

The Drug Tariff Explained

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Quick Question

- Is anyone having problems with the Wrong Group Movement tab in PCSE?
- Dropdown menu not showing?



A New Webinar?

- Is anyone interested in a webinar on ePACT2?



Introduction

- Reflective Learning
- Please share best practice in the chat box
- Special offer on remote PCSE Statement Training for December £199 + VAT



The Drug Tariff

- We used to call a 2 hour session a “whistle-stop tour of the Drug Tariff”!
- Is the Drug Tariff as relevant and essential as it once was with automatic endorsing etc on GP Medical Systems?
- How much time do you have [during dispensing] to make practical use of the Drug Tariff?

The Drug Tariff

- Determines the reimbursement price of most medicines available on an NHS Prescription
- Determines other payments to **pharmacy**
- Determines standards and quantities
- Is the cost control mechanism for Primary Care prescriptions
- Written primarily for pharmacy **not all sections** relate to Dispensing Doctors

The dm+d: NHS Dictionary of Medicines & Devices

- Determines actual payment to a dispensing contractor [the NHS List Price]
- Of course – manufacturer's list price is not necessarily the same as the Part VIIIA price
- Drug Tariff must be understood/read in conjunction with the dm+d

The Drug Tariff Online

- [Google Drug Tariff Online](#)
- [Look at the various sections!](#)

[Drug Tariff updates](#)

[Drug Tariff Part VIII](#)

[Drug Tariff Part IX](#)

[Drug Tariff Part XIV](#)

[Back copies of the Drug Tariff](#)



The Drug Tariff Online



Drug Tariff updates

Updates to the Drug Tariff

Check to see if there are any updates to the published Drug Tariff each month.

— November 2025

Drug Tariff News - November Part VIIIA reimbursement prices (issued 28 November)

The Department of Health and Social Care has agreed the November Drug Tariff Part VIIIA reimbursement prices for the following items:

Carbocisteine 250mg/5ml oral solution 300 £4.25

The Drug Tariff: Part IX Medical Devices

- Generally speaking only medical devices which are listed in Part IX of the Drug Tariff can be prescribed, dispensed and reimbursed
- The greatest source of returned prescriptions and possibly the most confusing for a dispenser!

What's the difference between a Medicine and a Medical Device/Appliance?

- Does the item you are dispensing have a CE mark?
- If YES then almost certainly ONLY allowed if listed in Drug Tariff [Part IX]



Drug Tariff Part IX [Medical Devices]

- Apologies for bringing along more potential headaches in this area!
- There will be changes to Part IX in 2026 due to consultation
- New “clusters” comparing prices and products
- Could lead to even more confusion and returned prescriptions...

Drug Tariff Part IXA [Medical Devices]!!

Eye Drops - Carmellose		
<i>AaqEye Carmellose 0.5%</i>	(10ml bottle)	173
<i>Aqualube 0.5%</i>	(10ml bottle)	168
<i>Aqualube Forte 1%</i>	(10ml bottle)	158
<i>AquaLube PF 0.5%</i>	(10ml preservative free bottle)	279
<i>Carmellose 0.5% (Alissa Healthcare)</i>	(10ml bottle)	749
	(30 x 0.4ml single dose unit)	575
<i>Carmize 0.5%</i>	(10ml bottle)	749
	(30 x 0.4ml preservative free single dose unit)	575
	(90 x 0.4ml preservative free single dose unit)	1553



- Multiple pack sizes, strengths, preservative free, reimbursement prices...

Drug Tariff Part VIII A!!

Carmellose 0.5% eye drops 0.4ml unit dose preservative free	30	480	C	Celluvisc
Carmellose 1% eye drops 0.4ml unit dose preservative free	30 (3x 10)	300	C	Celluvisc

- One medicine listed – why?

Drug Tariff Part IXA [Medical Devices] What is the Solution?

- Contact those in charge to remove the confusion?
- NHSBSA?
- DDA/BMA?

Drug Tariff Part IXA [Medical Devices]

What is the Solution?



- Work out what works in your dispensary – your systems and processes
- Part IXA devices should be prescribed by brand if possible
- Generic prescriptions for Part IXA devices more likely to be sent back or queried
- Is the item being dispensed have a CE Mark [much more likely to be a Medical Device if it does]?
- Sticky labels on shelves to indicate Medical Devices?
- Eye drops [Part IXA Devices] kept in a drawer separate from medicines?

Brand prescribing of devices [Part IX] ensures correct item dispensed and correct reimbursement

This is where Endorsements are written

Endorsements	<p>Main Body of Prescription</p> <p>Prescribe by brand here to avoid prescription returns MUST dispense brand ordered!</p>	Office use
Signature of Doctor		Date 06/11/25

For NHS BSA Use Only



The Drug Tariff – Primary Reading; The Preface

- The Preface [what is happening now]
 - Additions to Drug Tariff
 - Deletions from Drug Tariff
 - Category Changes

The Drug Tariff – Primary Reading; The Preface

- Additions this month

5.14.2 PART VIIIA - BASIC PRICES OF DRUGS

* This pack only (others already available)

■ Special Container

PAGE 324

* Atomoxetine 4mg/ml oral solution sugar free	■	100 ml	3533	C	Consilient Health Ltd
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PAGE 339

Clascoterone 10mg/g cream	■	60 g	1943	C	Winlevi
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The Drug Tariff – Primary Reading; The Preface

- Deletions this month

PAGE 328

Bilastine 10mg orodispersible
tablets sugar free

30

500

C

Ilaxten

Bilastine 2.5mg/ml oral
solution sugar free

120 ml

500

C

Ilaxten

The Drug Tariff – Primary Reading; The Preface

- Changes this month

PAGE 340

Clonidine 150micrograms/1ml
solution for injection ampoules

5

209

C

Catapres

Now Reads

Clonidine 150micrograms/1ml
solution for injection ampoules

5

418

C

Glenwood GmbH

The Drug Tariff – Primary Reading; Advance Notice

- Advance Notice[what is happening next month]
 - Additions to Drug Tariff
 - Deletions from Drug Tariff
 - Category Changes

The Drug Tariff – Primary Reading; Advance Notice

- Additions next month

Preface

4.1 ADDITIONS TO JANUARY 2026 DRUG TARIFF

4.1.1 ADDITIONS TO PART VIIIA EFFECTIVE FROM 1 JANUARY 2026

■ Special Container

Salbutamol 2.5mg/2.5ml nebuliser liquid unit dose ampoules

20 (4x■ 5)

Category C Teva UK Ltd

Salbutamol 5mg/2.5ml nebuliser liquid unit dose ampoules

20 (4x■ 5)

Category C Teva UK Ltd



The Drug Tariff – Primary Reading; Advance Notice

- Deletions next month

Preface

4.2 DELETIONS FROM JANUARY 2026 DRUG TARIFF

4.2.1 DELETIONS FROM PART VIIIA EFFECTIVE FROM 1 JANUARY 2026

Acetylcysteine 200mg oral powder sachets	30	Category C Sovereign Medical Ltd
Chloramphenicol 250mg capsules	60	Category C Essential Generics Ltd
Cyclophosphamide 50mg tablets	100	Category C Baxter Healthcare Ltd
Dexamethasone 20mg/5ml oral solution sugar free	50ml	Category C Synchrony Pharma Ltd
Levofloxacin 100mg/ml nebuliser liquid ampoules	56	Category C Quinsair
Minocycline 50mg tablets	28	Category C Accord-UK Ltd

The Drug Tariff – Primary Reading; Advance Notice

- Changes next month

Preface

4.3 CHANGES TO JANUARY 2026 DRUG TARIFF

4.3.1 CHANGES TO PART VIIIA EFFECTIVE FROM 1 JANUARY 2026

- Item requiring reconstitution
- Special Container

Cefaclor 250mg/5ml oral suspension	● 100ml	Category C Distaclor will be:
	● 100ml	Category C Flynn Pharma Ltd
Cefaclor 500mg capsules	21	Category C Distaclor will be:
	21	Category C Flynn Pharma Ltd
Cefaclor 375mg modified-release tablets	14	Category C Distaclor MR will be:
	14	Category C Flynn Pharma Ltd

The Drug Tariff: Part VIII A Lifecycle [context]

Start Cat C as product is still under patent with no direct competitors

Middle move to Cat A as product loses patent and some manufacturers/wholesalers gain licenses

End move to Cat M as more competitors enter the market and the difference between Drug Tariff price and Market Price grows = more profitability = NHS policy to cap Community Pharmacy income

The Drug Tariff: Part VIII A Medicines

- Category A reimbursement based on a basket of prices – price can change monthly
- Category M reimbursement based on agreed profit left in the supply chain for Community Pharmacy – price usually changes quarterly [occasional monthly change in exceptional circumstances]
- Category C reimbursement based upon a particular brand, wholesaler or distributor price

The Drug Tariff: Part VIII A Medicines

Carbocisteine 250mg/5ml oral solution sugar free		300 ml	777	A	
Carbocisteine 375mg capsules		120	254	M	
Carbocisteine 750mg capsules		60	1898	C	Brown & Burk UK Ltd
Carbocisteine 750mg/10ml oral solution 10ml sachets sugar free		15	574	A	
Carbocisteine 750mg/5ml oral solution sugar free		200 ml	3929	C	Rosemont Pharmaceuticals Ltd
Carbomer '980' 0.2% eye drops	■	10 g	280	C	GeITears Ophthalmic Gel
Carbomer '980' 0.2% eye drops 0.6ml unit dose preservative free		30	542	C	Viscotears
Carbomer 974P 0.25% eye gel	■	10 g	450	C	Liquivisc
Cariprazine 1.5mg capsules		28	8036	C	Reagila
Cariprazine 3mg capsules		28	8036	C	Reagila
Cariprazine 4.5mg capsules		28	8036	C	Reagila
Cariprazine 6mg capsules		28	8036	C	Reagila

The Drug Tariff Sections



- Part VIID – Specials

Contractors should follow the requirements on record-keeping as set out in Part VIIB.

Product	Formulations covered in this part	Quantity	Basic price (pence)
Albendazole 400mg tablets	STD	1	1576
Benzbromarone 100mg tablets	STD, FF, LF, SF	30	1689
Biotin 5mg tablets	STD	30	3365
Bisacodyl 10mg/30ml enema	STD	■ 37ml	2423
Ciclosporin 0.05% eye drops 0.4ml unit dose preservative free	PF	■ 30	17817
Ciclosporin 0.2% eye ointment	STD	■ 3.5g	7062
Ciclosporin 0.2% eye ointment preservative free	PF	■ 3.5g	8789
Ciprofloxacin 0.3% ear drops	PF, STD	■ 10ml	5580
Clonazepam 2.5mg/ml drops	STD, SF, CF	■ 10ml	1089
Coal tar 10% ointment	All bases, STD	■ 100g	2269
Coal tar 5% ointment	All bases, STD	■ 100g	2293
Co-phenotrope 2.5mg/0.025mg tablets	STD, SF	20	4307
Co-proxamol 32.5mg/325mg tablets	STD	100	28639
Danazol 100mg capsules	STD, LF, SF, FF	100	19325
Flunarizine 10mg tablets	STD	30	11166
Flunarizine 5mg capsules	STD	50	20616

The Drug Tariff Sections

- Part XV – Borderline Substances
- “In certain conditions some foods and toilet preparations have characteristics of drugs and the Advisory Committee on Borderline Substances advises as to the circumstances in which such substances may be regarded as drugs.”

The Drug Tariff Sections

- Part XVIII A – The Blacklist
- Not to be ordered on an NHS Prescription [largely irrelevant due to GP Medical Systems]

Heart Shape Indigestion Tablets

Heath & Heather Feverfew Tablets

Heath & Heather Garlic Perles (Odourless)

Hedamol Capsules

Hedex Extra Caplets

Hedex Plus Capsules

Hedex Seltzer Granules

Hedex Soluble Granules

Hedex Tablets

Heinz Weight Watcher Baked Beans

Hemingways Catarrh Syrup

Hemoplex Injection

Hepacon B12 Injection

Hepacon B-Forte Injection

Hepacon Liver Extract Injection

Hepacon-Plex



Question
Time:

- Any questions?

