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*Conflict of interest: none declared*

**Self-test questions**

*The following statements are either true or false (answers on page 151)*

7. Postoperative patients' basal energy requirements reduce while they are immobile in bed.
8. Poor dentition is a risk factor for undernutrition.

## Top 10 drugs

These tables show the top 10 subsidised drugs in 2002–03. The tables do not include private prescriptions.

Table 1

**Top 10 drugs by defined daily dose/thousand population/day \***

Drug	PBS/RPBS †
1. atorvastatin	66.021
2. simvastatin	43.469
3. diltiazem hydrochloride	41.072
4. ramipril	26.292
5. omeprazole	22.6
6. rofecoxib	20.614
7. salbutamol	20.433
8. frusemide	19.44
9. irbesartan	18.067
10. irbesartan with hydrochlorothiazide	17.628

Table 2

**Top 10 drugs by prescription counts**

Drug	PBS/RPBS †
1. atorvastatin	6,201,212
2. simvastatin	5,459,490
3. omeprazole	4,663,100
4. paracetamol	4,635,415
5. celecoxib	3,533,718
6. salbutamol	3,316,135
7. irbesartan	3,073,008
8. atenolol	2,968,624
9. rofecoxib	2,928,032
10. codeine with paracetamol	2,717,636

Table 3

**Top 10 drugs by cost to government**

Drug	PBS/RPBS † DDD/1000/day	PBS/RPBS scripts	Cost to government (\$A)
1. atorvastatin	66.021	6,201,212	335,848,732
2. simvastatin	43.469	5,459,490	319,422,899
3. omeprazole	22.6	4,663,100	206,516,360
4. salmeterol and fluticasone	–	2,490,246	154,529,922
5. olanzapine	2.835	689,321	144,494,201
6. pravastatin	12.587	1,955,495	113,036,241
7. clopidogrel	4.883	1,218,762	96,996,332
8. celecoxib	15.756	3,533,718	94,697,313
9. rofecoxib	20.614	2,928,032	90,538,887
10. pantoprazole	8.809	2,008,266	85,609,475

\* The defined daily dose (DDD)/thousand population/day is a more useful measure of drug utilisation than prescription counts. It shows how many people, in every thousand Australians, are taking the standard dose of a drug every day.

† PBS Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme, RPBS Repatriation Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme

Source: Drug Utilisation Sub-Committee (DUSC): Drug Utilisation Database © Commonwealth of Australia