



FEAM

Federation of European
Academies of Medicine

FEAM Shortages of medicine Working group - June 4

Shortages of medicine Statement Discussion with the Group of Experts

Friday 4 June

12:30 – 13:30 CET

Key stakeholders' position

- **Medicines supply chain stakeholders**, early 2017
- **French Academy of Pharmaceutical Sciences**, Report on “Unavailability of drug”, 2018
- **World Health Assembly**, Call for addressing the global shortage of, and access to, medicines and vaccines in a coordinated manner at global level, Jan 2018
- **European Association of Hospital Pharmacists (EAHP)** together with **30 national and European associations** of patients, consumers, healthcare professionals and public health, request investigation starts on leading factors, May 2019
- Recurrent surveys from **EAHP** and the **Pharmaceutical Group of the EU** to document the issue





Key EU documents and next steps

- EU Parliament Resolution, Shortage of medicines - how to address an emerging problem, Sept. 2020
- EU Council Conclusion, Oct 2020
- EU Pharmaceutical Strategy; Nov 2020
- Proposal to extend the European Medicines Agency mandate, Nov 2020
- External study commissioned by the EU Commission to Technopolis; map root causes and assess the existing legislative framework
- EU Legislative proposal on Shortages of medicine planned for 2022

Main points of FEAM draft statement



- **Promote a pan-European approach to medicines shortages;** Reliable information on shortages of medicines is lacking.
- **Install a consultation process to find common solutions to shortages of medicines by involving all stakeholders.** A common European definition of shortages is needed to be able to assess the problem in a similar way across the 27 Member states and to collect data that are comparable and interoperable.
- **FEAM encourages national agencies to increase their cooperation with the EMA and the European Directorate for the Quality of Medicines & HealthCare of the Council of Europe (European Pharmacopoeia) to make databases interoperable.** A first pilot project could be developed and initiated by these agencies, financed at European level in order to be rapidly operational.
- **Support the legislative proposal to reinforce EMA mandate**
- **Promote equal health access globally and avoid any unintended consequences of action taken at EU level on other actors in the world.** While reducing occurrences of medicine shortages in Europe, this should not happen at the expense of other parts in the world and unintended consequences should be avoided.

Discussion questions



- Do you have any **national report**, especially from your Academy on this topic that we could refer to?
- Have you been in **contact with your national authorities** about this topic?
- Have you been in **contact with stakeholder** on this issue at national level? (Associations, pharmaceutical industry, member of parliament...)
- Are you **aware of national action plan** on this subject?
- Do you have any particular view on the **need for a common definition on shortages of medicines** at European or global level?
- Do you have any particular view on **what solutions** could be **found at European level** to tackle shortages of medicine? If yes, what should be **prioritized**?