

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2011-2012, 30/31 May 2011

Question: E11- 529

OUTCOME 2: Access to Pharmaceutical Services

Topic: PRICE INCREASES – PHARMACEUTICAL BENEFITS PRICING AUTHORITY

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Senator Boyce asked:

As to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Pricing Authority, how many price increases have they recommended that have not been implemented. And could you give me, depending on how complicated it is what those eight are?

Answer:

As announced by the Minister for Health and Ageing on 25 February 2011, eight price increases recommended by the Pharmaceutical Benefits Pricing Authority, at its December 2010 meeting, were not agreed to by the Government.

The eight price increases not agreed are for the following medicines:

- erythromycin lactobionate (Erythrocin-IV®),
- acarbose (Glucobay®),
- erythromycin ethyl succinate (E-Mycin 200®, E.E.S. 200®, E-Mycin 400® and E.E.S. Granules®),
- glucose indicator - urine (Diastix®),
- hexamine hippurate (Hiprex®),
- neomycin sulfate (Neosulf®),
- pancreatic extract (Creon 10,000®, Creon 25,000® and Creon 40,000®), and
- sucralfate (Ulcyte® and Carafate®).