Improving Information Sharing
Cross-Country Initiatives: a policy perspective

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2. WHO Fair Pricing Forum, 12 April 2019
Austria is a Member of and contributes to ...

- Pharmaceutical Pricing and Reimbursement Information (PPRI) Network
  - PPRI Secretariat hosted by Gesundheit Österreich GmbH (GÖG/Austrian Public Health Institute) - http://ppri.goeg.at/
- European Integrated Price Information Database - EURIPID
- Beneluxa Initiative on Pharmaceutical Policy
  - Multilateral agreement between Austria, Belgium, Ireland, Luxembourg and the Netherlands - http://beneluxa.org/
Pharmaceutical Pricing and Reimbursement Information (PPRI)

• Voluntary network of competent authorities of pharmaceutical pricing and reimbursement

• Aim: to allow and promote an exchange of information and experience about pharmaceutical policies among the network members supported by scientific evidence and a common understanding and language on pharmaceutical issues

• Started in 2005 as research project funded the European Commission, DG SANCO; co-funded by Austrian Ministry of Health

• From 2008 on: the network continues on a voluntary basis
  – As a countries driven network, PPRI Secretariat at Austrian Public Health Institute
Pharmaceutical Pricing and Reimbursement Information (PPRI)

• 47 countries (around 80 institutions)
  – all 28 EU Member States, 15 further countries in the WHO EURO region (Armenia, Albania, Belarus, Iceland, Israel, Kazakhstan, Kosovo, Kyrgyzstan, Macedonia, Moldova, Norway, Russia, Serbia, Switzerland, Ukraine, Turkey)
  – 3 non-European countries (Canada, South Africa, South Korea)

• Plus European / international institutions (WHO, OECD, European Commission, Worldbank Group)
Pharmaceutical Pricing and Reimbursement Information (PPRI)

• How does it work?
Pharmaceutical Pricing and Reimbursement Information (PPRI)

• Lessons learned:
  – Informal character is a success factor, PPRI network benefits from being a closed group – dialogue with stakeholder at other occasions
  – Some kind of secretariat (administrative + content-wise) is required
  – Communication platforms are required
  – Confidential treatment of internal information - BUT: Share as much as possible (public domain)
  – Start up financing but then self-financed (network members)
4th PPRI Conference:
Medicines access challenge –
The value of pricing and reimbursement policies
23–24 October 2019, Vienna (Austria)

Organisers: WHO Collaborating Centre for Pharmaceutical Pricing and Reimbursement Policies, Pharmaeconomics Department at the Austrian Public Health Institute (Gesundheit Österreich GmbH)

Key topics: The conference will look into current developments in pricing and reimbursement policies and future challenges. In order to foster the debate on equitable access to affordable and cost-effective medicines, the following perspectives will be discussed at the conference:

» Strand 1: Local challenges, global learnings? What can other countries learn from best-practice examples in the field of pricing and reimbursement of medicines?
» Strand 2: ‘Fake’ prices – Are price surveys still useful? The value of list prices against the backdrop of external price referencing and managed entry agreements.
» Strand 3: Fix the future? Innovative policy options need to be developed, agreed upon and implemented.

Target groups:
» Policy makers and payers in the field of pharmaceutical pricing and reimbursement policies
» Stakeholders (e.g. pharmacists, pharmaceutical companies, wholesalers, etc.)
» Researchers

Registration and call for abstracts will start in April 2019! https://ppri.goeg.at/ppriconference2019
Contact: ppriconference@goeg.at

Please save the date!
EURIPID - European Integrated Price Information Database

• About EURIPID:
  – A voluntary non-profit collaboration of most European pricing and reimbursement authorities for the mutual sharing of price information of medicinal products
  – A technical tool to make prices of pharmaceuticals more transparent in Europe
  – An attempt to create a comprehensive, continuously maintained, easy-to-use online database of prices of reimbursed pharmaceuticals

• Euripid Collaboration developed twelve „Guiding Principles“ to guide a coordinated approach of competent authorities regarding the use of external reference pricing
Goals and Purpose

• Key goal is to ensure access to innovative therapies at sustainable price levels
• Efficient use of existing resources by seizing synergies and avoiding duplication(s) of work
• Strengthening bargaining power by uniting systems that face similar challenges
• Focus on high-price medicines and rare diseases
• Loose organisational setup and case-by-case approach to products
• Cooperation is voluntary, decisions on pricing and reimbursement remain national responsibility
Timeline

- Informal cooperation between Belgium and the Netherlands from 2012 onwards
- 2015 formal agreement and entry of Luxembourg
- 2016 entry of Austria, formation of Beneluxa
- 2018 entry of the Republic of Ireland
Domains of Cooperation

- **Horizon Scanning (NL)**
  - Collaborative approach to gathering information
- **HTA (BE)**
  - Mutual recognition; Joint HTA; Re-Use
- **Information sharing (AT)**
  - Best practices, registries, policy dilemmas
- **Pricing and Reimbursement (NL)**
  - Horizon Scan interpretation; Information exchange

**Input for Joint Negotiations**

**Joint negotiations**
Organisational Structure

General Assembly

Steering Committee
14 Members, Chair: NL

Country Coordinators
Country Representatives
Domain Task Force Leads
Preconditions and Challenges

• Political mandate and commitment
• Joint establishment of working structures and process optimization
• Overcoming legal, organizational and language barriers
• Timelines
• Communication channel(s)
• Funding
Learnings

• Once communication is running, information can be shared and cooperation can easily be extended to other working areas among cooperating institutions

• (Some) Processes are in fact mutually and easily adaptable

• Emergence of country clusters in Europe

• Cooperation strongly depends on individual willingness to contribute

• Stakeholder dialogue (incl. industry) is essential

• Pooling of resources and expertise
International Horizon Scanning Initiative (IHSI)

• Initiated by Beneluxa, now joined by a number of other countries
• Formal Establishment expected in 2019/2020
• Advantages of early intelligence (deliverables IHSI):
  − The opportunity to plan future investments (real time database)
  − To ensure that health systems are able to embrace innovation in a sustainable way (high impact reports)
  − To decide where research and evaluation resources and efforts should be directed (long-term investments)
  − The return on investment is difficult to express in monetary terms, long term gains
Further information and contact

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