

Saudi Arabia

Recent and planned developments in pharmaceutical policies 2025

CHANGES IN PRICING

- ◆ Including newly established economic evaluation guidelines in innovative products pricing
- ◆ Change in generic / biosimilars pricing where flat pricing is considered anchoring reference product.
- ◆ Include price re-evaluations as a variation procedure.
- ◆ Introducing new pricing implementation mechanisms.
- ◆ Change of reference countries in External Price Referencing.

CHANGES IN REIMBURSEMENT

- ◆ The Council of Health Insurance (CHI) adapts copayment policies:
 - ◆ In case the generics are not available, the patient will pay 20% with a maximum sharing of 30 Saudi Riyals.
 - ◆ In case the generics are available, and the patient wants to be prescribed the brand (innovative product), the patient will pay 0-50% as determined between the employer and insurance company.
- ◆ Local Content Authority introduced a price preference of 10% for local products along with a mandatory list. This addition is on top of the previous 20% preference in government procurement.

OTHER CHANGES

- ◆ SFDA introduced the first unified guideline for economic evaluation studies applied in Saudi Arabia. The guideline will inform the price setting of medicines in Saudi Arabia. This guideline will be implemented in two phases based on product type on regulatory procedure.
- ◆ The Products Management Department will lead the Horizon Scanning team in the upcoming year, and it will grow to include the Drug and Poison Information Center, the Efficacy and Safety Department, the Clinical Trials Department, and the Pricing and Pharmacoeconomics Department.

SPECIAL TOPIC: Current Advances in HTA

