

Review of Activities of Estonian Pharmacies in 2005

On 1 January 2005 there were 480 retail pharmacies (incl. branch pharmacies), 29 hospital pharmacies and 23 veterinary pharmacies in Estonia. During the year, 14 retail pharmacies were liquidated and 58 new retail pharmacies were established.

At the end of 2005 there were 328 retail pharmacies together with 196 branch pharmacies (total 524) in Estonia; one third of the main pharmacies were located in Tallinn and Tartu. On an average, there was one retail point of sale of medicinal products per 2572 people in Estonia in 2005.

The total turnover of all the pharmacies in 2005 was EUR 192.31 million. Of that sum, the turnover of retail pharmacies constituted 82 % or EUR 158.05 million, that of hospital pharmacies constituted 17 % or EUR 32.66 million, and the veterinary pharmacies accounted for the smallest share – EUR 1.59 million or less than 1%.

Compared to the results of the year 2004, the total turnover of retail pharmacies increased by 7 % in 2005, that of hospital pharmacies by 8 % and diminished in veterinary pharmacies by 11%.

The turnover of medicinal products was EUR 148.53 or 77% of the total turnover of all the pharmacies.

The average turnover of a retail pharmacy was EUR 0.5 million in 2005. A year before, it was EUR 0.48 million (increase by 4 %). The difference in the annual turnovers of the smallest and the biggest retail pharmacies is huge.

A little more than half of the retail pharmacies prepared some of their medicinal products themselves in 2005.

At the end of 2005, Estonian retail pharmacies employed 787 registered pharmacists, 562 assistant pharmacists and 533 people in other positions. On the average, a retail pharmacy (branch pharmacies included) employs 3 people (1 registered pharmacist, 1 assistant pharmacist and 1 person in other position).

Most of the personnel of the hospital pharmacies are registered pharmacists. In 2005, the hospital pharmacies employed 66 registered pharmacists, 29 assistant pharmacists and 36 people in other positions. On the average, a hospital pharmacy employs 4 people, of those, 2 registered pharmacists, 1 assistant pharmacist and 1 person in other position.

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