Contemporary waste water treatment techniques do not allow removing all pharmaceutical residues from the effluent. All that is left in the water flows to the sea.

Hundreds of kilos of pharmaceuticals end up in the Finnish waters every year.

Pharmaceuticals used in Finland in 2014

- **DICLOPHENAC**
  - Pain killer, pharmaceutical gel 11.6 mg/g
  - 77,250 kg (15 g per inhabitant)

- **CARBAMAZEBINE**
  - Epilepsy drug, a pill 200 mg
  - 16,606,660 pills (3 pills per inhabitant)

- **IBUPROFEN**
  - Pain killer, a pill 400 mg
  - 2,945,642,727 pills (54 pills per inhabitant)

- **PARACETAMOL**
  - Pain killer, a pill 1 g
  - 1,946,858,472 pills (35 pills per inhabitant)

Pharmaceuticals ended up in the sea in 2014

- **DICLOPHENAC**
  - 845 kg

- **CARBAMAZEBINE**
  - 190 kg

- **IBUPROFEN**
  - 130 kg

- **PARACETAMOL**
  - 630 kg

Source: SYKE, Finnish Water Utilities Association