

24 February 2016

Via email: fyi-request-5293d2a8ad48@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Sam

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Thank you for your request dated 28 January 2017 under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) for information. You asked for:

- The top 100 dispensed drugs in New Zealand for 2016; and
- The top 100 most expensive drugs.

I have attached the information requested. Please note the following in relation to the data:

- The data provided is for the year ending 31 December 2016.
- The pharmaceutical costs provided exclude GST.
- Our contracts with suppliers may include a rebate on the cost of the pharmaceuticals. The costs we have provided here are the costs *before* any rebate is applied (meaning that the net cost paid may be lower).
- Only pharmaceuticals dispensed in the community, or from public hospitals for cancer treatment, have been included. We have not included other pharmaceuticals dispensed in public hospitals as we do not hold dispensing data.

I note that we have recently published our Year in Review 2016 on our website, [here](#). This includes additional data on subsidised pharmaceuticals and prescribing trends (for the year to June 2017) that you may be interested in.

We trust that this information meets your needs. If you have any further questions please feel free to contact us again.

Yours sincerely



Peter Alsop
Director, Engagement and Implementation

Top Medicines by dispensings, 2016		
Current ranking	Chemical_Name	Dispensings
1	Paracetamol	3,130,000
2	Metoprolol succinate	2,450,000
3	Aspirin	2,060,000
4	Omeprazole	2,030,000
5	Methadone hydrochloride	1,850,000
6	Atorvastatin	1,830,000
7	Salbutamol	1,310,000
8	Amoxicillin	1,290,000
9	Cilazapril	1,160,000
10	Ibuprofen	1,120,000
11	Colecalciferol	1,080,000
12	Zopiclone	1,060,000
13	Metformin hydrochloride	1,000,000
14	Simvastatin	990,000
15	Furosemide [Frusemide]	800,000
16	Prednisone	740,000
17	Amoxicillin with clavulanic acid	730,000
18	Quetiapine	730,000
19	Docusate sodium with sennosides	720,000
20	Levothyroxine	700,000
21	Felodipine	680,000
22	Influenza vaccine	680,000
23	Tramadol hydrochloride	650,000
24	Amitriptyline	650,000
25	Codeine phosphate	650,000
26	Allopurinol	640,000
27	Citalopram hydrobromide	630,000
28	Fluticasone with salmeterol	620,000
29	Loratadine	600,000
30	Venlafaxine	600,000
31	Fluticasone propionate	580,000
32	Quinapril	570,000
33	Diclofenac sodium	530,000
34	Blood glucose diagnostic test strip	520,000
35	Cetirizine hydrochloride	500,000
36	Amlodipine	490,000
37	Flucloxacillin	470,000
38	Morphine sulphate	470,000
39	Fluticasone	450,000
40	Fluoxetine hydrochloride	420,000
41	Candesartan cilexetil	410,000

42	Bendroflumethiazide [Bendrofluazide]	390,000
43	Paracetamol with codeine	390,000
44	Diltiazem hydrochloride	380,000
45	Nortriptyline hydrochloride	380,000
46	Gabapentin	370,000
47	Dabigatran	370,000
48	Diazepam	370,000
49	Doxazosin	360,000
50	Oxycodone hydrochloride	360,000
51	Sodium valproate	350,000
52	Budesonide with eformoterol	350,000
53	Pantoprazole	350,000
54	Cilazapril with hydrochlorothiazide	320,000
55	Olanzapine	310,000
56	Warfarin sodium	310,000
57	Vitamins	310,000
58	Folic acid	300,000
59	Clonazepam	290,000
60	Hydrocortisone butyrate	290,000
61	Doxycycline	290,000
62	Insulin glargine	280,000
63	Fusidic acid	280,000
64	Gliclazide	270,000
65	Lactulose	270,000
66	Lorazepam	270,000
67	Buprenorphine with naloxone	270,000
68	Losartan potassium	260,000
69	Nicotine	260,000
70	Chloramphenicol	260,000
71	Risperidone	260,000
72	Naproxen	260,000
73	Sertraline	260,000
74	Ethinylestradiol with levonorgestrel	250,000
75	Isosorbide mononitrate	250,000
76	Clopidogrel	240,000
77	Escitalopram	240,000
78	Bisoprolol fumarate	240,000
79	Rotavirus live reassortant oral vaccine	240,000
80	Hydrocortisone	220,000
81	Pneumococcal (PCV13) vaccine	220,000
82	Roxithromycin	210,000
83	Paroxetine	210,000
84	Hydrocortisone with miconazole	200,000
85	Clozapine	200,000

86	Ondansetron	200,000
87	Ferrous fumarate	200,000
88	Ezetimibe	190,000
89	Cetomacrogol with glycerol	190,000
90	Trimethoprim	190,000
91	Tiotropium bromide	190,000
92	Spironolactone	180,000
93	Clotrimazole	180,000
94	Digoxin	180,000
95	Erythromycin ethyl succinate	180,000
96	Hydrocortisone with natamycin and neomycin	180,000
97	Mirtazapine	170,000
98	Ferrous sulphate	170,000
99	Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, polio, hepatitis B and haemophilus influenzae type B vaccine	170,000
100	Ranitidine	160,000

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Top Medicines by expenditure		
Current ranking	Chemical_Name	Gross Cost (excluding GST and rebates)
1	Adalimumab	\$73,010,000
2	Dabigatran	\$45,000,000
3	Trastuzumab	\$36,110,000
4	Pneumococcal (PCV13) vaccine	\$31,900,000
5	Fluticasone with salmeterol	\$30,600,000
6	Etanercept	\$25,510,000
7	Insulin glargine	\$23,570,000
8	Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, polio, hepatitis B and haemophilus influenzae type B vaccine	\$21,650,000
9	Budesonide with eformoterol	\$18,230,000
10	Abiraterone acetate	\$17,900,000
11	Rituximab	\$17,220,000
12	Lenalidomide	\$16,680,000
13	Bortezomib	\$13,840,000
14	Blood glucose diagnostic test strip	\$13,150,000
15	Efavirenz with emtricitabine and tenofovir disoproxil fumarate	\$12,360,000
16	Epoetin alfa [Erythropoietin alfa]	\$12,100,000
17	Tiotropium bromide	\$11,770,000
18	Fingolimod	\$11,250,000
19	Octreotide LAR (somatostatin analogue)	\$10,840,000
20	Paliperidone	\$10,310,000
21	Lamotrigine	\$10,120,000
22	Sodium valproate	\$9,350,000
23	Dasatinib	\$9,240,000
24	Mesalazine	\$9,110,000
25	Human papillomavirus (6, 11, 16 and 18) vaccine [HPV]	\$9,060,000
26	Olanzapine	\$8,760,000
27	Rotavirus live reassortant oral vaccine	\$8,610,000
28	Emtricitabine with tenofovir disoproxil fumarate	\$8,090,000
29	Salbutamol	\$7,550,000
30	Varenicline tartrate	\$7,500,000
31	Venlafaxine	\$7,450,000
32	Zoledronic acid	\$7,300,000
33	Imatinib mesilate	\$7,220,000
34	Fluticasone	\$6,840,000
35	Metoprolol succinate	\$6,820,000
36	Entecavir	\$6,740,000
37	Leuprorelin	\$6,660,000
38	Insulin aspart	\$6,650,000
39	Atorvastatin	\$6,550,000
40	Pegfilgrastim	\$6,460,000

41	Amino acid formula	\$6,100,000
42	Influenza vaccine	\$6,090,000
43	Raltegravir potassium	\$5,740,000
44	Enoxaparin sodium	\$5,600,000
45	Risperidone	\$5,340,000
46	Tenofovir disoproxil fumarate	\$5,060,000
47	Aripiprazole	\$4,920,000
48	Methylphenidate hydrochloride extended-release	\$4,910,000
49	Solifenacin succinate	\$4,750,000
50	Unknown	\$4,730,000
51	Sunitinib	\$4,620,000
52	Paracetamol	\$4,470,000
53	Omeprazole	\$4,390,000
54	Total parenteral nutrition (TPN)	\$4,270,000
55	Tacrolimus	\$4,170,000
56	Nicotine	\$4,150,000
57	Ticagrelor	\$4,130,000
58	Ibuprofen	\$4,050,000
59	Goserelin	\$3,940,000
60	Gabapentin	\$3,890,000
61	Ciclosporin	\$3,810,000
62	Insulin aspart with insulin aspart protamine	\$3,800,000
63	Pembrolizumab	\$3,780,000
64	Insulin isophane with insulin neutral	\$3,700,000
65	Morphine sulphate	\$3,640,000
66	Oral feed (powder)	\$3,590,000
67	Pazopanib	\$3,490,000
68	Cilazapril	\$3,450,000
69	Flecainide acetate	\$3,410,000
70	Insulin isophane	\$3,340,000
71	Nilotinib	\$3,290,000
72	Insulin lispro	\$3,240,000
73	Warfarin sodium	\$3,240,000
74	Pancreatic enzyme	\$3,210,000
75	Insulin lispro with insulin lispro protamine	\$3,190,000
76	Levothyroxine	\$3,140,000
77	Levonorgestrel	\$3,130,000
78	Natalizumab	\$3,110,000
79	Betamethasone dipropionate with calcipotriol	\$3,110,000
80	Oxycodone hydrochloride	\$3,100,000
81	Levetiracetam	\$3,010,000
82	Alendronate sodium with colecalciferol	\$2,970,000
83	Azacitidine	\$2,880,000
84	Somatropin (Omnitrope)	\$2,690,000

85	Topiramate	\$2,670,000
86	Levodopa with carbidopa	\$2,660,000
87	Dimethyl fumarate	\$2,620,000
88	Adult diphtheria and tetanus vaccine	\$2,610,000
89	Buprenorphine with naloxone	\$2,580,000
90	Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis and polio vaccine	\$2,520,000
91	Carbamazepine	\$2,510,000
92	Nivolumab	\$2,500,000
93	Leflunomide	\$2,500,000
94	Apomorphine hydrochloride	\$2,480,000
95	Diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis vaccine	\$2,380,000
96	Felodipine	\$2,360,000
97	Aminoacid formula without phenylalanine	\$2,290,000
98	Cilazapril with hydrochlorothiazide	\$2,200,000
99	Quinapril	\$2,160,000
100	Amoxicillin with clavulanic acid	\$2,140,000

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