

MEDIXFACTS

Fall-Winter 2009

Volume 3, Issue 2

Call your customer
service rep at
1-800-486-1811

Major price reduction

Sumatriptan 25mg, 50mg, and 100mg tablets are available in 9 pill patient dose cards and as injectable patient dose kits and refills.

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PHARMEDIX CO. UNION CITY, CA.
1-800-486-1811.

More antibiotic shortages projected for winter

Due to FDA action against several of the main suppliers (including Ranbaxy, Aurobindo and Apotex) in the U.S. of certain anti-infectives, the price of these products will increase sharply. Currently, amoxicillin and cephalexin prices rose last spring but stabilized, but we now expect that ciprofloxacin and acyclovir prices will rise significantly. At Pharmedix, we have purchased a large quantity of both these products and are committed to keeping our prices on these products at our old price until our supply is exhausted.

◆
The price of Acetic Acid HC Otic Solution is now over \$120 !! (actually down from a high of \$230). We recommend taking this product off your formulary because of cost.

◆
The cost of Antipyrine/ Benzocaine 15mL recently increased to over \$10. The reason for this is it is no longer equivalent to the brand which has changed formulation and has added acetic acid.

Generic Ophthalmic Ointment Prices Skyrocket

Effective November 1st, the prices of most generic ophthalmic ointments increased drastically. This is due to the fact that one of the two major manufacturers of generic ophthalmic ointments, Fougera, has ceased making these products. Although Akorn Pharmaceuticals does produce a limited number of ophthalmic ointments, this action by Fougera leaves Bausch and Lomb as the only major manufacturer of generic ophthalmic ointments and therefore free to raise prices uncontested. Prices actually increased during the early summer, but *Pharmedix* purchased a large quantity of these products before the price increased and continued to sell these products at the old prices. However, our supply is now practically exhausted and we are now forced to raise prices on these products.

The following is a chart of generic ophthalmic ointments and their price range. Bacitracin and Polymyxin Ophthalmic Ointment is the only product whose price has remained stable since Fougera did not make this product. Because we expect spot shortages, prices will depend on product availability and/or which vendor we have to purchase the product from. Be aware that erythromycin ophthalmic ointment is already in short supply and will be so for the next 6-8 months. Orders will be limited to 5 units if available.

PRODUCT NAME	PRICE RANGE
Bacitracin Ophthalmic Ointment 3.5gm	\$ 5.00 to \$ 7.00
Bacitracin/Polymycin Ophthalmic Oint 3.5gm	\$ 6.00 to \$ 8.00
Erythromycin Ophthalmic Ointment 3.5gm	\$ 18.00 to \$21.00
Gentamicin Ophthalmic Ointment 3.5gm	\$ 15.00 to \$17.00
Sulfacetamide Ophthalmic Ointment 3.5gm	Discontinued
Triple Antibiotic Ophthalmic Ointment 3.5gm	\$ 30.00 to \$34.00

Call Pharmedix customer service for your current price or to switch to a different product. Be aware, however, that it is our understanding that Fougera has sold the rights to their discontinued products to

Ventolin-HFA now available from Pharmedix

Due to several requests for a lower priced albuterol-HFA inhaler, *Ventolin HFA brand* albuterol oral inhalers are now available from *Pharmedix*. This product comes in two sizes, a 200 and a 60 metered dose inhaler. However, be aware that this product is moisture sensitive and comes in a moisture-resistant overwrap. When exposed to air, moisture can enter the Ventolin-HFA product around the metering-valve gaskets and can eventually reduce the potency of albuterol. Therefore, once the Ventolin-HFA product is removed from the moisture-protective pouch, the 200 metered dose Ventolin-HFA inhaler is only good for **6 months**, while the 60 metered dose inhaler is only good for **12 months**. ProAir-HFA and Proventil-HFA oral inhalers do not have this moisture problem and have full 2 year expiration dates from the time of manufacturer. Please call customer services for current pricing on all three albuterol-HFA inhalers we currently carry at *Pharmedix*.