



Circular 003/24

28th March 2024

Dear Pharmacist,

As you are aware, the Minister for Health signed the Commencement Order for the Health (Pricing and Supply of Medical Goods) Act 2013 on 24 June 2013. In compliance with the legislation, please find set out below the reference prices effective 1st May 2024 for the groups of interchangeable medicinal products listed:

Product	Group	Price per 56*	Price per Tablet
Abiraterone Film Coated Tabs. 500 mg.	IC0123-117-003	€824.95	€14.7312

*Pro rata prices will apply for different pack sizes as appropriate

From 1st May 2024, the HSE will reimburse the notified reference price for the relevant interchangeable products detailed above unless informed by the pharmacist that the GP has stated 'Do Not Substitute' on any prescription presented for dispensing for any of the products in interchangeable groups.

Where a product is prescribed that is within one of the groups of interchangeable medicinal products, having completed the dispensing function, pharmacists are asked to record how the medical practitioner has prescribed by confirming one of the following:

- a) INN Prescribed
- b) Branded Generic Prescribed
- c) Proprietary Prescribed
- d) 'Do Not Substitute' invoked

If a patient presents with a valid paper or Healthmail prescription, 'Do Not Substitute' must be stated clearly on the prescription by the prescriber against the particular product. It is important for the pharmacy to ensure that a copy of the prescription is retained and made available to the PCRS as necessary for audit/review to validate any claim for extra costs arising.

Yours faithfully,

Shaun Flanagan,
Primary Care Reimbursement & Eligibility.