

SRI LANKA

The pilot survey in Sri Lanka was conducted in September and October of 2001. The geographic regions included in the survey were the Sri Lankan capital Colombo, as well as the administrative districts Kegalle, Matale, and Moneragala. Kegalle is an urban district, Moneragala rural and Matale semi urban. Data are available from 43 for-profit pharmacies. These include retail pharmacies managed by the private and public sectors. The State Pharmaceutical Corporation, a public sector institution, in addition to being the sole importer of drugs to all public sector health facilities in Sri Lanka, has established for-profit retail outlets and competes with the private sector. This is the major reason why retail prices in Sri Lanka are relatively low. No other sector was surveyed, as there is no private non-profit sector, and medicines are provided in public sector health facilities at no charge. The Sri Lanka survey used an earlier WHO/HAI methodology for collecting data on the "lowest priced generic" that has since been abandoned. Therefore, data on retail "lowest priced generic" medicines in Sri Lanka have not been posted on this website.