

## **Access to Hospital Pharmaceutical Markets in the United Kingdom**

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Public hospitals represent a very important market segment for most biopharmaceutical companies in Europe. They are often the only market for the increasing numbers of speciality products emerging from R&D, with many primary care products also unable to get established for maintenance therapy in the community without hospital recommendation first. Though the processes for achieving hospital usage are very different to the reimbursed GP/community pharmacy sector, they remain poorly documented and often little understood. This *Justpharmareports*' publication aims to clarify the situation for the UK, a particularly challenging country with four different public healthcare systems, numerous stakeholders, regular reforms, and rigorous health technology assessment.

Medicines prescribed in English hospitals alone in 2006 were valued at £2.7 billion (€3.4 billion/\$5.4 billion). This represented 24% of the English NHS drugs bill (but hospital prescribing in London accounted for 40% of all prescribing costs). Even more significantly, the hospital drug bill has been rising at more than twice the rate of GP prescribing costs.

**'Access to Hospital Pharmaceutical Markets in the UK'** provides:

- Comprehensive and clear information on how medicines for hospital use get selected, purchased, distributed, prescribed, dispensed and paid for.
- Separate sections on England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.
- Full coverage of the NHS plus two of the largest private providers.
- Explanation of tendering, contracting, contract adjudication and other aspects of procurement.
- Clarification of the DRG-type funding system, Payment by Results.
- Special focus on oncology.
- What discounts hospitals expect and why value-added tax is a concern.
- Features on risk-sharing schemes and on the boom in homecare services.
- NICE, the PPRS and much, much more.....

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