

## Price cuts save R242 million for government

The South African government has managed to save R242 million or 18% by securing discounts from suppliers of antibiotics and tuberculosis drugs over the past two years according to Health Minister Aaron Motsoaledi, reports *Business Day*.



In an article published in today, Motsoaledi claims that the Department of Health's knowledge of the pharmaceutical industry had contributed to the significant savings.

He says the department established a reference price list so that bids from local pharmaceutical companies could be compared with international transaction prices agreed by the World Health Organisation.

According to the *Business Day* report, Aspen Pharmacare won 28,8% of the tuberculosis drug tender and 21% of the antibiotics tender while Sanofi-Aventis won 53% of the tuberculosis drug tender. The biggest slice of the antibiotics tender of 22,4% was awarded to Dezzo Trading.

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