

The Pharma Legal Handbook

Czech Republic

Regulatory, Pricing and Reimbursement Overview · Pre-clinical and Clinical Trial Requirements · Marketing, Manufacturing, Packaging and Labeling Advertising · Traditional Medicines and OTC Products · Product Liability · Patents and Trademarks · Regulatory Reforms · Cannabinoid Drugs, Medicinal Cannabis and Opioid Drugs · Orphan Drugs and Rare Diseases · Localization · Biosimilars and Biologics

Czech Republic

The Pharma Legal Handbook answers essential questions about this environment for pharmaceuticals in the Czech Republic. It is a must have for any company operating in the country or looking to enter the market.

Prepared in association with PRK Partners, one of the leading law firms in the Czech Republic, it should answer any questions linked to Regulation, Pricing, Clinical and Preclinical Trials, Marketing, Manufacturing, Trademarks and Patents.

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ATTORNEYS AT LAW

PRK Partners is a leading full-service law firm with a team of experienced legal and tax professionals. In its over 30 years of outstanding service, PRK has worked on many of the region's largest and most complex transactions. With offices and teams in both the Czech Republic and Slovakia PRK is perfectly suited for handling cross-border matters between these two countries. PRK combines profound knowledge of the local legal system with an international perspective.

The Life Sciences practice at PRK Partners advises leading pharmaceutical, biotechnology, medical device, food, cosmetics and tobacco firms navigate the complex national and EU regulatory landscape. The team advises on a broad spectrum of legal issues from establishment or start-up firms in life sciences and healthcare, R&D to manufacturing, marketing, distribution and sale, pricing and reimbursement of drugs, biologics and medical devices, IP legal issues, data protection, compliance, enforcement, litigation, transactions, public procurement, antitrust and competition issues.

The firm was repeatedly awarded as the Firm of the Year for the Czech Republic at the LMG Life Sciences Awards EMEA 2025 and 2024 and has a strong commitment to corporate social responsibility and pro bono work. The firm has been long-term ranked by international ranking agencies of law firms such as Chambers and Partners, The Legal500 or IFLR1000.

PRK Partners is the exclusive member law firm in the Czech Republic for Lex Mundi, the world's leading network of independent law firms, with in-depth experience in 100+ countries worldwide. The firm is also a member of AFI, LMA, CVCA, ITECHLAW, INTA and Energy Law Group.



THE AUTHORS



MGR. MONIKA MAŠKOVÁ

Partner, PRK Partners Prague
email: monika.maskova@prkpartners.com
tel: +420 221 430 111

Monika Maskova is a partner at PRK Partners and leader of the firm's life sciences practice.

Monika specialises in providing legal services to pharmaceutical, healthcare and food-processing industries. During her legal practice in advocacy and in the pharmaceutical sector she gained valuable and in-depth experience in regulatory matters and compliance processes, as well as other key legal aspects of business in the life sciences sector, such as M&A, R&D and data use and personal data protection. Monika also assists major clients in other regulated industry sectors, such as medical device and cosmetics manufacturers, food supplements companies, and television broadcast operators. In addition, she focuses on the regulation of cannabis, tobacco products and addictive substances.

Monika's business-oriented approach and regulatory expertise are evidenced through long-term and ongoing advisory roles for industry leaders in the life sciences sector.

Her team's excellence has been recognized as the Firm of the Year for the Czech Republic award at the LMG Life Sciences Awards EMEA in 2024 and 2025.

Monika obtained her Master's degree (Mgr.) in law from the Faculty of Law of Charles University in Prague in 2005, when she joined PRK Partners. She completed study internships at University of Passau in Germany and at Tsukuba University in Japan. She is a graduate of the Master of Healthcare Administration program at Advance Healthcare Management Institute.

In 2008 – 2009 Monika worked as an in-house lawyer in the project finance department of a leading Czech bank. In 2012 – 2013 she acted as legal counsel at a major pharmaceutical company, where she worked closely with the management and handled all legal matters of the company. In 2022– 2024 Monika acted as chair of the LexMundi Healthcare and Life Sciences Practice Group.

In addition to her native Czech, Monika is fluent in English and German.

Monika is one of the TOP 100 female lawyers in Czechia (Euro magazine). She has contributed articles to key publications, such as Mergers and Acquisitions in Europe: Selected Issues and Jurisdictions (Comparative Law Yearbook of International Business, Wolters Kluwer, 2011), PLC Cross-border Doing Business in Handbook, CEE Legal Matters, and Chambers Global Practice Guide for Life Sciences.



JUDR. ING. MICHAL MATĚJKA

Partner, PRK Partners Prague
email: michal.matejka@prkpartners.com
tel: +420 221 430 111

Michal Matějka is a partner at PRK Partners specialising in IT law, intellectual and industrial property law (including IP in the Pharma sector), commercial contract law, international trade, and related dispute resolution.

Before joining PRK Partners, Michal worked for almost 17 years at Baker & McKenzie's Prague office.

Michal graduated from the Faculty of Law of Charles University in Prague and the Faculty of International Relations at the University of Economics in Prague. He passed the bar to become an attorney in 2008. In 2018, Michal obtained his qualification as an established European lawyer authorized to provide legal services within the territory of Slovakia.

Michal has extensive experience in representing global and multinational clients in judicial, contractual, and regulatory matters. He regularly lectures on ICT and intellectual property law at the Faculty of Information Technology of Czech Technical University (ČVUT) and the Faculty of Law of Charles University in Prague. Michal is an expert in domain dispute resolution in UDRP proceedings, .cz domain disputes, and the author of various scholarly publications and articles in specialist periodicals on topics in his practice areas.

Michal is fluent in Czech and English.



MGR. MICHAL ŘEHOŘEK

Attorney, PRK Partners Prague
email: michal.rehorek@prkpartners.com
tel: +420 221 430 111

Michal Řehořek is an attorney at PRK Partners specializing in contract law, general corporate law, and mergers and acquisitions.

In his legal practice, Michal advises clients ranging from pharmaceutical companies to television broadcast operators on advertising, product regulation, labeling, and contractual matters such as contracts with suppliers and clients, commercial terms and conditions, etc.

Michal also assists clients in general corporate matters, such as the obligations and liabilities of company executives and identifying and registering the ultimate beneficial owners of businesses.

Furthermore, he focuses on regulation in the pharmaceutical, healthcare, and food-processing industries, as well as issues concerning addictive substances, cannabinoids, and medical cannabis in the Czech Republic. Michal also took on secondments with global pharmaceutical companies throughout 2020, 2021, and 2023.

Michal earned his Master's degree (Mgr.) in January 2019 from the Law Faculty of Charles University in Prague. He has been working as an attorney at PRK Partners since 2022 following on from an associate position at PRK Partners since 2019.

In addition to his native Czech, Michal is fluent in English.

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The awards look to recognise the most outstanding law firms and lawyers specialised in the life sciences industry throughout the Europe, Middle East and Africa region.

THANK YOU.

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A Step Ahead

CONTENTS

01	REGULATORY, PRICING, AND REIMBURSEMENT OVERVIEW	Page 6
02	PRE-CLINICAL AND CLINICAL TRIAL REQUIREMENTS	Page 14
03	MARKETING, MANUFACTURING, PACKAGING AND LABELING, ADVERTISING	Page 19
04	TRADITIONAL MEDICINES AND OVER-THE-COUNTER PRODUCTS	Page 37
05	PRODUCT LIABILITY	Page 43
06	PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS	Page 47
07	REGULATORY REFORMS	Page 53
08	CANNABINOID DRUGS, MEDICINAL CANNABIS AND OPIOID DRUGS	Page 56
09	ORPHAN DRUGS AND RARE DISEASES	Page 66
10	LOCALIZATION	Page 73
11	BIOSIMILARS AND BIOLOGICS	Page 79

01

REGULATORY, PRICING, AND REIMBURSEMENT OVERVIEW

1. What are the regulatory authorities with jurisdiction over drugs, biologicals, and medical devices in your country?

2. What is the regulatory framework for the authorization, pricing, and reimbursement of drugs, biologicals, and medical devices?

3. What are the steps to obtaining authorization to develop, test, and market a product?

4. What are the approximate fees for each authorization?

5. For how long are marketing authorizations/registrations valid? How are marketing authorizations/registrations renewed?

6. How does the authorization process differ between brand-name products and generic products? Are there differences for local manufacturers versus foreign-owned manufacturers?

7. How are combination products (drug + drug, drug + biologic, drug + device, biologic + device, drug + biologic + device) regulated?

8. How is compliance with regulation monitored and evaluated? Is the regulatory regime comparable with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration or the European Medicines Agency expectations and requirements?

9. What is the potential range of penalties for noncompliance?

10. Is there a national healthcare system? If so, how is it administered and funded?

11. How does the government (or public) healthcare system function with private sector healthcare?

12. Are prices of drugs and devices regulated and, if so, how?

13. How are drugs and devices used by patients paid for? What roles do public and private payers play?

14. Who dispenses drugs and devices to patients and how are those dispensers compensated?

15. What are the professional and legal responsibilities of those who dispense drugs and devices? What role do they play in providing patient care, information, and safety?

01 REGULATORY, PRICING, AND REIMBURSEMENT OVERVIEW

1. What are the regulatory authorities with jurisdiction over drugs, biologicals, and medical devices in your country?

The main authorities with jurisdiction over drugs, biologicals, and medical devices in the Czech Republic are the Ministry of Health and the State Institute for Drug Control.

Along with these two main regulatory authorities, the following authorities also possess limited and specific jurisdiction over drugs, biologicals and/or medical devices: the Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Defense, Ministry of the Environment, Ministry of Agriculture, State Veterinary Administration, Institute for State Control of Veterinary Biologicals and Medicines, State Office for Nuclear Safety, Customs Authorities, District Veterinary Authorities and District Authorities.

2. What is the regulatory framework for the authorization, pricing, and reimbursement of drugs, biologicals, and medical devices?

The authorization, pricing, and reimbursement of drugs, biologicals and medical devices is regulated primarily by the following acts (and related regulations):

- Act No. 378/2007 Coll., on Drugs, as amended (the “**Act on Drugs**”);
- Act No. 48/1997 Coll., on Public Health Insurance, as amended (the “**Public Health Insurance Act**”);
- Act No. 375/2022 Coll., on Medical Devices and In Vitro Diagnostic Medical Devices (the “**Medical Devices Act**”);
- Act No. 526/1990 Coll., on Prices, as amended;
- Regulation (EU) No. 2017/745 on Medical Devices (the “**MD Regulation**”);
- Regulation (EU) No. 2017/746 on In Vitro Diagnostic Medical Devices (the “**IVD Regulation**”); and
- Regulation (EU) No. 536/2014 on Clinical Trials on Medicinal Products for Human Use (the “**Clinical Trials Regulation**”).

3. What are the steps to obtaining authorization to develop, test, and market a product?

In order to conduct testing on drugs that have not yet been registered, it is necessary to obtain clinical trial authorization pursuant to the Clinical Trials Regulation; the State Institute for Drug Control is the relevant authority for the Czech Republic.

To introduce a drug to the market, it is necessary to obtain a registration (marketing authorization). There are three types of registrations: (i) National Registration, (ii) Mutual Recognition Procedure and (iii) Decentralized Procedure. National Registration authorizes the marketing of the product solely in the Czech Republic. The other two authorization types allow for the marketing of the product in other EEA member states as well. In addition, a Centralized Procedure by the European Medicines Agency can also be used; it authorizes the product for all EEA member states. In a limited number of

exceptions (drugs prepared in a pharmacy based on a prescription for an individual patient, drugs for research and development, etc.) the requirement for marketing authorization does not apply.

Manufacturers and distributors of drugs are required to obtain licenses from the State Institute for Drug Control. A manufacturing license is also required to import drugs from non-EEA states. Distribution licenses issued by EEA member states are recognized in the Czech Republic provided that the distributor submits a notification to the State Institute for Drug Control.

4. What are the approximate fees for each authorization ?

The approximate fees for each authorization are:

- Authorization of a clinical trial for a not-yet-registered drug: **approx. EUR 4,000 to approx. EUR 5,100;**
- Authorization of a clinical trial for a not-yet-registered drug manufactured by biotechnological methods: **approx. EUR 4,800 to approx. EUR 6,300;**
- National Registration Procedure: **approx. EUR 3,300 to approx. EUR 11,500;**
- Mutual Recognition Procedure: **approx. EUR 11,500;**
- Decentralized Procedure: **approx. EUR 14,000 to approx. 17,500.**

The above fees as well as fees for other types of proceedings are stipulated in Decree No. 427/2008 Coll.

5. For how long are marketing authorizations/registrations valid? How are marketing authorizations/registrations renewed?

Marketing authorizations are valid for five years after the decision granting the authorization comes into force and effect, provided that the drug is marketed in the Czech Republic.

The State Institute for Drug Control may extend the validity of the authorization on the basis of an application submitted no later than nine months before the expiry of the authorization and after a review of the risk-benefit balance of the drug. If the extension is approved by the State Institute for Drug Control, the authorization will last for an indefinite term, again, provided that the drug is marketed in the Czech Republic. However, if the State Institute for Drug Control finds that there is insufficient pharmacovigilance data (incl. exposure of an insufficient number of patients to the drug concerned), it may choose to extend the validity of the authorization for a new five-year period instead.

6. How does the authorization process differ between brand-name products and generic products? Are there differences for local manufacturers versus foreign-owned manufacturers?

In general, the authorization process is the same for original and generic products. The only difference is that under certain circumstances, the results of preclinical and clinical trials do not have to be submitted in cases where the reference product has been registered in at least one other EEA member state for at least eight years.

The authorization process prescribed by law is the same for local manufacturers as well as foreign-owned manufacturers.

However, applicants for marketing authorization must reside or have their registered seat in the Czech Republic or in another EEA member state.

7. How are combination products (drug + drug, drug + biologic, drug + device, biologic + device, drug + biologic + device) regulated?

Under Czech law, both biologics and drugs are classified as drugs and are subject to the same regulation under the Act on Drugs, while medical devices are regulated separately. Medical devices are regulated under the MD Regulation in combination with the Medical Devices Act while in vitro diagnostic medical devices are regulated under the IVD Regulation in combination with the Medical Devices Act. There are no special regulations for combination products. Therefore, any combination of drugs and biologics is regulated by the MD Regulation provided that the drug has an action that is ancillary to that of the action of the device. However, if the action of the drug is principal and not ancillary to that of the device, the product will be regulated by the Act on Drugs, while the relevant general safety and performance requirements set out in the MD Regulation will apply as far as the safety and performance of the device part are concerned. The same applies if the device and the drug form a single integral product which is intended exclusively for use in the given combination and is not reusable.

8. How is compliance with regulations monitored and evaluated? Is the regulatory regime comparable with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration or the European Medicines Agency expectations and requirements?

The State Institute for Drug Control monitors compliance with the legal regulation of drugs and medical devices as well as with the performance of obligations imposed on the basis of its decisions and measures with respect to relevant subjects. This includes manufacturers and distributors of drugs and medical devices. It also carries out inspections to ensure compliance with the requirements of GMP (good manufacturing practice), GDP (good distribution practice) and good clinical practice in the area of human pharmacy. The State Institute for Drug Control also operates and manages a pharmacovigilance system for drugs as well as medical devices and participates in pharmacovigilance processes of the European Union.

The regulatory regime is based on EU regulations and directives and is in line with the European Medicines Agency's requirements.

9. What is the potential range of penalties for noncompliance?

The range of penalties depends on the type of violation and whether it has been committed by a natural person or a legal entity/entrepreneur. Broadly speaking, penalties in the area of drugs range from approx. EUR 4,000 to approx. EUR 830,000. Apart from financial penalties, a prohibition of activity (for up to two years) may be also imposed. In the area of medical devices, penalties range from approx. EUR 8,350 to approx. EUR 1,250,000.

10. Is there a national healthcare system? If so, how is it administered and funded?

Yes, there is a national healthcare system in the Czech Republic. It is regulated primarily by the Public Health Insurance Act and based on the principles of universal accessibility to healthcare, solidarity, mandatory health insurance, freedom to choose a health insurance company, and a basic package of healthcare covered by the public health insurance.

Participation in the public healthcare insurance system is mandatory for every person with permanent residency in the Czech Republic and for every