

# Law No. 7 of 1990 on the Regulation of Pricing of Medical Drugs and Pharmaceutical Preparations and the Control of Prices 7 / 1990

Number of Articles: 16

Stars icon indicate that some articles are amended

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We, Khalifa bin Hamad Al-Thani, Emir of the State of Qatar;  
Having perused the Amended Provisional Constitution, in particular Articles 23, 34, and 51 thereof;  
Decree-Law No. 4 of 1966 controlling the prices of medicines as amended by Decree-Law No. 16 of 1966;  
Law No. 5 of 1970 determining the powers of ministers, and the functions of the ministries and other governmental organs as amended;  
The Penal Code of Qatar No. 14 of 1971, as amended,  
The Criminal Procedure Law No. 15 of 1971, as amended,  
Law No. 12 of 1972 concerning compulsory pricing and determination of profits, as amended,  
Law No. 3 of 1983 regulating the pharmaceutical profession and the work of intermediaries and agents of pharmaceutical factories and companies;  
Law No. 1 of 1986 on the registration of pharmaceutical companies and their products,  
Law No. 9 of 1987 Controlling Narcotic Drugs and Dangerous Psychotropic Substances and Regulating their Use and Trade,  
Resolution No. 4 of 1966 implementing Decree Law No. 4 of 1966 referred to above, as amended by Resolution No. 20 of 1966,  
Resolution No. 4 of 1986 by the Minister of Public Health establishing a Standing Committee for registration of pharmaceutical companies and their products, determining its functions and work system,  
The proposal of the Minister of Public Health,  
The draft Law submitted by the Council of Ministers; and  
After consultation with the Shura Council;  
Hereby promulgate the following:

## Part 1: Definitions

### Article 1

In the application of the provisions of this Law, the following words and expressions shall have the meanings assigned to each, unless the context requires otherwise:

"Ministry" means the Ministry of Public Health.

"Minister" means Minister of Public Health.

"Committee" means the standing Committee for the determination of prices for medicines and pharmaceutical preparations stipulated in Article 3 of this Law.

"Licensed pharmacist" means any pharmacist listed in the schedule of pharmacists at the Ministry who has been authorized to practise the profession of pharmacy in accordance with the provisions of Law No. 3 of 1983.

"Public pharmacy" means the pharmacy authorized to be established in accordance with the provisions of Law No. 3 of 1983 and which is designated for sale to the public.

"Medicine or pharmaceutical preparation" means any preparation that contains one or more substances that have medicinal properties for the treatment of illnesses in humans or animals, the prevention thereof or for use in any medicinal purpose like purifying the environment of germs and which is allowed to be traded within the State.

"Import costs of medicines and pharmaceutical preparations" means the total of the following expenses:

(a) Original price of the medicine or pharmaceutical preparation.

(b) Cost of insurance of the goods.

(c) Cost of transport to the arrival port in the State of Qatar.

(d) Customs duties

(e) Discharge expenses besides those related to demurrage charges.

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**Part 2: Pricing Regulation**

**Article 2**

The Ministry of Public Health shall be solely and exclusively responsible for determining the prices of medicines and pharmaceutical preparations and the control thereof as set out in the provisions of this Law.

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**Article 3**

A standing committee (hereinafter referred to as “the Committee ”) shall be formed at the Ministry to determine the prices of medicines and pharmaceutical preparations licensed to be traded. A resolution by the Minister shall be issued for the formation of such Committee and to determine its terms of reference and system of operation. The resolution shall specify the conditions, details and documents that must be found to determine the prices of medicines and pharmaceutical preparations

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**Article 4 (Amended By Law 1/1999)**

The Committee shall fix the prices for the sale of medicines and pharmaceutical preparations to the public by adding 40% to the import costs, of which the importer, whether agent, broker or import license-holder, shall receive 10% and the retailer shall receive 30%.

The fixing of prices shall only be valid after the final approval thereof by the Minister.

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**Article 5**

The rate of the value of the foreign currency conversion shall be determined in accordance with the table issued by the Minister based on the prices approved by the Qatar Monetary Agency.

The conversion rates may be reviewed whenever there is a change in the price of foreign currencies in the Qatar Monetary Agency by a percentage determined by the Minister.

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**Article 6**

The Committee shall prepare lists of the selling prices to the public for all medicines and pharmaceutical preparations that have been approved. These lists shall be distributed to all pharmacies, drug stores and depositories and shall be published in the *Official Gazette*.

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**Part 3: General and Final Provisions**

**Article 7**

The pharmaceutical companies registered in the State under the provisions of Law No. 1 of 1986 shall print the selling price to the public for each drug or pharmaceutical preparation on the outside cover in both Arabic and English and in clear font. In place of printing, a sticker containing the same details could be affixed.

## Article 8

Owners and managers of pharmacies, drug stores and depositories shall not be permitted to purchase, hold or sell any medicine or pharmaceutical preparation that does not carry the details set forth in the preceding article.

## Article 9

The importer of medicines and pharmaceutical preparations must maintain special journals to record the quantities thereof incoming to the institution, the date they arrived, the quantities dispensed, the party to whom it was dispensed, and the date of dispensing, together with keeping lists and invoices related to the import or the dispensing in a special file, in accordance with the conditions and procedures established by a resolution of the Minister.

## Article 10

Without prejudice to any more severe sanction provided for by another law, a sanction of imprisonment for not less than one month and not exceeding one year, and a fine of not less than ten thousand riyals and not more than fifteen thousand riyals, or either of these sanctions, shall be imposed on:

1 - Any person who sells or offers for sale a medicine or pharmaceutical preparation at a price higher than its official fixed price, refuses to sell at this price or imposes on the buyer to purchase another medicine or pharmaceutical preparation along with it.

2 - Any person who commits any other violation of the provisions of this Law or the resolutions issued in implementation thereof.

A judgement of closure for not more than one month may be passed.

In case of repetition, the minimum and maximum limits for the sanctions shall be doubled and the judgement of closure shall be for a period not less than two months.

In all cases judgement must be passed for the confiscation of the medicine or pharmaceutical preparation that was the subject matter of the crime.

## Article 11

The owner of the pharmacy, drug store or depository shall be responsible, together with the manager or administrator thereof, for any occurrence of violations of the provisions of this Law or the resolutions that give effect to it and the sanctions set for the same shall be imposed on him.

If it is established that, due to absence or impossibility of control, he was unable to prevent the occurrence of the violation, the sanction shall be limited to the fine set forth in the preceding article.

## Article 12

The members of the standing Committee for the determination of prices for medicines and pharmaceutical preparations, and those delegated by the Minister by means of a resolution, each within the scope of its terms of reference, shall have the capacity of law enforcement officers to establish any violations of the provisions of this law and the resolutions that give effect to it.

They shall have, at any time, the right of access to the places specified therein, to inspect the same, and to examine the commercial registers, journals

and other documents, invoices, papers, medicines and pharmaceutical preparations to verify the implementation of the provisions of this law and the resolutions that give effect to it.

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### Article 13

Without prejudice to any more severe sanction provided for by another law, a sanction of imprisonment not exceeding three years, and a fine of not more than ten thousand riyals, or either of these sanctions, shall be imposed on any person who assaults any of the employees referred to in the previous article or offers resistance to him with violence or threat, whilst he is discharging his function or on account of the discharge thereof, and any person who prevents or hampers the implementation of any procedures ordered by the relevant authorities pursuant to the provisions of this Law and the resolutions issued to give effect to it.

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### Article 14

The Minister shall issue the resolutions necessary for the implementation of the provisions of this law which are in line with its provisions and which achieve its objectives.

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### Article 15

The Decree-Law No. 4 of 1966 with respect to the Control of Prices of Medicinal Drugs amended by the Decree-Law No. 16 of 1966 and any provision that contradicts the provisions of this law shall be repealed.

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### Article 16

All competent departments, each within their jurisdiction, shall enforce this Law which shall be published in the *Official Gazette*.

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