

The CNMC investigates possible anti-competitive practices in the market for the distribution of medicinal, health and parapharmaceutical products

- The Commission is analysing the existence of possible abuse of a dominant position.
- Between 26 and 29 February 2024, the CNMC carried out dawn raids at the premises of a company in the pharmaceutical sector.

Madrid, 12 March 2024.- The Spanish National Markets and Competition Commission (CNMC) is investigating possible anti-competitive practices in the market for the distribution of medicinal, health and parapharmaceutical products. The alleged practices consist of a business engagement strategy to attract, build and retain the loyalty of pharmacies in the medium/long term.

Between 26 and 29 February 2024, the CNMC carried out dawn raids at the premises of a company in the pharmaceutical sector as part of an investigation into the alleged existence of anti-competitive practices in this market. If confirmed, these practices could constitute an infringement of abuse of a dominant position as provided for in Article 2 of the [Spanish Competition Act \(Ley de Defensa de la Competencia\)](#).

Dawn raids or inspections are a preliminary step in the investigation process of alleged anti-competitive behaviour and do not prejudice the outcome of the investigation or the culpability of the concerned undertaking.

If, as a result of such inspections, evidence of anti-competitive practices prohibited by the Spanish Competition Act is found, the CNMC will formally initiate infringement proceedings.

These practices could be considered a very serious infringement of competition law, which may entail fines of up to 10% of the total turnover of the infringing companies in the financial year preceding the year in which the fine is imposed.