

April 2013

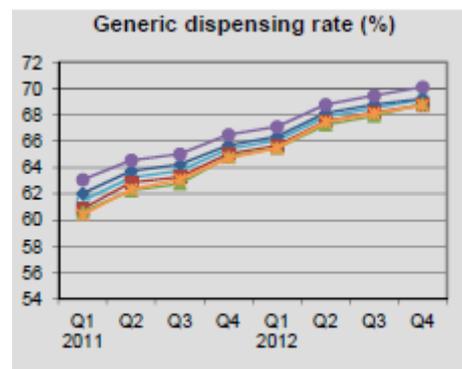
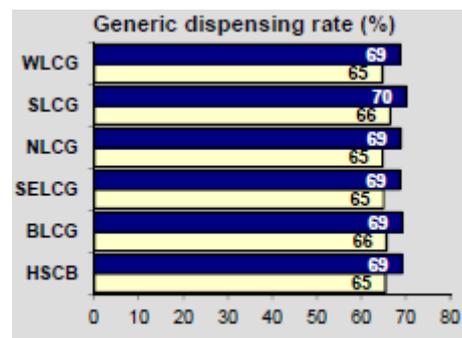
GENERIC PRESCRIBING

In Northern Ireland

Key Patent Expiries in 2013

KEY POINTS

- **DHSSPS Policy—Generic medicines should be prescribed in preference to branded products in all appropriate circumstances** irrespective of whether a generic medicine is currently available. This will ensure full utilisation of generic medicines when branded medicines come 'off-patent'.
- Practices should **ensure generic medicines are prescribed in preference to branded products** in all appropriate circumstances.
- **Generic Prescribing remains the single most effective way to generate savings** for the Health Service.
- **2013 - A number of brand name medicines are due to go off-patent during 2013.** Practices are asked to prescribe all these medicines generically now so savings can be made as soon as the generic price drops.
- **2012** was a very big year for patent expiries. Common primary care drugs that lost patent in 2012 are listed on **page 2 of this bulletin**. Please ensure that these drugs are also prescribed as the generic product.
- Practices are encouraged to search for any patient on prescriptions for the branded products listed and **convert over to the equivalent generic product**.



The graphs above show how the generic rates in Northern Ireland have been steadily increasing over this last few years - well done to all practices who have worked hard to make this happen! As the rate continues to rise this makes further increases more challenging. However recent patent expiries should help to keep the rate rising.

Prescribers are reminded that inappropriate genericisation of some items eg multi-ingredient creams and wound dressings is still occurring and is not recommended. The list of medicines that the HSCB recommends are not prescribed generically can be found [here](#)

Table 1:

Patent Expiries in 2013

Brand	Generic	Generic Expected
Singulair [®]	➤ Montelukast sodium	➤ Available now
Cosopt [®]	➤ Dorzolamide/Timolol	➤ Available now
Viagra [®]	➤ Sildenafil	➤ June 13
Evista [®]	➤ Raloxifene	➤ Aug 13
Maxalt [®]	➤ Rizatriptan	➤ Aug 13
Seretide [®]	➤ Fluticasone/Salmeterol	➤ Sept 13
Co-Aprovel [®]	➤ Irbesartan/hydrochlorothiazide	➤ Oct 13
Micardis [®]	➤ Telmisartan	➤ Dec 13

Table 2: Drugs which lost Patent in 2012 (selected strengths) - Generic prices (28 tabs) based on April 2013 Drug Tariff

Atorvastatin (Generic)	Lipitor®
£1.33 (10mg)	£13.00
£1.71 (20mg)	£24.64
Candesartan (Generic)	Amias®
£3.44 (16mg)	£12.72
£4.39 (32mg)	£16.13
Donepezil (Generic)	Aricept®
£1.69 (5mg)	£59.85
£1.98 (10mg)	£83.89
Eprosartan (Generic)	Teveten®
£7.31(300mg)	£7.31
£7.89 (400mg)	£7.89
Esomeprazole (Generic)	Nexium®
£7.15 (20mg)	£18.50
£9.19 (40mg)	£25.19
Galantamine (Generic)	Reminyl®
£64.90 (16mg)	£64.90
Irbesartan (Generic)	Aprovel®
£2.43 (150mg)	£11.84
£3.47 (300mg)	£15.93
Latanoprost (Generic)	Xalatan®
£2.71	£12.48
Montelukast (Generic)	Singulair®
£26.97 (10mg)	£26.97
Naratriptan (Generic) (6 tabs)	Naramig® (6 tabs)
£2.77	£24.55
Olanzapine (Generic)	Zyprexa®
£2.13 (10mg)	£87.40
Pioglitazone (Generic)	Actos®
£2.86 (15mg)	£25.83
£4.75 (45mg)	£39.55
Quetiapine (Generic) (60 tabs)	Seroquel® (60 tabs)
£4.83 (100mg) £5.18 (150mg)	£113.10 (100mg & 150mg)
£7.65 (300mg)	£170.00
Rabeprazole (Generic)	Pariet®
£5.22 (20mg)	£19.55
Rivastigmine (Generic)	Exelon®
£23.68 (3mg)	£33.25
Tolterodine (Generic) (56 tabs)	Detrusitol® (56 tabs)
£4.36 (2mg)	£30.56
Valsartan (Generic)	Diovan®
£2.32 (80mg caps) £13.97 (80mg tabs)	£13.97 (80mg caps/tabs)
Zolmitriptan (Generic)	Zomig®
£1.99 (2.5mg)	£23.94