

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:
 1. special products for enteral or parenteral feeding, which qualify for reimbursement at the rate of 85%, or 100% in the case of serious illness
 1. high-calorie or high-protein liquid nutrition prescribed after radiotherapy, chemotherapy or major surgery
 2. 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
 3. special foods used in the treatment of metabolic diseases.
 2. 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