

Overview of the activities of Estonian pharmacies in 2010

The State Agency of Medicines compiles data of the activities of the pharmacies based on the quarterly reports of all the pharmacies in Estonia. Based on the type of their operation pharmacies may be divided into three categories: general pharmacies, hospital pharmacies and veterinary pharmacies.

At the beginning of 2011 there were 477 general pharmacies (including 175 structural units), 26 hospital pharmacies (including 3 structural units) and 7 veterinary pharmacies (including 1 structural unit) in Estonia. 35% of the general pharmacies were situated in bigger cities – Tallinn and Tartu. Eight out of the 26 hospital pharmacies were situated in Tallinn, 3 in Harju County, 3 in Eastern Viru County and 2 in Tartu County. Each of the other counties had only 1 hospital pharmacy, with the exception of Valga and Võru Counties which had no hospital pharmacies.

The total turnover of all the active pharmacies and their structural units in 2010 was 297 million EUR, of that, the turnover of general pharmacies constituted approximately 235 million EUR (79%), the turnover of hospital pharmacies was 61 million EUR (20%) and the veterinary pharmacies had the smallest share in the total turnover – 1,1 million EUR which was less than 1% out of the total turnover. Compared to the results of the year 2009 the turnover of the general pharmacies remained at the same level, the turnover of the hospital pharmacies increased 5% and the turnover of veterinary pharmacies decreased 2%.

The average turnover of general pharmacies was 0,78 million EUR and the average turnover of medicinal products of general pharmacies was 0,63 million EUR in 2010. The turnover of hospital pharmacies was very different: the total turnover of hospital pharmacies was mostly under 1 million EUR, only the four biggest hospital pharmacies had the total turnover more than 5 million EUR in 2010. The average turnover of all the hospital pharmacies was 2,6 million EUR in 2010. The average turnover of veterinary pharmacies was 0,19 million EUR in 2010, which remained approximately at the same level of the year 2007.

The total turnover of pharmacies is made up of the sale of medicinal products and other goods (medical devices, food supplements, herbal products, cosmetics and others). The total turnover of medicinal products of all the active pharmacies was 230 million EUR which was 77% from the total turnover. The turnover of medicinal products was 81% (189 million EUR) of total turnover in general pharmacies, 66% (40 million EUR) of total turnover in hospital pharmacies and 46% (0,5 million EUR) of total turnover in veterinary pharmacies.

The total medicinal products expenditure was 172 EUR per person in 2010. Every inhabitant of Estonia spent an average of 6 EUR per month on medicinal products. During the year each inhabitant's own expenditure on medicines was over 72 EUR which was 43% of the total expenditure of medicinal products.

There was an average 1 general pharmacy (or structural unit) per 2757 inhabitants in 2010 in Estonia.

At the end of 2010 there were 844 registered pharmacists, 614 assistant pharmacists, 13 veterinarians and 443 other employees in all the pharmacies in Estonia.