

Report medicines purchased above Drug Tariff reimbursement price

Community pharmacy contractors are being strongly encouraged to report every Part VIII generic medicine that cannot be obtained at or below the published Drug Tariff reimbursement price. These reports are essential evidence: without contractor reports, Community Pharmacy England has limited information to demonstrate the scale of the problem and make the case for action.

When pharmacies report products purchased above Drug Tariff price, Community Pharmacy England can investigate the extent of the issue and, where appropriate, submit a price concession application to the Department of Health and Social Care. Any price concession granted will only be agreed where it is supported by reports received from pharmacy teams.

What contractors should do

1. Check the published Drug Tariff reimbursement price for the medicine.
2. If the medicine cannot be sourced at or below that price, keep a record of the supplier, pack size, price paid, and any wholesalers who were out of stock.
3. Report the item to Community Pharmacy England using the online form for single items. <https://cpe.org.uk/dispensing-and-supply/supply-chain/problems-with-obtaining-a-generic-medicine/>
4. For multiple items, download and complete the spreadsheet available from the same Community Pharmacy England page or click [here](#) and email it to **concessions@cpe.org.uk**.
5. Report every affected medicine, even if another pharmacy may already have reported it. The more evidence submitted, the stronger the case for government action.

Reporting link

Please use the Community Pharmacy England page: <https://cpe.org.uk/dispensing-and-supply/supply-chain/problems-with-obtaining-a-generic-medicine/>

FAQ: reporting products bought above Drug Tariff price

What should I report?

Report any Part VIII generic medicine that you cannot obtain at or below the published Drug Tariff reimbursement price, including any medicine you have had to buy above tariff.

Should I still report it if another pharmacy may already have done so?

Yes. Every report helps show the scale of the problem. Multiple reports provide stronger evidence that contractors are experiencing the same pricing pressure.

What information should I include?

Include as much detail as possible, such as the generic product, strength, form, pack size, supplier or wholesaler, price paid, and any wholesalers who were out of stock or unable to supply at tariff price.

How do I report a single item?

Use the online reporting form on the Community Pharmacy England page for products purchased over Drug Tariff price.

How do I report multiple items?

Use the spreadsheet available on the Community Pharmacy England reporting page, complete it with as much information as possible, and email it to concessions@cpe.org.uk.

Does reporting guarantee a price concession?

No. Reporting does not guarantee a concession, but it gives Community Pharmacy England the evidence needed to investigate the problem and, where appropriate, apply to the Department of Health and Social Care.

Why is this so important?

If contractors do not report, the issue may not be visible enough to support action. Reporting every affected item helps demonstrate the financial pressure on pharmacies and supports the case for appropriate reimbursement.

Tips for effective reporting

- Report as soon as you identify that a product cannot be sourced at or below Drug Tariff price.
- Include the full product details: generic name, strength, form and pack size.
- Record the supplier or wholesaler used and the actual price paid.
- Where relevant, note which wholesalers were out of stock or unable to supply at tariff price.
- Do not wait for a long list before reporting; single items can be submitted using the online form.
- If you have several affected items, use the spreadsheet and email it to concessions@cpe.org.uk
- Submit a report even if the item has already been mentioned locally — repeated reports help show the true scale of the issue.
- Encourage all members of the pharmacy team involved in ordering and purchasing to flag affected items promptly.

Why this matters

Pharmacies are increasingly having to absorb losses when medicines are purchased above reimbursement price. Reporting is one of the most important actions contractors can take to make these pressures visible. If contractors do not report, the issue may appear smaller than it really is, and opportunities to secure appropriate price concessions may be missed.

Please report every item, every time. Your evidence helps demonstrate the real cost pressures facing community pharmacy and supports the case for action to protect contractors from avoidable losses.

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