

Generic Drug Utilisation in Ireland 2005-2012

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Percentage of prescription items dispensed generically on the GMS and DP/LTI schemes from 2005-2012

- 17.5% of prescription items were dispensed generically (branded generics (15.2%) and non-branded generics (2.3%)) on the GMS scheme in 2005. This increased to 24.2% of prescription items (branded generics (19.2%) and non-branded generics (4.9%)) in 2012 (Table 1).

Table 1: Percentage of prescriptions dispensed as generics from 2005 - 2012 (GMS)

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Pure Generics	2.3	2.6	2.6	2.4	2.3	1.8	2.4	4.9
Branded Generics	15.2	16.1	16.3	16.0	16.4	17.7	16.8	19.2
<i>Total</i>	17.5	18.7	18.9	18.4	18.7	19.5	19.2	24.2

- 9.9% of prescription items were dispensed generically (branded generics, 8.4% and non-branded generics, 1.6%) on the DP/LTI scheme in 2005. This increased to 17.8% of prescription items (branded generics, 13.5% and non-branded generics, 4.3%) in 2012 (Table 2).

Table 2: Percentage of prescriptions dispensed as generics from 2005 - 2012 (DP/LTI)

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Pure Generics	1.6	1.4	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.0	1.6	4.3
Branded Generics	8.4	9.2	9.9	9.4	9.3	10.2	10.6	13.5
<i>Total</i>	9.9	10.6	11.5	10.9	10.8	11.2	12.1	17.8

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Percentage of the ingredient cost spent on generic items on the GMS and DP/LTI schemes from 2005-2012

Approximately 6.9% (€13.6million) of the total ingredient cost of drugs dispensed on the GMS scheme in 2005 was spent on generic drugs. This increased to 15% (€137 million) in 2012 (Table 3).

Table 3: Generics as a percentage of total Ingredient cost of prescriptions dispensed from 2005 - 2012 (GMS)								
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Pure Generics	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.5	1.3	4.5
Branded Generics	6.7	7.5	7.9	7.5	7.7	9.0	9.1	10.5
<i>Total</i>	6.9	7.7	8.1	7.7	7.9	9.5	10.4	15.0

Approximately 3.4% (€8.96million) of the total ingredient cost of drugs dispensed on the DP/LTI scheme in 2005 was spent on generic drugs. This increased to 8.6% (€21.5 million) in 2012 (Table 4).

Table 4: Generics as a percentage of total Ingredient cost of prescriptions dispensed from 2005 - 2012 (DP/LTI)								
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Pure Generics	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.8	3.1
Branded Generics	3.3	4.0	4.3	4.0	3.9	4.2	4.5	5.5
<i>Total</i>	3.4	4.1	4.5	4.1	4.1	4.5	5.3	8.6