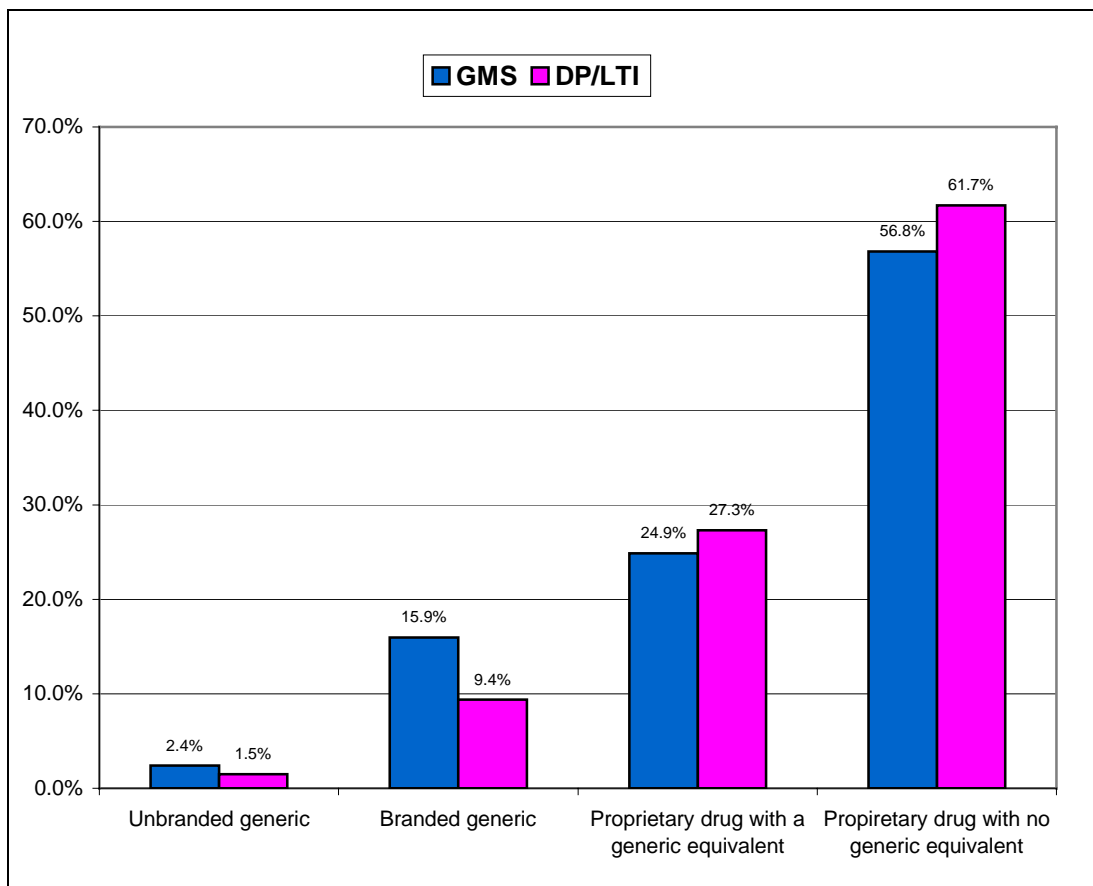


GENERIC DRUG UTILISATION IN IRELAND IN 2008

Percentage of prescription items dispensed generically on the GMS and DP/LTI schemes in 2008

- Eighteen per cent of prescription items were dispensed generically (branded generics (15.9%) and non-branded generics (2.4%) on the GMS scheme in 2008.
- Eleven per cent of prescription items were dispensed generically on the DP/LTI schemes, seven per cent less than the proportion of prescription items dispensed as generic drugs on the GMS scheme in 2008.
- Twenty five and twenty seven per cent of prescription items were dispensed as proprietary preparations when a generic equivalent was available on the GMS and DP/LTI schemes respectively.

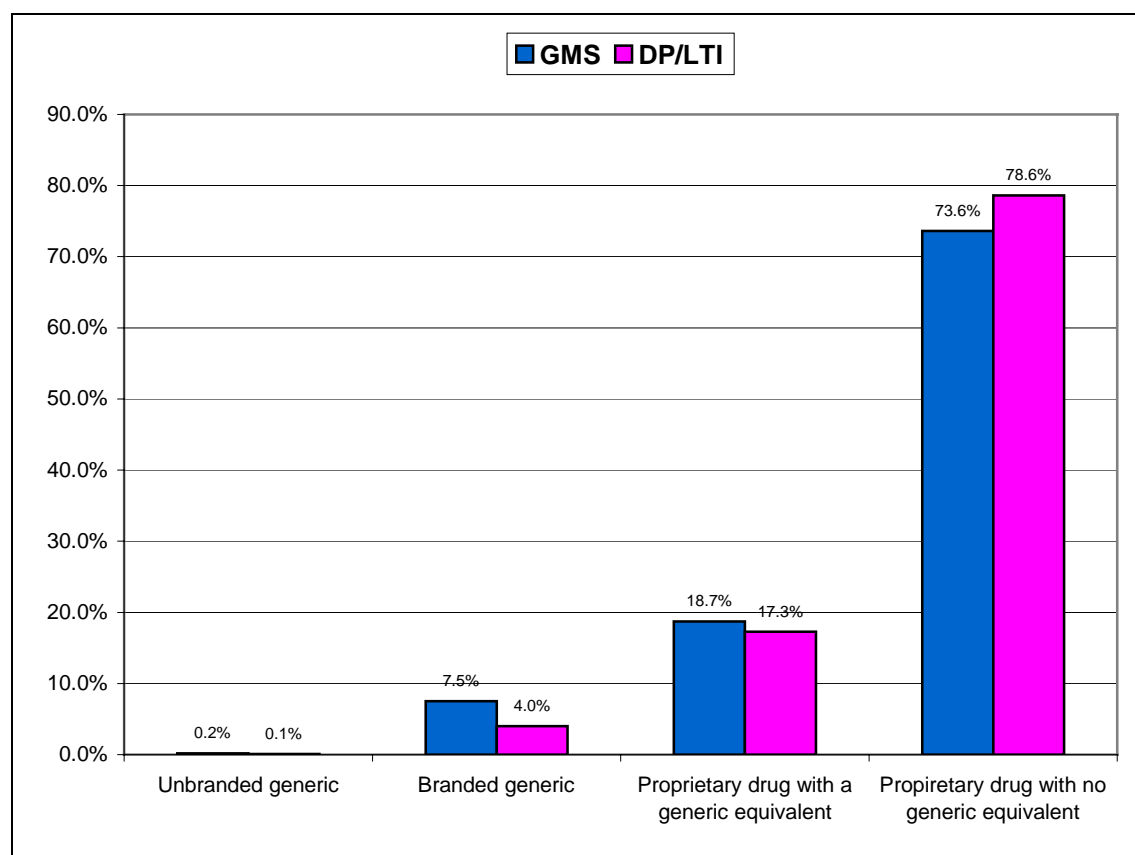
Figure 1. The percentage of prescription items dispensed on the GMS and DP/LTI schemes in 2008.



Percentage of the ingredient cost spent on generic items on the GMS and DP/LTI schemes in 2008

- Approximately 8% (€67.12million) of the total ingredient cost of drugs dispensed on the GMS scheme in 2008 was spent on generic drugs.
- Approximately 4.1% (€15.32million) of the total ingredient cost of drugs dispensed on the DP/LTI schemes in 2008 was spent on generic drugs.
- Nineteen per cent (€163.36 million) of the total ingredient cost of medications was spent on proprietary drugs where there was an equivalent generic product available on the GMS scheme.
- Seventeen per cent (€64.40 million) of the total ingredient cost of medications was spent on proprietary drugs where there was an equivalent generic product available on the DP/LTI schemes.

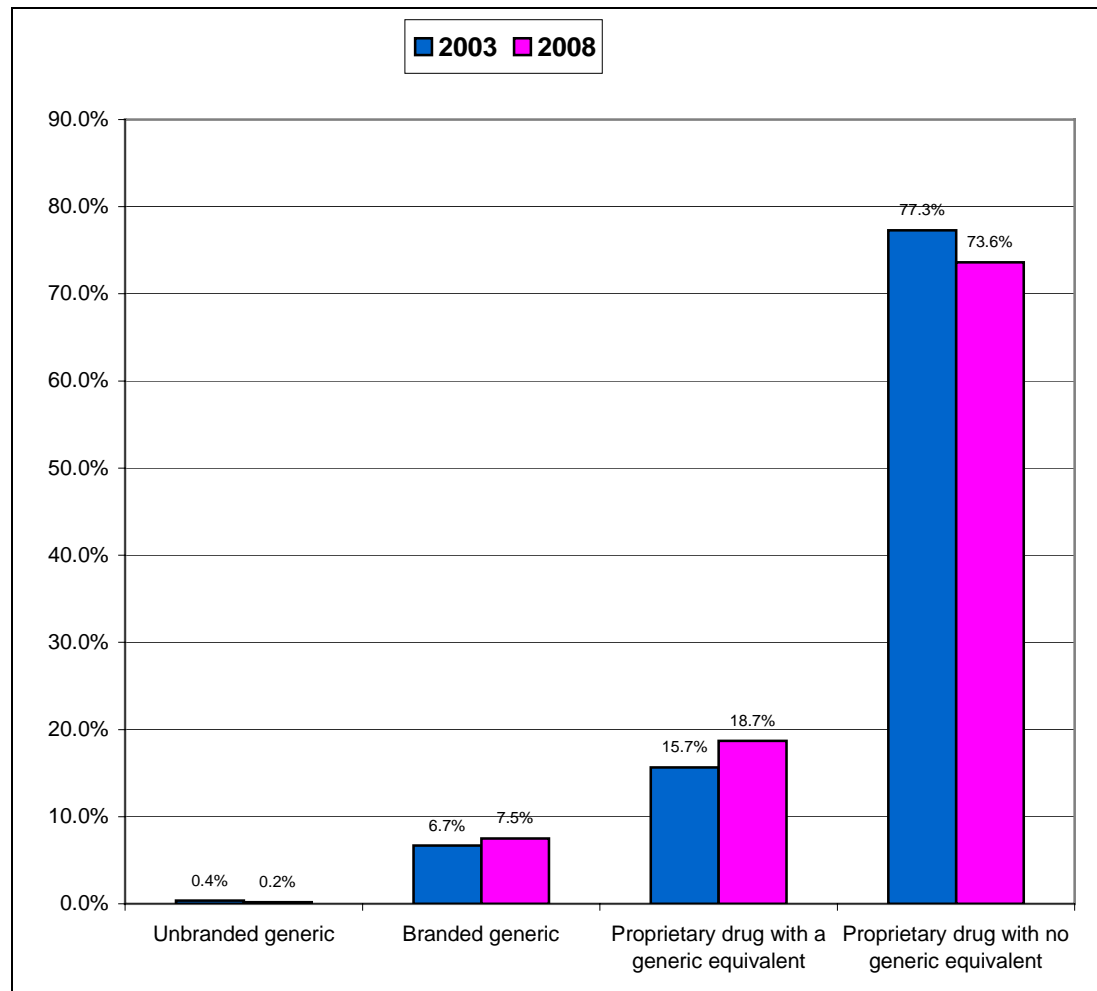
Figure 2. The percentage of the ingredient cost spent on generic drugs on the GMS and DP/LTI schemes in 2008.



Comparison of generic drug utilisation on the GMS scheme in 2003 and 2008.

- There was a similar proportion of expenditure on generic drugs on the GMS in 2003 compared to 2008 (7.1% versus 7.7% respectively).
- There was a greater proportion of expenditure on proprietary drugs with a generic equivalent on the GMS scheme in 2008 compared to 2003 (18.7% vs. 15.1% respectively).
- This demonstrates the potential for increased savings to be made over time as product patents expire.

Figure 3. The percentage of the ingredient cost spent on generic items on the GMS scheme in 2003 and 2008.



Comparison of generic drug utilisation on the DP/LTI schemes in 2003 and 2008.

- There was a similar proportion of expenditure on generic drugs on the DP/LTI schemes in 2003 compared to 2008 (3.9% versus 4.1% respectively).
- There was also a similar proportion of expenditure on proprietary drugs with a generic equivalent on the DP/LTI schemes in 2003 compared to 2008 (17.3% versus 16.6% respectively).
- There is a potential for increased savings to be made over time as product patents expire.

Figure 4. The percentage of the ingredient cost spent on generic items on the DP/LTI schemes in 2003 and 2008.

