

Medicines

Procedure to be followed, rates of reimbursement of pharmaceutical products and special cases.

The joint sickness insurance scheme (JSIS) covers **3 types of pharmaceutical products**:

- proprietary substance which is registered as a medicinal product and has a marketing authorisation
- 'magistral formula', i.e. a product prepared for an individual patient in a pharmacy in accordance with a medical prescription, the components of which have been proved to be effective and safe
- homeopathic preparation, proprietary herbal remedy or mother tincture that has been scientifically proved to be effective and safe

Homeopathy: only tubes and granules of homeopathic strains with a commonly used name are reimbursable, in dilutions greater than or equal to 2 CH and 4DH. All other dilutions (including K dilutions) and other homeopathic medicines (including homeopathic preparations) are non-reimbursable.

[The list of reimbursable pharmaceutical products](#) is updated regularly to add new reimbursable products entering the market (marked with a "Y" in the last column of the table) and to remove products which no longer meet the reimbursable criteria laid down in the General Implementing Provisions (GIP).

Step 1: request prior authorisation

Check the [list of pharmaceutical products](#) (also available on [JSIS online](#)) to see if your pharmaceutical product is subject to [prior authorisation](#) **BEFORE buying it**.

If so, scan the **medical prescription** and load it into [JSIS online](#) along with your request for prior authorisation.

Step 2: claim reimbursement

If necessary, wait to receive authorisation from your settlements office. Then fill in a [request for reimbursement](#), and attach the **detailed invoice or pharmacist's receipt** ([See the tutorial](#) to attach the correct documents).

Send everything to your [settlements office](#).

Conditions for reimbursement

To be reimbursed, pharmaceutical products must have been:

- prescribed by a doctor (or if national legislation allows people with a qualification other than that of a doctor (e.g. a dentist, midwife, nurse, Heilpraktiker) to prescribe pharmaceutical products
- dispensed by a pharmacist, a doctor or any other approved body or system authorised to dispense medicines, no more than 6 months after being prescribed

Prior authorisation based on a **medical report** is required for the following products:

- slimming products
- anti-ageing hormonal treatment that is not justified by an objective hormonal deficiency
- growth hormones
- products used in the symptomatic treatment of male erectile disorders, when impotence is the result of a serious illness, accident or a prostate operation (ceiling: €400/year)
- narcotic drugs used during withdrawal treatment or substitution treatment for drug addicts
- for proprietary substances which are authorised for sale as pharmaceutical products but are used for a medical indication other than the recognised one (off-label use), for the same purposes as the products listed above (also applies to hair loss treatments)
- for certain dietary and hygiene products if they are deemed to be essential for survival. Such products are reimbursed even if they are not purchased in a pharmacy, from a doctor or from any other approved body or system authorised to dispense medicines. The products in question are:
 - special products for enteral or parenteral feeding, which qualify for reimbursement at the rate of 85%, or 100% in the case of serious illness
 - high-calorie or high-protein liquid nutrition prescribed after radiotherapy, chemotherapy or major surgery
 - special milk consisting of extensively hydrolysed semi-elemental formulas used in cases of prolonged diarrhoea associated with severe allergy to cow's milk or soya or in cases of anaphylactic shock, intestinal malabsorption or inflammatory bowel disease
 - special foods used in the treatment of metabolic diseases.
 - disinfection or hygiene products essential for the treatment of certain serious illnesses, such as nosocomial infections

Rates of reimbursement

Pharmaceutical products are reimbursed at a rate of 85% (100% in cases of serious illness).

Not reimbursable

The following products will not be reimbursed even if prescribed by a doctor:

- products for:
 - cosmetic purposes
 - hygienic purposes

- aesthetic purposes
- dietary purposes
- personal comfort
- tonic wines and beverages
- organotherapy product
- trace elements