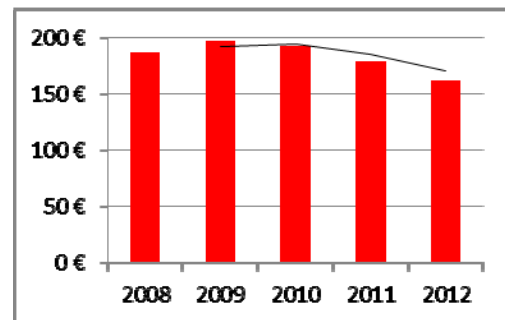
#### Development of pharmaceutical expenditure in the last 5 available years

##### Out-patient sector

Annual Growth in Pharmaceutical expenditures (2012 vs. 2011):

- almost - **7%** in number of prescriptions
- more than - **9%** in payment for pharmaceuticals by health insurance system
- almost - **15%** in amount of co-payment

Slovakia out-patient pharmaceutical expenditure per capita in Euro



##### In-patient sector

- Sales of pharmaceuticals at hospitals owned by state were approximately 90 mil. Euro in 2012

#### Impact of measures and evaluation

According to ongoing changes in EPR expected savings estimate around 20-25 mil. €/year. In Slovakia pharmaceutical expenditures is expected to be the same or with slightly decreasing trend during the coming years. In 2013 MoH expected savings in hospitals owned by state around 10% in total expenditure on drugs.