

Medicine prices in the State of Kuwait - addendum.

The following errors have been noted in the report and the calculations upon which it is based:

1. The MSH prices used were 2002, not 2003. (This was noticed soon after publication and has been amended in the electronic copy of the report).
2. Esidrex (hydrochlorothiazide) is identified as the innovator brand in the report but is really a generic product. No other hydrochlorothiazide products were observed in Kuwait during the survey and therefore this was in fact the 'lowest priced generic'. Private sector data is unaffected as hydrochlorothiazide was not found in any of the private pharmacies surveyed.
3. The MSH 2002 price used for ibuprofen tab/cap 200mg was incorrect (\$0.0067/tab instead of \$0.0050/tab).
4. The MSH 2002 price for loratadine tab/cap 10mg was incorrect (\$0.0920/tab, the MSH tender price, instead of \$0.0726/tab, the MSH supplier price).
5. The MSH 2002 price for insulin neutral 100U/ml was incorrect (\$0.4410/ml, the MSH tender price, instead of \$1.2301/ml, the MSH supplier price).

Performing new calculations with the amended data does not substantially alter summary MPRs and does not affect the conclusions drawn or recommendations made in the report.

Health Action International has been notified of these errors and have amended their database accordingly. It should be noted that these differences were noted after publication of the report *Price, availability and affordability: an international comparison of chronic disease medicines* by WHO/HAI [WHO-EM/EDB/068/E] which makes reference to innovator brand hydrochlorothiazide in Kuwait when in fact only a generic product was available.

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