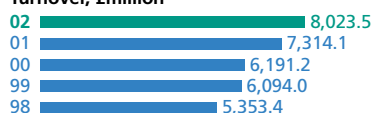


Financial highlights

Turnover up 9.7%

£8,023.5 million

Turnover, £million



Group operating profit up 13.0%

before amortisation of intangible assets*

£204.9 million

Group operating profit, £million

before amortisation of intangible assets



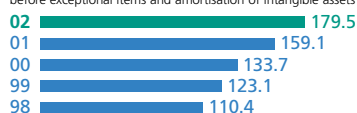
Profit before tax up 12.8%

before amortisation of intangible assets*

£179.5 million

Profit before tax, £million

before exceptional items and amortisation of intangible assets



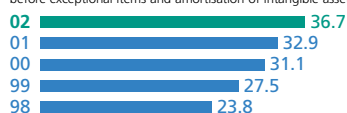
Diluted earnings per share up 11.6%

before amortisation of intangible assets*

36.7 pence

Diluted earnings per share, pence

before exceptional items and amortisation of intangible assets



Dividends per share up 9.3%

15.3 pence

Dividends per share, pence



*Figures are calculated before amortisation of intangible assets since the Directors consider that this gives a useful additional indication of underlying performance.

- ▶ Continued development of the international retail chain, with 94 new pharmacies acquired during 2002, bringing the network to over 1,000 pharmacies in five countries.
- ▶ Acquisition of a further 25% stake in Hedef Alliance in Turkey, bringing Alliance UniChem's holding to 50%.
- ▶ Enhanced market presence in Norway, with the acquisition of Holtung, the third largest Norwegian wholesaler.
- ▶ Further financing initiatives to strengthen and diversify the balance sheet, including financing and re-financing from the securitisation, private placement and equity markets.
- ▶ Restructuring of the Board and appointment of an additional non-executive director, with continued development of our management structure.