

# PRICING AND REIMBURSEMENT POLICIES OF TURKEY AND UKRAINE

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## Introduction

Recently, the need for health services has increased gradually and the limitations in sources allocated for this area have been recognized. Moving from this fact, it has gained a supreme importance to determine what health programs or technologies will be given priority. According to Danzon (2001), arrangements towards controlling the expenses through price and profit controls, reimbursement methods and incentives have recently gained wide currency. Despite those were the main reasons of health reforms, there are also other reasons that are related to the improvements in social and health areas to lead to the generation of new reforms.

This study examines; current situation in Turkey and Ukraine, pharmaceutical pricing methods, reimbursement methods and basic health indicators within the scope of changing pharmaceutical policies in Turkey and Ukraine.

## Methodology

This study was conducted with a descriptive method. The main tool of the study is implemented regulations of pharmaceutical pricing and reimbursement in Turkey and Ukraine. Data sources consist of Guidelines of Health Authorities and web pages, related articles, reports, other guidelines and laws, directives and international reports such as PPRI.

## Results

### Comparison of Pricing Methods in Turkey, Ukraine and Certain Other Countries<sup>2</sup>

Country	Market	Direct Price Controls	Use of International Price Comparisons	Margin Controls	Reference Pricing
France	Original	Yes	Yes	No	No
	Generic	No	Yes	No	Yes
Greece	Original	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
	Generic	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Italy	Original	Yes	Yes	No	No
	Generic	No	Yes	No	Yes
Portugal	Original	Yes	Yes	No	No
	Generic	No	Yes	No	Yes
Spain	Original	Yes	Yes	No	No
	Generic	No	Yes	No	Yes
Ukraine	Original	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
	Generic	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Turkey	Original	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
	Generic	Yes	Yes	No	Yes

### Turkey and Ukraine Pricing Reimbursement Methods

Country	Turkey	Ukraine
Pricing Policy	Statutory Pricing	MoH, State Expert Centre of the MoH, State Administration on Medicinal products
Direct Price Controls	Originals	Medicines, which are purchased for the means of state budget
	Generics	
Reference Pricing	Yes	No
External Reference Pricing	Yes	No
Internal Reference Pricing	Yes	N/A
Different Pricing for Generics	Yes	Yes
Price Control	All Medicines	State inspection on prices
Level of Price Control	Manufacturer Price	Ex-factory level, wholesale and pharmacy level (Essential Medicines)
Reimbursement Categories	In General 41% and 28% Discount	Out-patient sector (groups of patients to whom medicines are dispensed free of charge, half-price and for 34 diseases)
Differences for Originals and Generics on Reimbursement Level	Yes	N/A
Negative Positive List	Yes	N/A
Decision Taking Committees	Reimbursement Commission of Social Security Institution (SSI)	MoH

## Conclusion

It was detected that the pharmaceutical pricing in Turkey has been performed on the basis of the reference pricing system that takes Italy, Portugal, Spain, Greece and France as reference. The regulations regarding the reimbursement process are determined by SSI. In Ukraine there is margin control only for the medicines that may be public purchased and are included in the National list of medicines and the list of medicines "On the procedure of procurement of medicines by health institutions financed from the public budget". Reimbursement method for in-patient sector was applied only for one pilot project on antihypertensive medicines in 2012. Since 2016 the reimbursement of insulins will be started. Due to the resolution of Cabinet of ministers of Ukraine "On reference pricing for medicines and medical products, purchased by the state and local budgets reference pricing was implemented for medicines, which are included in the list of medicines that have margin control and may be purchased within public budgets. Reference pricing is based on the international comparison with prices in mainly eastern Europe countries. But reference pricing is suspended since 1/07/2015 in Ukraine. Coverage of government was 13% of the Ukrainian pharmaceutical market The reimbursement system of Turkey has been changed numerous times and the discount rates has incrementally risen. Ukraine has just began implementing pricing and reimbursement for medicines. It is understand that Turkey has been done policies already but Ukraine has just began implementations. Our study shows impact of Turkish reforms and expected from Ukraine.

### References:

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