

PRESS RELEASE



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MEDICINES MARGINS SURVEY OUTCOMES

7 September 2009 – The Medicines Margins survey conducted by the Department of Health assesses the margin achieved by pharmacy contractors in the previous financial year. This year's survey disclosed that significant excess margin was achieved beyond the £500 million allowed. To account for this, from the 1st October, Cat M prices are to be reduced by 9.4 pence per item.

The Department of Health has also agreed substantial additional funding to provide for a number of one-off costs pharmacy contractors are facing, including preparing for EPS, information governance and business continuity planning.

Details of these arrangements will be finalised over the coming weeks.

~Ends~

Please note that PSNC is happy to provide quotable responses to any further questions you may have on this issue.

For a response to any such question, or for any further information please contact the PSNC press office on 0207 618 9187 or at psnc@luther.co.uk.

Notes to Editor

1. PSNC (The Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee) is the body that represents community pharmacies in England and Wales on NHS matters.