## Social Security Institution announcement on imported supply of pharmaceuticals

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On 7 January 2020, the Social Security Institution (SSI) published an *announcement* (Turkish language) on the procurement of pharmaceuticals from abroad by Ibn-i Sina Health and Social Security Centre (Ibn-i Sina). The announcement required that all bids from manufacturers, authorised firms, intermediary firms and pharmaceutical warehouses for the supply of certain specified pharmaceuticals or their generics to Ibn-i Sina be conveyed to the SSI by 24 January 2020. The corresponding prices were not to exceed the prices in the list attached to the announcement.

By way of background, the SSI explained in its announcement that it reimburses non-approved or unavailable pharmaceuticals that are deemed necessary for patients are reimbursed by SSI itself. Those pharmaceuticals are supplied by the Turkish Pharmacists' Association (TEB) within the scope of the Protocol between TEB and SSI and by Ibn-i Sina Health and Social Security Center as per the Guidelines on the Supply from Abroad and the Use of Pharmaceuticals. SSI previously announced on 29 June 2018 and 28 November 2018 that offers related to drugs supplied or planned to be supplied by the SSI should be conveyed to the SSI.