

## PORTUGAL

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### Pricing

- Price policies for pharmaceuticals  
*Price formation* - Maximum ex-factory price is based on average ex-factory price of similar product in 4 reference countries: Spain, France, Italy and Greece;  
*Price stability* - new price will be reviewed after 3 years;

- Wholesale Mark-ups

*Reimbursed medicines:* 6,87% of the retail price excluding tax

*Non-Reimbursed medicines:* 8% of the retail price excluding tax

- Pharmacy Mark-ups

*Reimbursed medicines:* 18,25% of the retail price excluding tax

*Non-Reimbursed medicines:* 20% of the retail price excluding tax

- VAT

standard rate – 21%;

reduced rate for pharmaceuticals – 5%;

- Special tax earmarked for INFARMED – 0,4%

- Reforms

2005 - general price reduction (6%) for reimbursed medicines

2006 - free prices and mark-ups for OTCs; OTCs sell outside pharmacies in authorized establishments

2007 – general price reduction (6%) for prescription only medicines new methodology of price formation

### Reimbursement

- Positive / negative list

40% of all pharmaceuticals are reimbursed

- Reference Price System – March 2003

*Reference price* - price settled for a group of medicines with the same active substance, dosage and pharmaceutical form, that includes at least one generic marketed. Co-payment is based on this price (highest unitary generic marketed price)

- Mechanisms for vulnerable groups

- extra 15% (5% for A level) reimbursement for pensioners whose annual income below 14 times the national minimum wage;

- the reference price for those pensioners is increased 20%;

- special reimbursement mechanism for medicines used for certain pathologies or specific groups of patients

- Reforms

- Changes in co-payment rates:

Until 2005	2005-2006	2007
100%	100%	100%
	95%	95%
70%	70%	69%
40%	40%	37%
20%	20%	15%

2005 – ending of the increment of 10% in co-payment rates for generic medicines;

2007 – beginning evaluation of new active substances or new indications of medicines used in hospitals