

Lubricants listed in the Drug Tariff (England and Wales) and BNF

NOTE – Some multidose products have an extended shelf life (i.e. over 28 days), therefore in theory, they may be cheaper overall than products that have to be discarded after 28 days. However ophthalmologists need to be assured that these products will maintain low levels of bacterial growth during use. Registered appliances are generally tested against BS EN ISO 14730 rather than standards in European pharmacopoeia. The prices quoted in the table are have been taken from the BNF (September 2015) or the Drug Tariff (September 2015).

Brand	Manufacturer	Strength available	Preservative-free	Medicine or device	Preparation	Cost To primary care	Comments
Carbomer							
Artelac nighttime gel®	Bausch & Lomb (B & L)	0.2 %	No	Device	10g	£2.96	Contains lipids Cetrimide preservative
Carbomer	Blumont Pharma Ltd	0.2%	No	Device	10g	£2.80	Cetrimide preservative
Carbomer	Medicom Healthcare	0.2%	No	Device	10g	£2.80	Cetrimide preservative
Clinitas® carbomer gel	Altacor	0.2%	No	Device	10g	£1.49	Cetrimide preservative
EyeGel	Farmigea	0.2%	No	Device	10g	£2.80	Cetrimide preservative
Gel tears®	B & L	0.2%	No	Medicine	10g	£2.80	Benzalkonium chloride (BAK) preservative
Liquivisc®	Spectrum Thea	0.25%	No	Medicine	10g	£4.50	Benzalkonium chloride (BAK) preservative
Lumecare® carbomer eye gel	Medicom Healthcare	0.2%	No	Device	10g	£2.10	Cetrimide preservative
Viscotears®	Alcon	0.2%	Yes and preserved	Medicine	30 x 0.6ml 10g	£2.94 £1.59	Cetrimide preservative
Xailin gel®	Nicox	0.2%	No but disperses in eye	Device	10g	£3.25	Sodium Perborate breaks down to water and oxygen on contact with the eye

Carmellose							
Carmellose	Alissa Healthcare	0.5%	Yes and preserved multi-dose	Device	30 x 0.4ml 10ml	£5.75 £7.49	
Carmellose	Medicom Healthcare	0.5%	Yes	Device	30 x 0.4ml	£5.75	
Carmellose preservative-free multidose	Moorfields Pharmaceuticals	1% and 0.5%	Yes	Device	10ml	£7.49	
Carmize®	Aspire Pharma	0.5% and 1%	Yes and preserved multidose	Device	30 x 0.4ml 10ml	£5.75 for 0.5% and £3 for 1% £7.49 10ml	
Cellusan® and Cellusan® light	Farmagea	0.5% and 1%	Yes	Device	30 x 0.4ml	£3.00 and £5.75 (light)	
Celluvisc	Allergan	0.5% and 1%	Yes	Medicine	30 x 0.4ml	£4.80 0.5% and £3.00 1%	
Lumecare advance carmellose	Medicom Healthcare	0.5%	Yes and preserved	Device	10ml 30 x 0.4ml	£5.99 £4.60	10ml has stabilized oxychloro complex which disintegrates on contact with the eye
Melophthal 0.5% and 1%®	Martindale Pharma	0.5% and 1%	Yes	Device	30 x 0.4ml	£5.75 for 0.5% and £3 for 1%	
Optive®	Allergan	0.5%	No	Device	10ml	£7.49	Preserved with Purite®, which disintegrates on contact with the eye. Manufacturer claims has osmoprotection function and in-use expiry 6 months when opened
Optive plus®	Allergan	0.5%	No	Device	10ml	£7.49	Preserved with Purite® and manufacturer claims osmoprotection function. Also contains castor oil as an aid to restore lipid content of tears

Xalin® fresh	Nicox	0.5%	Yes	Device	30 x 0.4ml	£3.84	
--------------	-------	------	-----	--------	------------	-------	--

Hydroxyethylcellulose							
Artificial tears®	B & L	0.44%	Yes	Medicine	20 x 0.5%	£8.84	Contains sodium chloride
Hydroxypropyl Guar							
Systane®	Alcon		Yes and preserved	Device	10ml and 28 x 0.8ml	£4.66 for both products	Contains polyquad. Both products contain borate. Claim preserved product lasts 6 months when opened
Systane gel drops®	Alcon		No	Device	10ml	£7.49	Contains polyquad (3 months in-use expiry)
Systane Ultra®	Alcon		Yes and preserved	Device	30 x 0.7ml and 10ml bottle	£6.69 for both products	Multidose contains polyquad (6 month in-use expiry) and both products contain borate
Systane balance®	Alcon		No	Device	10ml	£7.49	Contains polyquad and borate (6 months in-use expiry) Has LipiTech system claimed to help meibomian gland dysfunction
Hypromellose							
Artelac®	Pharma-global	0.32%	Yes and preserved	Medicine	30 x 0.5ml 10ml	£16.95 £4.99	Contains disodium phosphate dodecahydrate and sodium dihydrogen phosphate Cetrimide preservative
Hydromoor®	Moorfields	0.3%	Yes	Device	30 x 0.4ml	£5.75	
Hypromellose	Various	0.3%	No	Medicine	10ml	£1.17	Benzalkonium chloride (BAK) preservative
Hypromellose	Moorfields	0.3%	Yes and multidose	Device	10ml	£5.75	
Hypromellose	Alissa Healthcare	0.3%	Yes	Device	10ml	£5.75	
Hypromol	Ennogen Healthcare Ltd	0.3%	Yes	Device	10ml	£4.55	
Isopto alkaline®	Alcon	1%	No	Medicine	10ml	£0.94	Benzalkonium chloride (BAK) preservative

Isopto plain®	Alcon	0.5%	No	Medicine	10ml	£0.81	Benzalkonium chloride (BAK) preservative
Lumecare® hypromellose Lumecare singles hypromellose	Medicom Heathcare	0.3%	Yes and preserved	Device	30 x 0.5ml	£4.60 preservative- free £1.67 preserved	
Mandanol	M & A Pharmachem Ltd.	0.3%	No	Device	10ml	£1.33	
Preservative-free hypromellose drops	Moorfields Pharmaceuticals	0.3%	Yes	Device	10ml	£5.75	
Soft drops	Farmigea	0.3%	Yes and preserved	Device	30 x 0.5ml 10ml	£1.67 £5.75	
Tear-lac hypromellose®	Scope	0.3%	Yes	Device	10ml	£5.75	COMOD bottle also phosphate-free (6 month in-use expiry)
Tears Naturale®	Alcon		Yes and preserved	Medicine	15ml 28 x 0.4ml	£1.89 £13.26	Also contains Dextran Preserved contains benzalkonium chloride (BAK)
Soft drops	Ajanta Pharma Ltd.	0.3%	Yes and preserved	Device	10ml 30 x 0.5ml	£1.67 £5.75	
Xailin hydrate	Nicox	0.3%	Yes	Device	10ml	£4.60	Preservative sodium perborate which disintegrates on contact with the eye
Polyvinyl alcohol							
Liquifilm® tears	Allergan	1.4%	Yes and preserved	Medicine	15ml and 30 x 0.4ml	£1.93 £5.35	Benzalkonium chloride (BAK)
Sno-tears	B & L	1.4%	No	Medicine	10ml	£1.06	Benzalkonium chloride (BAK)
Tubilux	Pharma	1.4%	No	Device	15ml	£1.63	Oxyd preservative
Ointments							
Duolube	B & L		Yes	Medicine in countries licensed	3.5g	Varies according to importer	Unlicensed in UK but only Lanolin-free eye ointment
Lacrilube®	Allergan		Yes	Medicine	5g	£3.32	
Simple eye ointment	Various		Yes	Medicine	4g	£3.25	
Vita-pos®	Spectrum		Yes	Device	5g	£2.75	Contains no therapeutic levels of vitamin A. Claim

	Thea						use for 3 months after opening
Xalin® night	Nicox		Yes	Device	5g	£2.49	

Soya bean oil							
Emustil	Moorfields pharmaceuticals		Yes	Device	20 x 0.3%	£6.22	
Sodium hyaluronate							
Artelac rebalance®	B & L	0.15%	No	Device	10ml	£4.00	Contains polyethylene glycol and vitamin B12 Newer preservative claimed to convert to natural tear components on contact with eye
Artelac splash®	B & L	0.2%	Yes	Device	30 x 0.5ml 60 x 0.5ml	£7.00 for 30 and £11.20 for 60	
Blink intensive tears®	AMO	0.2%	Yes and preservative	Device	10ml and 20 x 0.4ml	£2.97 for both	Preservative sodium chlorite. In-use expiry 45 days after opening
Clinitas® and Clinitas Multi®	Altacor	0.4%	Yes both unit dose and multidose bottle	Device	30 x 0.5ml 10ml	£5.70 £6.99	Unit dose licensed to be resealed and used for 12 hours
Hy-Opti	Alissa	0.1% and 0.2%	Yes	Device	10ml	£8.50 £9.50	
Hyabak®	Spectrum Thea	0.15%	Yes	Device	10ml	£7.99	Abak system filter and in-use expiry of 8 weeks
Hyabak UD	Spectrum Thea	0.15%	Yes	Device	30 x 0.4ml	£4.99	
HydraMed	Farmigea	0.2%	Yes to both unit dose and multidose	Device	10ml 30 x 0.5ml	£10.00 £8.00	Also contains tamarind seed
Hylo-Care®	Scope	0.1%	Yes	Device	10ml	£10.30	Contains dexpanthenol. Also

							uses COMOD system (<i>see below</i>)
Hylo-Forte 0.2%®	Scope	0.2%	Yes	Device	10ml	£9.50	Uses COMOD system to maintain sterility Citrate buffer claimed can be used for up to 6 months when opened
Hylo-Fresh	Scope	0.1%	Yes	Device	10ml	£4.95	COMOD system. In-use expiry 6 months. Phosphate free
Hylo-Tear 0.1%®	Scope	0.1%	Yes	Device	10ml	£8.50	
Lubristil® Lubrisil® gel	Moorfields	0.15%	Yes	Device	20 x 0.3ml 20 x 0.4ml	£4.99 £6.49	
Ocusan®	Agepha	0.2%	Yes	Device	20 x 0.5ml	£5.31	Resealable units. Claims can be used up to 12 hours after opening
Optive Fusion®	Allergan	0.1%	No	Device	10ml	£7.49	Also contains Carmellose 0.5% Preservative with Purite®
Oxyl®	Kestrel	0.15%	No	Device	10ml	£4.15	Preserved with Oxyd which turns into water, oxygen and sodium chloride when in contact with eye. Manufacturers claim can use 60 days after opening
Rohto dry eye relief®	Mentholatum	0.2%	Preserved and preservative-free available	Device	10ml 20 x 0.5ml	£4.10 £4.75	Has tamarind seed polysaccharide Claims preservative-free can be used for 24 hours after opening Preserved ones contain benzalkonium chloride (BAK)
Vismed®	TRB Chemedica	0.18%	Yes	Device	20 x 0.3ml	£5.10	
Vismed gel®	TRB Chemedica	0.3%	Yes	Device	20 x 0.45ml	£5.98	

Vismed® multi and Vismed gel multi	TRB Chemedica	0.18%	Yes	Device	10ml	£6.81 £7.95	Multi-filter system 3 months expiry (Ophthalmic Squeeze Dispenser)
Xailin HA	Nicox	0.2%	No	Device	10ml	£7.13	Preservative sodium perborate which disintegrates on contact with the eye.