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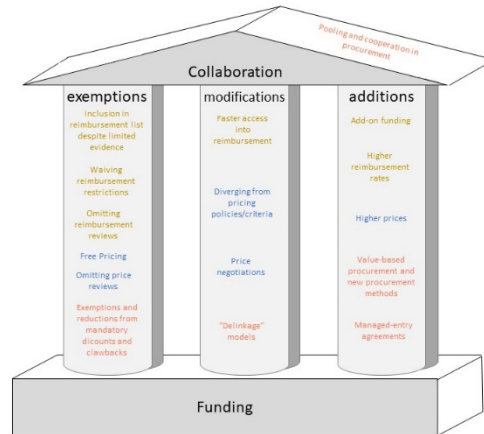
### Novel policy options for AMR health technologies

AMR HT have special characteristics and challenges which are not fully captured by standard pricing, reimbursement and procurement policies. Specific policies may be able to meet some of the special characteristics of AMR HT. The study commissioned by the Global AMR R&D Hub informs national policy makers about such options in addressing novel antibiotic and diagnostic pricing, reimbursement and purchasing.

In total, 16 specific policies were identified; they are categorized into exemptions (from cost-containment), modifications (of existing methods and policies) and additions (additional funding). Some are promising to be able to incentivize innovation in AMR HT.

Study [https://ppri.goeg.at/sites/ppri.goeg.at/files/inline-files/GOe\\_FP\\_AMR\\_Report\\_final\\_Barrierefrei\\_0.pdf](https://ppri.goeg.at/sites/ppri.goeg.at/files/inline-files/GOe_FP_AMR_Report_final_Barrierefrei_0.pdf)

See also the news section of the Global AMR R&D Hub with a policy brief: [globalamrhub.org](http://globalamrhub.org)



### European Public Health Week

From 17 to 21 May 2021 the European Public Health Week entitled “Joining forces for a healthier population” will take place. It aims to make the case for public health and a more inclusive society across Europe.

The Pharmacoeconomic Department will contribute to the Friday topic of “Leaving no one behind” by providing evidence on the financial burden of medicines for households and measures to protect people in European countries.

Visit our website [ppri.goeg.at](http://ppri.goeg.at) during the European Public Health Week to learn more about this topic!

Read more on the European Public Health Week: <https://eupha.org/EUPHW>

## CONFERENCES / TRAININGS

### Online Summer School Pharmaceutical Pricing and Reimbursement Policies, 5–9 July 2021

Due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, the WHO Collaborating Centre for Pharmaceutical Pricing and Reimbursement Policies is organising the 2021 Summer School as a virtual event. The summer school offers opportunities to gain insight into the latest evidence and

policy experience in different countries, to discuss practical examples and to interact with experts and peers confronted with similar challenges

The Summer School targets policy-makers and technical staff of competent authorities in the field of pricing and reimbursement of medicines and payers in the health care system.

Read more: <https://ppri.goeg.at/summerschool2021>

## **WHO Guideline dissemination**

In 2020, the World Health Organisation (WHO) updated its Guideline on Country Pharmaceutical Pricing Policies. As follow-up dissemination and capacity-building activities, the WHO produced a handbook of case studies and organised a Pre-2021 Fair Pricing Forum webinar to present the Guideline and country experiences.

Sabine Vogler, co-chair of the Guideline Development Group, was involved in the WHO activities around the Guideline. At the webinar on 7 April 2021, she presented the European experience with policies to promote the use of quality-assured generic and biosimilar medicines.

More on the guideline: <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240011878>

## **Webinars for economic operators on the EUDAMED Actors Module**

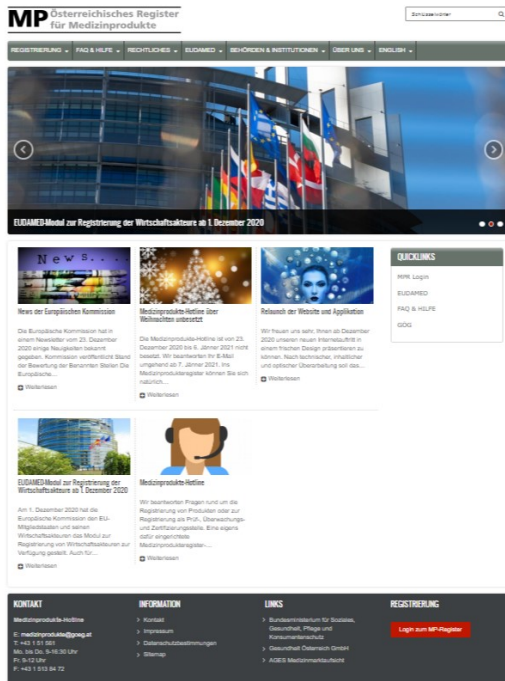
Since 1 December 2020, registration in the EUDAMED Actors Module has been possible for all economic actors on a voluntary basis. The Austrian National Public Health Institute (Gesundheit Österreich / GÖG) has been commissioned by the Austrian Ministry of Social Affairs, Health, Care and Consumer Protection to validate the entries in the Actor registration module.

To support economic operators in the registration process, webinars will be offered on 28 April, 25 May and 23 June 2021. In addition to background information on EUDAMED and guidance on registration, the webinars will also offer the opportunity for discussion and clarification of open questions. The webinars will be held in German.

### **Who should attend?**

Economic operators in the field of medical devices and in vitro diagnostics (manufacturers, authorised representatives, importers) and interested parties

More information and registration: <https://medizinprodukteregister.at/node/168>



## THE TEAM

### Consultant to the team: Katharina Habimana

Katharina Habimana was responsible for policy matters at the Austrian National Public Health Institute (Gesundheit Österreich / GÖG) until end of 2020. Currently she works as an independent consultant to the Institute and is a member of the WHO Collaborating Centre for Pharmaceutical Pricing and Reimbursement Policies team. She contributes to the WHO Collaborating Centre's consultancy and to Austrian, EU and international projects on pharmaceutical pricing and reimbursement.

Katharina is an economist by training, holding a master's degree in economics from the Business University Vienna and has been working at GÖG since 2011. She has extensive experience in project management, facilitating processes (e.g. Austrian healthcare reform), drafting reports on health systems (e.g. as co-author of the Austrian HIT profile) and profound knowledge of research methods (health economic modelling, econometrics,

multi-criteria decision making analysis, quantitative and qualitative interviews, data management).



## PUBLICATIONS

### **Assessment of centralised procurement of medicines in Portugal**

Gesundheit Österreich conducted an assessment of the performance of centralised procurement of medicines (CPM) in Portugal. The study, commissioned by the Directorate-General REFORM of the European Commission, was largely informed by more than 40 interviews with key stakeholders in Portugal and an analysis of bids. The Portuguese system of CPM was found to have several strengths, such as its contribution to improved governance and transparency of processes as well as more equity in access to medicines across the country. However, lack of clarity related to the roles and responsibilities of involved institutions and lengthy and bureaucratic processes, resulting in delays in the conclusion of processes, hamper the CPM. The authors provide a set of policy recommendations, including a call for an updated procurement strategy.

[Full study:](#)

[https://ppri.goeg.at/sites/ppri.goeg.at/files/inline-files/GOe\\_FP\\_PT\\_CPM\\_Full%20Report\\_total\\_bf\\_0.pdf](https://ppri.goeg.at/sites/ppri.goeg.at/files/inline-files/GOe_FP_PT_CPM_Full%20Report_total_bf_0.pdf)

Short reports are available in:

English:

[https://ppri.goeg.at/sites/ppri.goeg.at/files/inline-files/GOe\\_FP\\_PT\\_CPM\\_Summary\\_Report\\_EN\\_final\\_bf\\_0\\_1.pdf](https://ppri.goeg.at/sites/ppri.goeg.at/files/inline-files/GOe_FP_PT_CPM_Summary_Report_EN_final_bf_0_1.pdf) and in

Portuguese:

[https://ppri.goeg.at/sites/ppri.goeg.at/files/inline-files/GOe\\_FP\\_PT\\_CPM\\_Summary\\_Report\\_PT\\_final\\_bf\\_0\\_1.pdf](https://ppri.goeg.at/sites/ppri.goeg.at/files/inline-files/GOe_FP_PT_CPM_Summary_Report_PT_final_bf_0_1.pdf)



## **HTA, Reimbursement and Pricing of Diagnostic Tests for CA-ARTI**

In its fight against AMR, [VALUE-Dx](#) seeks to investigate the economic value – especially from a long-term societal perspective – and policies plus innovative funding models of rapid diagnostic tests. A major aim is to incentivise the uptake of these tests as they are valuable instruments to ensure rational antibiotic prescribing and thus to tackle AMR.

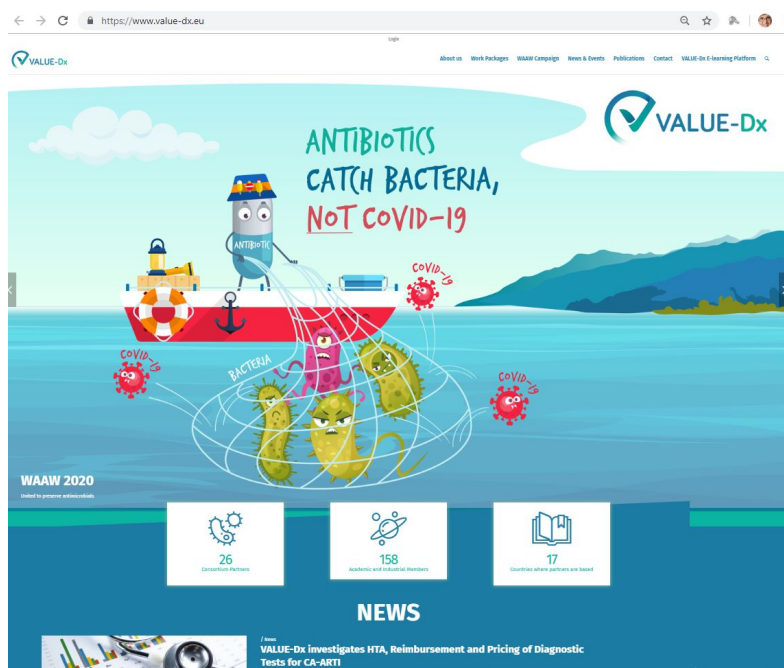
Within the project, a study was recently published to map policies related to Health Technology Assessment (HTA), pricing and reimbursement of diagnostics for community acquired acute respiratory tract infection (CA-ARTI) in Europe.

The study indicates that the overall level of policy implementation in pricing and reimbursement for diagnostics is rather low. In addition, it is shown that HTA as a

supportive tool to inform pricing and reimbursement decisions at national levels is rarely used in the study countries. However, pricing and reimbursement policies, supported by HTA, can contribute to patient access and uptake of health products.

The full report is on the VALUE-Dx website [https://www.value-dx.eu/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/VALUE-DX\\_Report\\_Task5.5\\_Deliverable5.2\\_Final.pdf](https://www.value-dx.eu/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/VALUE-DX_Report_Task5.5_Deliverable5.2_Final.pdf)

Further information on VALUE Dx: <https://www.value-dx.eu/>



## Editorial on cancer medicine prices

In March 2021, an editorial addressing the challenge of affordability of cancer medicine prices was published:

Vogler S. Can we achieve affordable cancer medicine prices? Developing a pathway for change. Expert Review of Pharmacoeconomics & Outcomes Research. 2021: 1–5  
<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/14737167.2021.1898951>

Further articles co-authored by experts of the Pharmacoeconomics Department are accessible at:

<https://ppri.goeg.at/articles>