

## **SUMMARY OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH PRESS RELEASE**

April 4, 2012

A press release was issued by the Ministry of Health and Social Solidarity regarding prescribing on the base of the 10 first active ingredients starting on Monday, April 9.

Physicians must prescribe both the active ingredient as well as the brand name of the medicinal product they choose. On Monday, April 9 the official new prices of the medicines corresponding to the 10 active ingredients will be uploaded on the EOPYY and EOF websites. Thus physicians will be able to prescribe the medicinal product with the lowest price or the medicine preferred by the patient.

The patient can choose a more expensive medicine of the same therapeutic category and of the same active ingredient covering the difference between the price of the medicine and the reference price.

The implementation of the new system is effective gradually with the view so as to permit stakeholders and especially physicians to familiarize themselves with active ingredients and therefore with generics since up to now they prescribed only on the basis of the brand name of the medicine.