

## FRANCE

### Recent and planned changes in pharmaceutical pricing and reimbursement and overview of the medical devices system

<b>P H A R M A C E U T I C A L S</b>	<b>Changes in pricing</b>	<b>Changes in reimbursement</b>
	<p><b>Pricing:</b></p> <p>Price reduction' policy continues and enables the social security to save about 800M€ both in 2013 and 2014.</p> <p>Among the main changes :</p> <p>(1) Generics prices were reduced when they were obviously higher than those in Germany, Italy, Spain and UK.</p> <p>(2) A flat price was introduced for off patent PPI (March 2013) and for off patent statins (March 2014).</p> <p><b>VAT:</b></p> <p>VAT on OTC drugs increased from 7 to 10% on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2014.</p> <p><b>Margins:</b></p> <p>Changes in pharmacists and wholesalers margins are being debated.</p>	<p>EPOs removed from the list of drugs reimbursed on top of DRGs (March 2014)</p>
	<b>Other changes related to medicines</b>	
	<p>Since October 2013 Health Technology Assessment has to include an economic evaluation when the two following conditions are met:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* improvement in actual benefit (ASMR) of III (moderate) up to I (major);</li> <li>* significant impact on health insurance expenditure, given the price of the product, its impact on the market structure, etc.</li> </ul> <p>Single unit dispensation of antibiotics is under experiment</p> <p>Biosimilars: pharmacist substitution is allowed only at treatment initiation</p>	
<b>M E D I C E S</b>	<b>Pricing and reimbursement system of medical devices</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Continuous positive airway pressure in sleep apnea:</b> We experimented a new tariffication system where patients would be refunded for their CPAP device only if they use it significantly enough. This experiment has been stopped by the French supreme court.</li> <li>- We created <b>early-access schemes</b> for very innovative medical devices</li> <li>- Creation of a <b>positive-list</b> for medical devices that shall be integrated into DRGs tariffs.</li> </ul>	