

## THE NETHERLANDS

### Recent and planned developments in pharmaceutical policies 2017

#### Special topic: hospital medicines

##### CHANGES IN PRICING

Price reviews by Ministry:  
External reference pricing  
twice a year  
Internal reference pricing  
every month

Price negotiations  
Orkambi

Change in VAT  
planned in  
2019

##### CHANGES IN REIMBURSEMENT

**No changes in  
reimbursement**

SPECIAL TOPIC: HOSPITAL MEDICINE

## HOSPITAL MEDICINES



Painted by Marinus van Reymerswaele

### Financing

The insurer and the hospital sign a contract on the basis of DRG's. This is a lump sum including pharmaceutical costs. If a medicine costs € 1.000 or more, a reimbursement of the actual list price can be requested by the hospital (Add on).

In-patient pharm. expenditure

Approximately

❖ € 1.740 million in 2014

❖ € 1.857 million in 2015



Painted by Bartholomeus van der Helst

### Procurement

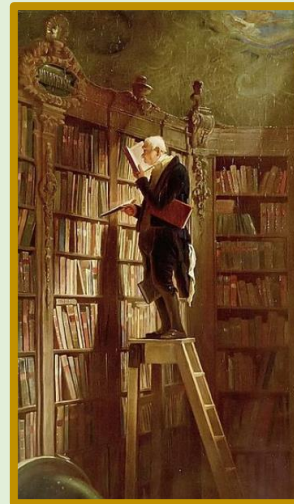
*Due to competitive contracting between hospitals and insurers most prices are confidential, except for list prices.*

There are various options:

- ❖ Traditionally hospitals procure individually
- ❖ Recently hospitals procure in groups
- ❖ Hospitals and insurers procure together and share savings (experimental stage)
- ❖ Negotiations on national level preceded by HTA
- ❖ Negotiations in BeneluxA preceded by HTA

### Health Technology Assessments (HTA) for hospital medicines

- ❖ Open system: no HTA prior to reimbursement
- ❖ Focus on risks in reimbursement package: if medicines reach more than € 2.5 million in total volume/year, an HTA will take place. Outcome determines continuation of reimbursement
- ❖ The “Lock” procedure  
High cost drugs can be temporarily refused automatic reimbursement prior to control price negotiations. A full HTA is always performed for these products.



Painted by Carl Spitzweg



Painted by Gerard Terborgh

### Interface management

- ❖ Lack of clarity because of a dual financing system
- ❖ Prescribed medicines may be interchanged between the outpatient and inpatient sector.