
ANNIVERSARY

Austrian Medical Devices Registry

The Pharmacoeconomics Department has been managing the Austrian Medical Devices Registry that celebrated its 15th anniversary in January 2017. The Austrian Medical Devices Registry is a web-based, free of charge database, and it comprises data from responsible persons bringing medical devices, including in vitro diagnostics and custom-made devices, onto the Austrian market, for the first time in the European Economic Area. The Austrian Medical Devices Registry contains information about notified bodies and testing laboratories, inspection and certification bodies. Registration can only be made through the internet website and is not publicly accessible. The Department also serves as the national contact point for the European Databank on Medical Devices (EUDAMED).

For further information kindly consult <http://www.medizinprodukteregister.at>

REGISTER FOR TRAINING

Second Summer School on Pharmaceutical Pricing and Reimbursement Policies

The WHO Collaborating Centre for Pharmaceutical Pricing and Reimbursement Policies, affiliated with the Pharmacoeconomics Department of GÖG, in collaboration with the WHO Regional Office for Europe, is offering a five-day training course for professionals of competent authorities and public institutions working in the field of pricing and reimbursement of medicines. The second Summer School on Pharmaceutical Pricing and Reimbursement Policies will be held in Vienna from 28 August to 1 September 2017.

Registration is open till 15 May 2017.

Documents for registration and information: <http://whocc.goeg.at/SummerSchool2017>

MEDICINE PRICES

Better Coordination in Pharmaceutical Pricing

Together with the Hungarian Health Insurance Fund (NEAK), GÖG coordinates the European Integrated Price Information Database (EURIPID) that comprises price information of 28 countries. In 2015, the EURIPID Collaboration was awarded the EC grant 'Statistical data for medicinal product pricing'. This project aims to achieve a better coordination in pharmaceutical pricing at the EU level in order to facilitate the control of public budgets for medicines whilst avoiding or, at least, mitigating possible negative impacts on patient access to medicinal care. The grant consists of several work packages, including a needs assessment survey and interviews with competent authorities for pharmaceutical pricing and reimbursement as well as stakeholders. Furthermore, a systematic literature review was done about the External Price Referencing policy. The results of the survey, interviews and literature review were compiled into a best practice report which was shared with EC services, competent authorities and affected stakeholders. This report will be the backbone of a guidance document on external price referencing, and is due to be finished in mid-2018.

Further information: <http://ec.europa.eu/chafea/news/news492.html>

PHARMACEUTICAL REFORMS

Technical support on pricing and reimbursement in Kyrgyzstan

Together with the WHO Regional Office for Europe, staff of the WHO Collaborating Centre for Pharmaceutical Pricing and Reimbursement Policies analysed the extent and causes of high out-of-pocket (OOP) payments for out-patient medicines in Kyrgyzstan and developed policy recommendations. Findings and a draft policy

brief were presented and discussed with Kyrgyz policy-makers and stakeholders during a policy dialogue in Bishkek at end of September 2016.

Report:

http://whocc.goeg.at/Literaturliste/Dokumente/BooksReports/Schneider_Vogler_Pharmaceutical-pricing-reimbursement-reform-Kyrgyzstan_WHO_2016.pdf

Further information, including a link to the Russian version of the report:

<http://www.euro.who.int/en/publications/abstracts/pharmaceutical-pricing-and-reimbursement-reform-in-kyrgyzstan-2016>

Public hearing on AMNOG reform

Head of the WHO Collaborating Centre for Pharmaceutical Pricing and Reimbursement Policies, Dr Sabine Vogler, was invited as an expert to a public hearing in the German Parliament on 14 December 2016. The hearing concerned legislative amendments of the German Pharmaceutical Market Restructuring Act, and her statement particularly addressed possible impacts of disclosure of discounts.

PUBLICATIONS

Participation in scientific conferences

Staff of the Pharmacoeconomics Department participated in the ISPOR 19th Annual European Congress in Vienna from 31 October till 2 November 2016 and in the 9th European Public Health conference in Vienna from 9 till 12 November 2016.

Accepted abstracts are available at:

<http://whocc.goeg.at/Publications/PublishedAbstracts>

Recently published articles

Schneider S, Renner A, Bobek J, Vogler S, Ostermann H.: Economic Evaluation of Minor Ailment Schemes (MAS). *Gesundheitsökonomie & Qualitätsmanagement* 2017; 22(S 01): S23–S29. <https://www.thieme-connect.de/DOI/DOI?10.1055/s-0042-120488>

Vogler S, Paris V, Ferrario A, Wirtz VJ, de Joncheere K, Schneider P, et al. How Can Pricing and Reimbursement Policies Improve Affordable Access to Medicines? Lessons Learned from European Countries. *Applied Health Economics and Health Policy*. 2017:1–15. Full text available at: <http://rdcu.be/om88>

Wild C, Zechmeister-Koss I, Vogler S. Risk-sharing Schemes und weitere Managed-Entry Agreements: Sind vertrauliche Abkommen zielführend oder kontraproduktiv? (in German). *LBI HTA newsletter*, February 2017 <http://hta.lbg.ac.at/page/risk-sharing-schemes-und-weitere-managed-entry-agreements-sind-vertrauliche-abkommen-zielfuehrend-oder-kontraproduktiv/de>

Morgan S, Vogler S, Wagner AK. Payers' experiences with confidential pharmaceutical price discounts: a survey of public and statutory health systems in North America, Europe, and Australasia. *Health Policy*. 2017;121(4):354–62.

Full text open access at:

[http://www.healthpolicyjrn.com/article/S0168-8510\(17\)30030-1/fulltext](http://www.healthpolicyjrn.com/article/S0168-8510(17)30030-1/fulltext)

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<http://whocc.goeg.at/Publications/>

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