Local challenges, global learnings

What can other countries learn from best-practice examples in the field of pricing and reimbursement of medicines?

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Developing global guidance in policy making

1. Paying for a basket of essential medicines
2. Making essential medicines affordable
3. Assuring quality and safety of essential medicines
4. Promoting quality use of medicines
5. Developing missing essential medicines

Cross-cutting -> measuring progress
Policy variations can indicate opportunities for change

WHO Regional Office for Europe, *Can people afford to pay for health care? New evidence on financial protection in Europe.* 2019
What are the challenges in global learning?

Applicability
whether the intervention process could be implemented in the local setting regardless of outcome

Transferability
whether the intervention would be as effective in the new setting as it was in the original study setting
Since policy development and implementation are highly context specific, outcomes vary

High variation in the context in which policies are developed and implemented:

- disease prevalence
- financial resources
- legislation
- institutions
- human resources
- value
- political environment (e.g. regulatory capture)
Facilitating global learning from pharmaceutical policies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barriers</th>
<th>Proposed solutions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Policy process perceived as too “messy” to be meaningfully studied</td>
<td>1. Standard methods from a variety of disciplines allows to study real world settings and account for challenges and limitations</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Individuals of any one discipline may not understand the process</td>
<td>2. Development of taxonomy and defined indicators</td>
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<td>3. Power of vested interests undermine studying and publishing results</td>
<td>3. Incentives and regulations to ensure routine and transparent evaluation of policies</td>
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Example of cross-national comparison outside Europe

Brazil

Mexico

![Graphs showing the comparison between Brazil and Mexico in terms of DDD/TID for antibiotics before and after the intervention, as well as antihypertensives before and after the intervention. The graphs illustrate the trend changes over time.]
1. Standard methods:
Example of cross-national comparison of medicines utilization

- Led by EuroDrug
- Studying exposure, outcomes and efficiency of use
- Development of standard methods
  - Conduct, data analysis, reporting

Checklist of assessment:
- General data
- Study design
- Drug terminology and units
- Population coverage
- Medicines coverage
- Evaluation
Wealth of methods to study policies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study type</th>
<th>Design</th>
<th>Descriptive vs analytical</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Case</td>
<td>Case study</td>
<td>Descriptive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comparative case</td>
<td>Cross-national study</td>
<td>Descriptive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cost-effectiveness</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Evaluation</td>
<td>Process evaluation</td>
<td>Descriptive &amp; analytical</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Impact evaluation</td>
<td>Analytical</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Synthesis</td>
<td>Systematic review</td>
<td>Descriptive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Meta-analysis</td>
<td>Analytical</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2. “Shared language”: Taxonomy and indicators

- PPRI network
  => Developed taxonomy

- Access Observatory
  => Taxonomy + standard indicators
  
  [Image]

  [Glossary of Pharmaceutical Terms]
  [Access Observatory]

  [Links]
  https://ppri.goeg.at/methodology_documents
  https://www.accessobservatory.org/resources
3. Routine and transparent policy studies

• Laws and regulation
  • accessibility of data for policy evaluation
    • Mexico: Law requiring routine evaluation of health policies and programs and publications of results

• Transparency
  • Sharing of study protocols and methods in advance of evaluation
    ⇒Clinicaltrials.gov to make objectives and results public
    ⇒Journals that publish study protocols
  • Making data available
  • Publication of institutional agreements
Facilitating global learning through PPRI network and other organizations

• Development of standard methods
  => develop compendium of standard methods to disseminate and educate

• Promoting common indicators
  => International technical expert group to expand and build on existing PPRI network glossary, templates and develop indicators

• Transparency in data and policy studies
  ⇒ Data sharing agreements
  ⇒ Dissemination of contracting and good practice in publication
Thank you
Pharmaceutical policy analysis: process, content and outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Domain</th>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Example of studies presented at PPRI</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Process</td>
<td>To understand approaches to enhance the likelihood of policy adoption</td>
<td>Wolf et al. Supporting decision-making on Costly Hospital Drugs in Austria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Content</td>
<td>To identify specific policy elements that are likely to be effective</td>
<td>Moye-Holz et al. Promoting access to cancer medicines in Mexico: Seguro Popular key policy components</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outcome</td>
<td>To study the effects of policies</td>
<td>Vreman et al. Differences in health technology assessment recommendations</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Kiu Tay-Teo. To assess the macroeconomic trends of medicine prices and their relationships with pricing regulations</td>
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=> **Process, content and outcome studies are all necessary** to fully inform development and implementation of policies in different settings.