PHARMACYCHECKER PRICE REPORT // JANUARY 2023

NEW YEAR, SAME PRESCRIPTION PRICE PREDICAMENT.

U.S. PHARMACY RETAIL PRICES 9 TIMES HIGHER THAN INTERNATIONAL ONLINE PHARMACY PRICES IN 2022

Price comparisons of the most searched-for prescription drugs on Pharmacychecker.com in 2022 showed patients can save an average of 78.35% off what they would pay out-of-pocket at their local U.S. pharmacy by opting to order internationally from PharmacyChecker-accredited online pharmacies.

Key Takeaways

- Fourteen out of the top 20 most-searched-for medications on PharmacyChecker.com in 2022 are sold internationally from PharmacyChecker-accredited online pharmacies, which are accessible to patients in the U.S.
 - Four drugs were generics not yet available in the U.S. at local pharmacies.
 - One drug, Ozempic, was not available for international order from PharmacyChecker-accredited online pharmacies (due to the PharmacyChecker Verification Program's strict policies on the shipping of products requiring refrigeration).
 - One drug, dextroamphetamine, was not available for international order due to the PharmacyChecker Verification Program policy to not grant accreditation to pharmacies that ship controlled substances internationally into the United States.
- Average U.S. pharmacy retail prices were on average 901.90% higher than international mail-order pharmacy prices.
- One drug out of the fifteen available for international mail order, Apoquel, was cheaper to purchase domestically.
- Four of the generics available on U.S. pharmacy shelves have manufacturing sources in India.
- Eighty-one percent of the surveyed medication sold in U.S. pharmacies is manufactured outside the U.S.





U.S. Pharmacy Retail vs. International Online Pharmacy Prices, 2023

*Source information on final page.

U.Ssold Medication	Manufacturing	Origin, 2023
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Drug Name	Manufacturing Origin
Tadalafil	India
Eliquis	Switzerland
Sildenafil	India
Xarelto	Germany
Apoquel	Switzerland
Apixaban	Generic not available in the U.S.
Jardiance	Italy
Rifaximin	Generic not available in the U.S.
Rybelsus	Denmark
Januvia	Italy; UK
Ozempic	Denmark
Vardenafil	India
Trelegy Ellipta	USA
Budesonide	India
Symbicort	France
Ivermectin	USA
Pimobendan	Generic not available in the U.S.
Acetaminophen*	UAE
Dextroamphetamine	USA
Domperidone	Generic not available in the U.S.

 $^{\ast}\mbox{Source}$ information on final page.

CHART: U.S. Pharmacy Retail vs. International Online Pharmacy Prices, 2023

Average International Price calculated based on data published on PharmacyChecker.com. Average U.S. Retail Price calculated using data published on GoodRx.com or Drugs.com. Price comparison infographic normalized to illustrate price comparisons across drug prices with vastly different scales. Pricing as written is accurate for per unit pricing in the United States vs. prices listed by international online pharmacies accredited and monitored through the PharmacyChecker Verification Program.

*We compared Symbicort (budesonide/formoterol) 160mcg/4.5mcg with the therapeutically equivalent, internationally marketed versions of budesonide/formoterol Vannair Aerosol (budesonide/formoterol) 200mcg/6mcg. Patients are advised to consult their prescriber to confirm therapeutic equivalence.

**Pimobendan is available for purchase from international online pharmacies. We compared its price with the brand Vetmedin (pimobendan) available for purchase in the U.S. from the popular pet medication website, Chewy.

[^]Paracetamol and acetaminophen are the same medication: C8H9NO2. We compared pricing of Paracetamol 500mg with Acetaminophen 325mg. The drug is called acetaminophen in the United States, Canada and Japan, and paracetamol in the UK, Europe, and most of the world in accordance with the International Nonproprietary Names system, coordinated by the World Health Organization.

CHART: U.S.-sold Medication Manufacturing Origin, 2023

Sources: Country of manufacture determined through the National Library of Medicine and FDA Labeling Package Insert drug information. Drug sample is based on the top 20 most-searched medications on PharmacyChecker.com in 2022.

PharmacyChecker Verification Program

PharmacyChecker.com was established in 2003 to help consumers find trustworthy online pharmacies. Eligible pharmacies may apply to the PharmacyChecker Verification Program in which their licensure is verified along with their standards of pharmacy practice. Through PharmacyChecker, these websites are then monitored for continued compliance with program standards. Accredited websites are authorized to publish the PharmacyChecker Seal, which signals to online consumers that a pharmacy website markets and sells prescription drugs dispensed only from licensed pharmacies in good standing in the countries where they are located.