



BELGIUM

National Institute for Health and Disability Insurance (NIHDI)

Pharmaceutical provision in hospitals

- The pharmaceutical provision in hospitals is mainly organised by hospital pharmacies.
 - All (acute) general hospitals have their own pharmacy who dispenses to in- and outpatients (one day clinic). Due to a recent wave of consolidation, some hospitals make use of different sites with a central pharmacy and dispensing point.
- Role of hospital pharmacies/hospital pharmacists:
 - purchase and supply of pharmaceutical and diagnostic products and medical devices
 - custom made production of specific pharmaceuticals
- Hospital pharmacies obtain pharmaceuticals and medical devices
 - directly from pharmaceutical companies (mostly)
 - wholesalers (only play a minor role)

Purchasing of medicines in the hospital sector

- Decentralised purchase:

Pharmaceuticals used in hospitals are purchased directly at the manufacturer. Negotiations are therefore private and not monitored.
- Official hospital prices:

P _{ex fact} (€)	Price per unit (€)	
	In patient	Out patient
<30,86	$\frac{[P_{ex\ fact} * 1,06]}{\# \text{ units}}$	$\frac{[P_{ex\ fact} * 1,2905]}{\# \text{ units}}$
≥30,86	$\frac{[P_{ex\ fact} * 1,06]}{\# \text{ units}}$	$\frac{[(P_{ex\ fact} * 1,06) + 7,11]}{\# \text{ units}}$

maximum ex-factory price is set
maximum mark up for out patients
6% VAT rate
- The hospital prices are not published.
- The Pharmaceutical Therapeutic Committee compiles the hospital pharmaceutical formulary.

Financing of medicines in the hospital sector

- Sources of funding:
 - a fixed annual budget based on historical all patient refined diagnosis-related group (APR-DRG) data
 - fee-for-service funding for certain activities (e.g. 1-day clinics and dialysis)
 - part of the fees of doctors
 - profits made on pharmaceuticals and medical devices
 - patients' out-of-pocket payments (OPP)
- Hospitalised patients are only charged a fixed daily amount of € 0.62 for dispensed reimbursed pharmaceuticals.
- Each hospital compiles its own hospital pharmaceutical formulary.

Evaluation and Interface management

- Monitoring (national level): Internal audit submitted to the NIHDI (on a six monthly basis)
- Interface management:
 - outsourcing by hospitals
 - ongoing study on seamless care (Federal Knowledge Centre)