

Measuring Medicine Prices, Availability, Affordability and Price Components (2nd Ed.)

Methodology Manual | May 2016 | [Download](#)

Governments need reliable information on the price, availability and affordability of medicines to develop sound medicine pricing policies and to evaluate the impact of policy implementation. To help researchers collect this information in their countries, Health Action International offers a free standardised methodology. The WHO/HAI medicine price, availability and affordability survey methodology can be downloaded for free below.

In an effort to improve transparency, we also publish data from surveys on our publicly accessible [database](#).

For more information about the methodology, contact [Marg Ewen](#). To request a hard copy, [email](#) the World Health Organization's Essential Medicines and Health Products department.

Update to the manual (May 2016):

(1) In the global core list of survey medicines, atenolol 50mg tab/cap has been replaced by bisoprolol 5mg tab/cap, and glibenclamide 5mg tab/cap has been replaced by metformin 500mg tab/cap.

(2) The regional lists have been removed. The 50 survey medicines consist of 14 from the global core list and 36 chosen by the national

investigator.

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Electronic Workbooks

Part 1: Prices, availability and affordability ([Multi-language](#))

Note:

(1) Regional core lists of survey medicines have been removed from the workbook. The 50 survey medicines consist of 14 from the global core list and 36 chosen by the national investigator.

(2) To survey three product types for each medicine (e.g., originator brand, highest-priced generic equivalent or most-sold generic equivalent, and lowest-priced generic equivalent), email [Marg Ewen](#) at Health Action International to request an expanded workbook that accommodates three product types

Part 2: Price components ([Multi-language](#))

Download Manual by Sections

Table of Contents, Abbreviations, Foreword and Acknowledgements



Chapter 1: Introduction



Chapter 2: Survey Overview and Pre-survey Planning



Supporting materials:

- Abridged questionnaire on structures and processes of country pharmaceutical situation, Annex 1
([EN](#) | [RU](#) | [FR](#) and [ES](#) available in Annexes below)
 - Example of a letter of endorsement, Annex 2
([EN](#) | [RU](#) | [FR](#) and [ES](#) available in Annexes below)
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Chapter 3: Preparation



Supporting materials:

- Survey protocol template ([EN](#))
- Measuring medicine prices and availability in the non-formal health sector ([EN](#))
- Using the WHO/HAI medicine price methodology to survey a therapeutic group of medicines ([EN](#) | [ES](#) | [RU](#))

- Medicine lists from other surveys:
 - Priority life-saving medicines for women and children ([EN](#))
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Chapter 4: Training Area Supervisors, Data Collectors and Data Entry



Supporting Materials:
Sample presentations

- Introduction to the survey and training workshop ([EN](#) | [ES](#) | [RU](#))
- Overview of the survey methodology ([EN](#) | [ES](#) | [RU](#))
- Data collection procedures ([EN](#) | [ES](#) | [RU](#))
- Completing the data collection form ([EN](#) | [ES](#) | [RU](#))
- Data entry ([EN](#) | [ES](#) | [RU](#))
- Data quality and checking ([EN](#) | [ES](#) | [RU](#))

Handouts

- Instructions for area supervisors ([EN](#) | [FR](#) | [ES](#) | [RU](#))
- Instructions for data collectors ([EN](#) | [FR](#) | [ES](#) | [RU](#))
- Instructions for completing the Medicine Price Data Collection Form ([EN](#) | [FR](#) | [ES](#) | [RU](#))

Exercises

- Spot the mistakes exercise ([EN](#) | [FR](#) | [ES](#) | [RU](#)) and answer key ([EN](#) | [FR](#) | [ES](#) | [RU](#))
 - Data checker exercise ([Multi-language](#))
 - Sample training evaluation form ([EN](#) | [FR](#) | [ES](#) | [RU](#))
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Chapter 5: Preparing for Data Collection in the Field



Supporting materials:

- Letter of introduction from survey manager, Annex 4 ([EN](#) | [RU](#) | FR and ES available in Annexes below)
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Chapter 6: Data Collection in the Field



Chapter 7: Data Entry



Chapter 8: Data Analysis and Interpretation



Chapter 9: Measuring Price Components



Supporting materials:

- Price components interview guide, Annex 6 ([EN](#) | [RU](#) | FR and ES available in Annexes below)
- Price components data collection form, Annex 7 ([EN](#) | [RU](#) | FR and ES available in Annexes below)

Chapter 10: International Comparisons



Chapter 11: Exploring Possible Policy Options and Lines of Action



Supporting materials:

- Simulated client approach to explore which medicines are sold and prices clients pay ([EN](#) | [ES](#) | [RU](#))

Chapter 12: Reporting



Supporting materials:

- Survey report template instructions ([EN](#) | [ES](#) | [RU](#))

Chapter 13: Using the Evidence and Getting the Messages Out



Supporting materials:

- Hovland, I. Successful Communication A Toolkit for Researchers and Civil Society Organisations. London: ODI, 2005 ([EN](#))
 - Chetley A, Hardon A, Hodgkin C, Haaland A, Fresle D. How to improve the use of medicines by consumers. Geneva: WHO; 2007 ([EN](#))
 - Hardon A, Hodgkin C, Fresle D. How to investigate the use of medicines by consumers. Geneva: WHO and the University of Amsterdam; 2004 ([EN](#))
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Chapter 14: Monitoring Medicine Prices and Availability



Supporting materials:

- Guidance on setting up a national price monitoring system ([EN](#) | [RU](#))
 - Monitoring report example ([EN](#))
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Chapter 15: Next Steps in the WHO/HAI Project on Medicine Prices



Annexes



1. Abridged questionnaire on structures and processes of country pharmaceutical situations
 2. Example of a letter of endorsement
 3. Trainer's guide for training area supervisors, data collectors and data entry personnel
 4. Example of a letter of introduction from the survey manager
 5. Checklist for manual check of survey data
 6. Price components interview guide
 7. Price components data collection form
 8. International comparison of MPRs: adjustment for reference price year, inflation /deflation and purchasing power parity
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Glossary



Updates to Manual and Workbooks ([EN](#))

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