



PPRI Conference 2011

Speaker's Biographies



Mohammed Abuelkhair

Position:	Head, Pharma/Medicine and Medical Product Regulation
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Current position & research area:	Mohammed Abuelkhair received his undergraduate and graduate degree in Clinical Pharmacy from Creighton University, United State. He is a graduate of ASHP Accredited Pharmacy Practice Residency Program in addition to US federal Clinical Leadership institute. He has 21 years of Pharmacy experience and licensed to practice pharmacy in Ohio, Nebraska and Texas. Also, Licensed in KSA and UAE. He was the winner of the Scissor and Hammer Awards from the United State Vice presidents as a consultant member of the VA Pharmacy Benefit Management Team. Dr. Abuelkhair served as assistant professor of clinical pharmacy at The Ohio State University and the University of Mississippi. He founded the international Muslim pharmaceutical organization in the Washington, D.C. in 1997. He established ASHP Accredited Pharmacy Practice Residency Program in Columbus, Ohio and served as Director of Pharmacy at King Faisal specialist Hospital in Jeddah. He founded the Pharma/Medicine and Medical Product Department at the Health Authority in Abu Dhabi. Currently he is the Head of Drugs and Medical Products Regulation Section and chair several committees including: Abu Dhabi Pharmacy and therapeutics Committees; Continuing Pharmacy education committee & Alternative and complementary committee, Pharmacy Council, Vaccine committee, and Allergy and asthma committee. He founded the Drug information and poison control center in Abu Dhabi. Dr. Abuelkhair won the Arab Health Award in 2005 for excellence in pharmacy services. His major area of research interest is in Drug safety and Rational Drug Use. He is frequent speaker at national and international conferences.



Jakub Adamski

Position:	Drug Policy And Pharmacy Department
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Current position & research area:	Jakub Adamski, LL.M., is an EU policy chief expert at the Drug Policy and Pharmacy Department of the Ministry of Health in Poland. He is responsible for pricing and reimbursement of hospital drugs. He is a member of the Rare Diseases Team, an advisory body to the Minister of Health. Adamski is an expert on pricing and reimbursement to the EU Council and European Commission's working groups. He is an appointed member to the European Union Committee of Experts on Rare Diseases (EUCERD) and a member of the EU intergovernmental networks, responsible for exchange of information with EU Member States authorities competent for pricing and reimbursement. Adamski is the co-author of 'Pricing' – a book on pricing and reimbursement policy. He is also a Lecturer of the European Market Access University Diploma (Sorbonne, Paris).



Silke Baumann

Position:	Head of Project Group on the Pricing, Assessment and Reimbursement of Medicines containing New Active Substances
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Current position & research area:	<p>Main focus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation process of the new German law concerning new medicines • benefit assessment of medicines containing new active substances by the Federal Joint Committee • pricing and reimbursement agreement between the Statutory Health Insurance and the pharmaceutical companies • Legal supervision of selfadministration actors concerning the benefit assessment and the pricing agreements • Rational use of high cost medicines • Reimbursement conditions for high cost medicines <p>Furthermore: All drug supply questions in the German Statutory Health Insurance</p>



Christoph Baumgärtel

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Current position & research area:	<p>Following a study at the Vienna Medical University (MD) and several years working in hospitals, Dr. Christoph Baumgärtel joined the Austrian Ministry of Health as a Clinical Assessor. Since 2006 he is the Head of the Clinical Assessors at the Austrian Medicines and Medical Devices Agency AGES PharmMed. He has a degree in Clinical Research and serves since 2004 as the Austrian Safety Working Party Member in the EMA. Since 2008 he is Austrian member of the PK-Expert group at EMA and involved in drafting of Pharmacokinetic-guidelines. He is further Member of the national AIDS-Committee of Austrian Council of Health and a member of its Scientific Advisory Board. He further acts as a peer-Reviewer for International Pharmacology Journals, is co-author of the Austrian Pandemic Preparedness Plan and also an Expert to EFSA for the NDA panel for Evaluation of Risk Reduction Health Claims. He is a Designated Expert of the Austrian Medicines Authority for Generic-Medicines and a Senior Assessor. Further he is the Agency's delegate Member of HTA-Health Technology Assessment Commission of Ministry of Health and the Member of Austrian Medicines Prescription Commission.</p>



Richard Bergström

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Current position & research area:	Richard Bergström has been the Director General of the European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations (EFPIA) since April 2011. Previously he served for nine years as the Director-General of LIF, the Swedish Association of the Pharmaceutical Industry, following positions in Switzerland in regulatory affairs at the pharmaceutical companies Roche and Novartis. Mr Bergström has also been appointed by the Swedish Government to the Board of the Karolinska Institute. He is a pharmacist by training, receiving his MScPharm degree from the University of Uppsala, Sweden in 1988.



Judit Bidló

Position:	Head of Pharmaceutical Reimbursement Department
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Current position & research area:	Judit Bidló started her career at Novartis (at that time Ciba) working in sales and with clinical trials as well. She was also working for the Hungarian Association for Innovative Pharmaceutical Manufacturers, that is an association representing R&D based companies in Hungary. At the National Health Insurance Fund she has already spent 7 years being responsible for the formulation of the drug reimbursement system and budget allocation. Judit Bidló is one of the founders of the Hungarian Health Economics Association. She has a degree as pharmacist (Medical University of Semmelweis, Budapest) and economist (West Hungarian University – postgraduate diploma).



Martina Bogut

Position:	Senior Inspector of Economic Affairs
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Current position & research area:	Martina Bogut is senior inspector of economic affairs in the Department for Drugs and Medical Products in the Croatian Institute for Health Insurance. Her research areas are health economics, analytics and pharmacoeconomics.



John Chave

Position:	Secretary General
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Current position & research area:	<p>John Chave has been Secretary General of the PGEU since June 2006. The Pharmaceutical Group of the European Union (PGEU) is the European Association representing community pharmacists in 31 European countries. A lawyer by training, he worked in the health field in Brussels for seven years before joining PGEU.</p> <p>He is a British national, and was educated at the Universities of Sheffield, Trent and Exeter. In addition to English as mother tongue, Mr Chave speaks Spanish and French.</p> <p>He lives in Brussels and is married with three children.</p>



Seemoon Choi

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Current position & research area:	<p>Seemoon Choi is a doctoral candidate at the Department of Global Health and Population, Harvard School of Public Health. She graduated with a Bachelor's in Nursing from Seoul National University in 1999 and worked as a clinical marking manager in MEDISON, a diagnostic ultrasound manufacturer from 1999–2002. She received an MPH in Health Policy and Management from Seoul National University in 2004. During her master's study, she worked as intern advising health policy issues at the National Assembly. She joined several projects in evaluating aid programs for North Korea, establishing a right-to-health agenda, designing gender-oriented health policy, among other areas. Seemoon's research interests include policy impact evaluation and policy implementation analysis focusing on pharmaceutical policies. Her dissertation topics are to assess the impact of public disclosure of prescribing indicators and to explore political economy in the National Health Insurance reimbursement policy for prescription medicine in South Korea.</p>



Sophie Delcroix-Lopes

Position:	Health economist
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Current position & research area:	Sophie Delcroix-Lopes works as a health economist for the national health insurance fund (CNAMTS) at the Department of Health Care Products. She is in charge of benchmarking pharmaceutical and medical devices coverage, prices and consumption in Europe. Rational prescribing, generic policies of pharmaceuticals and a follow-up of wholesalers and pharmacists remuneration are fields of interest for her.



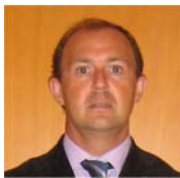
Elizabeth Docteur

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Current position & research area:	Elizabeth Docteur is an independent consultant whose practice assists clients in government and in organizations working on behalf of the public interest to devise and implement health policy reforms. With close to 20 years' experience working to improve health care through positions in the international arena, the U.S. federal government (legislative and executive branches), the private sector and civil society, Ms. Docteur is an internationally recognized expert on the cost and quality performance of health systems, and in policies to promote efficiency in health-care delivery. She was formerly deputy health division chief at the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) in Paris, France, where she led a study of pharmaceutical policies in the OECD and co-authored Pharmaceutical Pricing Policies in a Global Market, a book geared towards informing pharmaceutical policy decisions. She holds a master's degree in public policy from the University of Rochester.



Elfriede Dolinar

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Current position & research area:	Elfriede Dolinar is a board member of the Austrian Pharmaceutical Chamber, president of the Austrian Association of Hospital Pharmacists and vice president of the European Association of Hospital Pharmacists (EAHP).



Jaime Espin

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Current position & research area:	<p>Jaime Espín has a PhD in Economics (University of Granada), a Bachelor Degree in Law (University of Granada) and a Master in Health Economics (Andalusian School of Public Health). He has been Visiting Graduate Fellow in the Department of Economics in the University of California (UCSB), Visiting Professor in Duke University (Fuqua Business School) and Visiting Researcher in The University of Chicago. He has also attended to specialized training activities in the University of Harvard and Oxford.</p> <p>Prof. Espín is expert in European pharmaceutical policies and has been external advisor for the European Commission during the Pharmaceutical Forum. He is currently member of the Experts Committee on Pharmaceutical Policies of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO/WHO) and member of the Pricing Policy Group of the WHO/HAI Project on Medicines Prices and Availability.</p> <p>He is Professor in the Andalusian School of Public Health, where teach and coordinate projects related to health economics, economic evaluations and pharmaceutical policies. He has published on topics such as economic evaluation and pharmaceutical policies.</p>



Margaret Ewen

Position:	Coordinator Global Projects (Pricing)
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Current position & research area:	<p>Margaret Ewen is a pharmacist working in the Global office of Health Action International (HAI) in Amsterdam.</p> <p>Since 2001 she has co-coordinated the WHO/HAI Project on Medicine Prices and Availability. She has provided technical support to over 80 medicine price and availability surveys, undertaken in all regions of the world, using the WHO/HAI price measurement methodology. She has also provided pricing policy and advocacy support to governments and civil society groups in a number of countries.</p> <p>Margaret Ewen also has an interest in drug promotion and in 2002/3 led a campaign in Europe against relaxing the ban on direct-to-consumer advertising of prescription medicines. Before joining HAI, she was a senior advisor at the New Zealand medicines regulatory agency (Medsafe).</p>



Piedad Ferre

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Current position & research area:	Piedad Ferre is pharmacist, technical adviser in the Directorate General for Pharmacy and Health Care Products in the Spanish Ministry of Health, Social policy and Equality to support pharmaceutical policy issues at the national level. She is a member of the technical team involved in the assessment of medicinal products for fixing prices & reimbursement conditions. Her background is in education in medicinal products information and assessment and in the management of documentation sources. Ms. Ferre has wide expertise in the international field: stage in DG Sanco C5 for 2007 Pharmaceutical Forum organisation, member of the organiser team under the Spanish presidency of the European Union in 2010, regular participation in international organizations groups for pharmaceutical issues.



Gilles Forte

Position:	Team Coordinator, Department for Essential Medicines and Health Products
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Current position & research area:	Gilles Forte is coordinator in the Essential Medicines and Health Products Department, in WHO Geneva. He coordinates WHO technical assistance to countries in Africa, the caribbean and pacific islands for implementation of national medicines policies and for improving access to and use of quality medicines. He oversees the development of WHO indicators and tools for monitoring countries pharmaceutical sector and policies and coordinates WHO support to countries for monitoring pharmaceutical situation and for the development of pharmaceutical country profiles. Gilles Forte promotes transparency and accountability of pharmaceutical sector in countries: coordinate WHO support for generation and disclosure of quality information and for a multi-stakeholders approach involving private sector and civil society in policy dialogue and policy formulation.



Margreet Franken

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Current position & research area:	Margreet Franken obtained a BSc in nursing at the Vijverberg Academy in 1992. From 1992 to 2008, she has worked as a specialised coronary care and intensive care nurse, clinical educator and quality care manager at hospitals in Arnhem, Christchurch and Rotterdam. In 2008, Margreet obtained a MSc in Health Economics, Policy and Law at the Erasmus University. Since this time, she has been working as a researcher at the Institute for Health Policy and Management at the Erasmus University Rotterdam. Her research interests include drug reimbursement systems and outcomes research.



Roberto Frontini

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Current position & research area:	Roberto Frontini was born in Milan (Italy) December 20th 1950. He moved to Germany 1969 and he was 1976 – 1981 resident conductor at the theatre of Lübeck. He studied Pharmacy at the University of Hamburg 1988 – 1992 and was post graduate student in pharmaceutical technology at the same University till 1992. 1993 he obtained the PhD (Dr.rer.nat.) and worked at the hospital of the University of Lübeck until 1995. 1996 he obtained specialisation degree in Hospital Pharmacy and become 1996 head of the Pharmacy of the St.Franziskus-Hospital in Cologne. Since 2001 he is Director of Pharmacy at the University Hospital of Leipzig. He was trainer for pharmaceutical technology at the Chamber of Pharmacy Hannover between 1994 and 2005 and since 2004 he is holding the lecture on Pharmacoepidemiology and Economics at the University of Leipzig, school of Pharmacy. 2005 he was elected as Director of Finances of the European Association of Hospital Pharmacists (EAHP) and since 2009 he is its president.



Desdemona Gaba

Position:	Head of Sector of Drugs Reimbursement Analyses
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Current position & research area:	Since 2007 Desdemona Gaba is working at Health Care Insurance Institute of Albania as Head of Sector of Drugs Reimbursement Analyses. She is working on the implementation of drug reimbursement procedures, prepares monthly analyses on the drugs reimbursement expenses in national level and also prepares the draft of Drugs Reimbursement List, etc. She graduated at Faculty of Medicine, University of Tirana and holds a Master Degree in Public Management. She is the permanent representative of Health Care Insurance Institute at the Drugs Prices Commission in Albanian Ministry of Health. Recently Desdemona Gaba has been part of expert working groups from different institutions for improving the pharmaceutical service in Albania. (Ministry of Health, Ministry of Finance, etc.). Since 2006 she represents the Health Care Insurance Institute of Albania in international projects such as PPRI and PHIS.



Adeline Gallini

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Current position & research area:	Adeline Gallini is a PhD candidate in public health at the joint research unit INSERM 1027 – university of Toulouse, France (Epidemiology and analyses in public health: risks, chronic diseases, and disabilities). After her Pharmacy doctorate (2006, university of Toulouse) and her master degree in public health (2008, university Bordeaux 2), she has been a pharmacy resident at the university hospital of Toulouse, the French Department of Health and the National Health Insurance. Her thesis research is on the influence of hospital drug choices on the pharmaceutical consumption in the community. The main goal of her research was to examine whether drugs chosen by university hospitals were the same as those preferentially consumed in the surrounding community. She expects to defend her thesis in November 2011.



Kristina Garuolienė

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Current position & research area:	Kristina Garuolienė is currently responsible for the area of Medicines reimbursement in National Health Insurance Fund in Lithuania. She qualified in Medicine at Vilnius University and has postgraduate studies in pediatrics. He holds Master's degree in public administration. She is responsible for pharmaceutical pricing and reimbursement in Lithuania, coordination of guidelines development process. Her interests include evaluation of rational prescribing: drug utilization studies, databases studies.



Brian Godman

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Current position & research area:	Brian Godman is a Research Scientist at the Karolinska Institutet in Stockholm and the Mario Negri Pharmacology Research Institute, Milan, Italy. He is also an honorary research associate at the Prescribing Research Group, Management School, University of Liverpool, UK. His research activities include evaluating ongoing measures to enhance the quality and efficiency of prescribing of both new and existing products across Europe. This includes initiatives to enhance prescribing of generics at low prices as well as optimise the managed entry of new premium priced drugs given increasing scarce resources. The latter includes developing new models, which incorporate horizon scanning and forecasting pre-launch as well as guidance on risk sharing arrangements peri- and post launch. Brian has also published and presented extensively on a variety of topics in recent years including ongoing pharmaceutical reforms across Europe, their impact and implications for all key stakeholders.



Miguel Vigeant Gomes

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Current position & research area:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Medical degree by the Faculty of Medical Sciences, Lisbon Portugal, 1984. - Certification in Pharmaceutical Medicine by the Doctors' Society, 1997. - Certification in Health Services' Management by the Doctors' Society, 2003. - Fellow at the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Physicians do Royal Colleges of Physicians of the United Kingdom. - Developed his professional career in the pharmaceutical industry since 1987, initially in research and development areas in France and as product manager at Servier Laboratories and at Sandoz as medical advisor. - In 1991 he joined Janssen-Cilag from the Johnson & Johnson Group as medical and regulatory affairs director for Portugal. He was appointed medical director for Spain and Portugal in 2002 and general manager of the Group's Company in Portugal in 2005. His last position in the Group was as medical director for northern Europe charged for the coordination of clinical departments of France, United Kingdom, Germany, Scandinavian countries, Belgium, The Netherlands, Switzerland and Austria. - Since June 2010 is vice-president of the Executive Board of Infarmed, National Authority of Medicines and Health Products, Lisbon, Portugal. - Founder and President (94/98) of AMPIF - Association of the Portuguese Doctors at the Pharmaceutical Industry. - Has been member of the Board of the Portuguese Association of Clinical Pharmacology. - Has been president of the establishing committee of the Pharmaceutical Medicine Section at the National Executive Council of the Doctors' Society, Lisbon, Portugal. - Has been delegate at the executive committee of IFAPP (International Federation of Associations of Pharmaceutical Physicians). - Member of the "Working Party on Education in Pharmaceutical Medicine" at IFAPP. - Member of the British Association of Pharmaceutical Physicians. - Member of the Portuguese Society of Respiratory Pathology. - Has been member of the International Advisory Committee of "JAMA - The Journal of the American Medical Association". - Ex-president of the Alumni of the Faculty of Medical Sciences, Lisbon, Portugal. - Member of the General Council of the Faculty of Medical Sciences, Lisbon, Portugal.



Claudia Habl

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Current position & research area:	Ms. Claudia Habl is head of the Department of Health Economics at the Gesundheit Österreich GmbH (GÖG/ÖBIG). She is a senior health economist and involved in a great number of international pharmaceutical projects including the Austrian Pharmaceutical Price Information Service, EMINet (European Medicines Information Network) or and the European Price Databank (EURIPID) and works as a consultant for the European Union and the World Bank. She is author of a number of international publications in the field of pharmaceuticals and other topics like gender-health and health technology assessment and has participated in several World Bank missions in the field of pharmaceuticals. In addition she heads the Austrian Medical Devices Register and is a Member of the Austrian Independent Pharmaceutical Commission (UHK).



Joëlle M. Hoebert

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Current position & research area:	Joëlle Hoebert is currently working as a PhD student at the Division of Pharmacoepidemiology and Clinical Pharmacology, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Faculty of Science of Utrecht University under the supervision of prof. dr. H.G.M. Leufkens and in close collaboration with Dr. Richard Laing from the Department of Essential Medicines and Pharmaceutical Policies from WHO and Dr. Liset van Dijk from the Netherlands Institute for Health Services Research, The Netherlands. Her research areas are pharmacoepidemiology, drug utilisation research and pharmaceutical policy analysis.



Hans Hogerzeil

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Current position & research area:	<p>Hans Hogerzeil qualified as a medical doctor from Leiden University in the Netherlands and received a Ph.D. in public health in 1984. For five years, he was a mission doctor in India and Ghana. In 1985, he joined the WHO Action Programme of Essential Drugs, first in the Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean in Alexandria, Egypt, and later in the WHO headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland. As a WHO staff member, he has advised more than 40 developing countries on the development of their national medicines policies, essential drugs lists, and essential drugs programs. As secretary of the WHO Expert Committee on the Selection and Use of Essential Medicines, he initiated the recent changes in procedures for updating the Model List of Essential Medicines, which places stronger emphasis on evidence-based selections. He was director of essential medicines and pharmaceutical policies and chair of the Interagency Pharmaceutical Coordination Group until May 2011.</p> <p>Dr. Hogerzeil is the editor of several WHO books on essential medicines policies, the quality use of medicines, medicines in emergency situations and essential medicines for reproductive health. He has published more than 50 scientific papers in peer-reviewed journals and teaches every year at international courses all over the world.</p>



Sveinbjörn Högnason

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Current position & research area:	<p>Sveinbjörn Högnason works for the Icelandic Medicine Pricing and Reimbursement Committee as a specialist. He graduated 1990 from University of Iceland as Bsc. (Business Administration specializing in information technology). He attended various short courses, including, 2009 Reykjavik University EU-Medicine laws, 2011 University of Iceland Public Administration.</p>



Janis Innus

Position:	Acting Head of Drug Economical Evaluation Unit
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Current position & research area:	Janis Innus's educational background is Pharmacy and Economics. His current position (as of 2009) is Acting Head of Drug Economical Evaluation Unit at The Centre of Health Economics. His responsibilities include: evaluation of drug value, based on clinical trial data for the inclusion of a particular drug in the positive list of reimbursement system, and statistical analysis of reimbursement products. Previous experience is Senior Expert of Drug Economical Evaluation Unit at the State Medicines Pricing and Reimbursement Agency with the similar functions (2007–2009) and Senior Specialist at Department of Pharmacy in Ministry of Health of Latvia (2005–2007), where he was involved in the Legislation process of the Pharmaceutical system .



Verica Ivanovska

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Current position & research area:	Verica Ivanovska holds a position as researcher at the Faculty of Medical Sciences in Stip, Republic of Macedonia since 2010. Her current research area is analysis of aspects of national pharmaceutical system and policy within the concept of pharmaceutical care, pharmaceutical pricing and use of medicines. Before joining this post, Verica Ivanovska worked with WHO Geneva investigating the impact of interventions on rational use of medicines. She holds bachelor of pharmacy degree, UK master degree of public health and various international certificates on research in pharmacy practice.



Kees de Joncheere

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Current position & research area:	<p>Kees de Joncheere coordinates the WHO country assistance in the pharmaceutical sector for Central and Eastern Europe, as well as the Newly Independent States; and collaborates closely with western European countries and the European Commission on pharmaceutical policy issues, among others through the Pharmaceutical Pricing and Reimbursement Information (PPRI) project.</p> <p>He holds Master`s degrees in pharmacy and business administration from the Universities of Groningen and Amsterdam in the Netherlands, and from National University, San Diego, USA / San Jose, Cost Rica.</p> <p>Among others, his particular interest is in public policy on medicines, especially on pharmaceutical pricing and reimbursement in Europe, as well approaches to strengthen medicines regulation and improve the use of medicines.</p>



Karin Kadenbach

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Current position & research area:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Education and Training: Graduated in Advertising and Marketing at Vienna University of Economics (1980); University degree in advertising management, Vienna University of Economics (1983) – Career: Advertising management assistant at J.W.Thompson advertising agency, Vienna (1976–1984). Bringing up children (1984–1994). Self-employed PR consultant (2008 to 2009). Election campaign coordinator, Association of Elected Local Government Officials – Lower Austria Region of the Austrian Social Democratic Party (SPÖ) (February 1994 – December 1994). Manager, Women's Section, Lower Austria Region of the SPÖ (January 1995 – October 1999). Regional Manager, Lower Austria Region of the SPÖ (November 1999 – January 2007). District vice-chair and member, Regional Party Executive; women's vice-chair (since 1995). Municipal councillor and senior councillor in Großmugl (1990–2006). Member of the Lower Austria Regional Assembly (2001–2007 and April 2008 – July 2009). Regional councillor for health and nature conservation in the Lower Austria Regional Executive (January 2007 – April 2008). Deputy District Chairman of Korneuburg (since 2005 ongoing). Member of the European Parliament (since July 2009 ongoing) – Functions in the European Parliament: Member of the Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety, Deputy member of Committee on Regional Development, Deputy member of the Agriculture Committee, Member of the Delegation for relations with the countries of South Asia, Deputy member of the delegation for relations with the U.S.



Marija Kalaba

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Current position & research area:	After spending the early years of her career as medical doctor (pediatric specialist) she joined National Health Insurance Fund Serbia in 2006. Marija Kalaba is a Head of the Department for Health Technology Assessment. Her responsibilities include budget impact analyzes for introducing and implementation of new technologies, information analysis, pricing for outstandard medical servicies, preparation and developing special projects and financial analysis as needed. Her research activities include drug utilisation studies aimed to evaluate factors related to the prescribing. She also holds a Masters degree of Health Management.



Lena Katsomiti

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Current position & research area:	Lena Katsomiti is working as pharmacist at the National Organization of Medicines (EOF), and is advisor to the Greek Minister of Health in the area of introduction and implementation of several reforms concerning the rationalization of public pharmaceutical expenditures. Special fields: introduction of e-prescribing, pricing and reimbursement mechanisms, pharmacy-regulations.



Eric L. Keuffel

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Current position & research area:	Eric Keuffel is an Assistant Professor in the Risk, Insurance and Healthcare Management Department at the Fox School of Business. His research interests include economics and policy of the pharmaceutical/life sciences industry, international health systems, health finance and the economics of prevention and wellness. Dr. Keuffel also served as a consultant on a variety of health finance/economics projects for private firms, multilaterals organizations (e.g. World Bank) and foundations. He earned his bachelor's degree in economics from Princeton University (Magna cum Laude), his master's in public health (MPH) from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and his PhD in Applied Economics and Managerial Science from the Wharton School (University of Pennsylvania).



SeongOk Kim

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Current position & research area:	<p>SeongOk Kim is a Korea Foundation/LSE Academic Exchange Fellow at the LSE Asia Research Centre. Dr. Kim was a senior researcher in the National Health Insurance Corporation of Korea where she was responsible for pharmaceutical reimbursement policies and pricing information. She has been a research fellow at the Department of Population Medicine (formerly the Department of Ambulatory Care and Prevention), Harvard Medical School in 2006.</p> <p>Research interests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Pharmaceutical reimbursement and pricing policies – Decisions about cost-effective drug use in the context of the social health insurance system



Marta Kipena

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Current position & research area:	<p>Marta Kipena has been working in The Centre of Health Economics of Latvia (formerly The State Medicines Pricing and Reimbursement Agency of Latvia) since February 2008, first as pharmacist in the Pharmaceutical Evaluation Unit, and since March 2009 as Senior Officer in the Therapeutical Evaluation Unit. She is responsible for making therapeutical and pharmacoeconomic evaluation of pharmaceutical products as a basis for making a decision on including products in the Reimbursement system.</p> <p>In 2008 she graduated of the Faculty of Pharmacy of Riga Stradins University (Riga, Latvia), and in November 2009 started doctoral studies in Pharmacy in Riga Stradins University. The theme of her doctoral dissertation is the therapeutical and cost analysis of the medical therapy of breast cancer in Latvia.</p>



Lars V. Kristiansen

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Current position & research area:	Lars Kristiansen's scientific background is the area of molecular neuroscience. Since 2009, he has worked as Science Officer at the ESF in the Life and Biomedical sciences units where he has core responsibilities as liaison for several EUROCORES and networking programs. Other activities within the strategic domain include the development of new initiatives in the biomedical areas as well as scientific coordinator for several Forward Look programs including the ESF Forward Look on Personalised Medicine.



David Kullman

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Current position & research area:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Over 20 years experience of pricing and reimbursement of medicines in the UK at the Department of Health – in particular, on the Pharmaceutical Price Regulation Scheme (PPRS) including as a member of the Department's team, which negotiated the 2005 and 2009 schemes with the industry. – UK representative on the EU Transparency Committee and at network meetings of competent authorities for pricing and reimbursement held under the EU presidency. A member of the Steering Group of the Platform on Access to Medicines in Europe. An active participant in the Pharmaceutical Pricing and Reimbursement Information (PPRI) and Pharmaceutical Health Information System (PHIS) networks and the European Integrated Price Information Database (EURIPID) project. – Recently moved to a new role within the Department of Health responsible for pharmaceutical industry relations and policy.



Richard Laing

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Current position & research area:	<p>Richard Laing is a physician who worked at all levels for 18 years in the Ministry of Health Zimbabwe. After receiving post graduate degrees in public health and health policy, he spent 13 years in Boston, USA. He initially worked for an international consulting company establishing the International Network for the Rational Use of Drugs (INRUD).</p> <p>He was then a professor of international public health at Boston University School of Public Health before joining WHO in mid 2003 as a medical officer. He has served on a number of WHO Expert Committees. He has an extensive list of academic publications and is one of the editors and authors of the standard text Managing Drug Supply. At WHO, he is responsible for editing the Essential Drugs Monitor and for coordinating training and research related to promoting rational use of drugs in the community. He was one of the authors of the Priority Medicines for Europe and the World report. Most recently Prof. Laing has been engaged in working on measurement of medicines pricing and availability as part of the joint WHO/HAI project on Medicine prices. He is now the Coordinator for the Medicines Information and Evidence for Policy Unit and is the editor of the World Medicines Situation 2011 report.</p>



Alexandre Lemgruber

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Current position & research area:	<p>Alexandre Lemgruber has recently assumed the position of Regional Advisor in Health Technologies at the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO). He is responsible for areas including Health Technology Assessment (HTA), pricing and economic evaluation.</p> <p>From 2001 to July 2011 Mr. Lemgruber worked at the Brazilian Health Regulatory Agency (ANVISA), where he was responsible for proposing a price regulation policy based on HTA and has contributed significantly to support HTA activities in the country. From 2003 to July 2011 he was the Head of the HTA Office at the Agency.</p> <p>He is the founder of the Brazilian Bulletin of Health Technology Assessment (BRATS) and was a member of the National Commission of Health Technologies Incorporation (CITEC). As one of the Brazilian representatives in the Health Technology Assessment Commission at MERCOSUR, he has contributed significantly to support HTA activities in the Region. He has coordinated several projects in the field of HTA, in cooperation between ANVISA and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO). He was also co-author of the Brazilian Policy of Health Technology Management.</p> <p>Alexandre Lemgruber holds a Masters Degree on Public Policies and Government Planning, specialization degrees on Health Economics and on Pharmacoeconomics, and an undergraduate degree on Engineering.</p>



Luca Li Bassi

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Current position & research area:	<p>The PMAS Team provides Technical Support for the implementation of Global Fund Grants with regard to management of Pharmaceuticals and other health products. It also participates in the periodic reviews of grants, which assess their performance in order to renew future level of funding. The Team ultimate objective is to improve access to safe, effective and affordable pharmaceuticals and health products, which are critical for the successful implementation of Global Fund grants in the 145 countries it operates.</p> <p>In order to achieve this objective, we identify the strength and weaknesses of in-country Pharmaceutical Systems and recommend strengthening measures to be included during program implementation.</p> <p>The Pharmaceutical and Health Product (PHPM) Country Profile is a tool that provides detailed information on in-country Pharmaceutical Sectors, the policies, systems and structures available to manage pharmaceuticals and other health products in an efficient and effective way.</p> <p>His area of interest is “access to pharmaceuticals”. Prior to joining the Global Fund in 2005, Luca Li Bassi worked for the Italian Medicine Agency (AIFA), the European Medicine Agency (EMA), the Italian Cooperation and the Pharmaceutical Management Agency of New Zealand (PHARMAC). He holds an MD degree from the University of Milan (Italy), and degrees in both Health Management (Auckland University) and Public Health (Otago University).</p>



Christine Leopold

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Current position & research area:	<p>Christine Leopold has wide experience in international, national and regional research of pharmaceutical systems in the EU Member States, Albania, Norway, Switzerland and Turkey. Since 2005, Ms. Leopold has worked at the Austrian Health Institute (Gesundheit Österreich GmbH), Department of Health Economics, where she is an expert for pharmaceutical pricing and reimbursement policy analysis as well as being responsible for international relations in her core work, which is dedicated to three major EU projects (PPRI http://ppri.goeg.at, PHIS http://phis.goeg.at, EMINet). Besides working at the EU level, Ms. Leopold coordinates several projects for Austrian decision-makers such as the Main Association of Austrian Social Security Institutions. Additionally, she is the co-author of numerous studies in the pharmaceutical field, for example reference price systems in the European Union. Her first Master's degree is in International Business Relations with a focus on Central & Eastern European Countries from the University of Applied Science, Austria. Additionally, she holds a Master's degree in International Health Care Management, Economics and Policy from Bocconi University, Italy (2003–2004). In 2008, she received a scholarship for the European Health Forum Gastein and is now a member of the Young Gastein group. Since September 2009 she has been working on her PhD at the Utrecht University, Division of Pharmacoepidemiology & Pharmacotherapy / WHO Collaborating Centre.</p>



Rickard Malmström

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Current position & research area:	Rickard E Malmström, M.D. Ph.D. Associate Professor. He got his Ph.D. degree in pharmacology in 1997, and became Associate Professor in 2002, both at the Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm, Sweden. His main research interests are within cardiovascular pharmacology, drug development and clinical trials; areas in which he has around 50 original papers, reviews, book chapters and opinion papers published. He became M.D. in 1999 and specialist in Clinical Pharmacology in 2006. At present he is Senior Consultant and Head of the Drug Safety and Evaluation Sector, Clinical Pharmacology, Karolinska University Hospital. A medical director of the regional Health Technology Assessment of New Drugs, which is now part of a national collaboration, he is also a member of the Stockholm County Council Drug Committee and the Drug Committee's Cardiovascular Expert Council.



Aukje Mantel-Teeuwisse

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Current position & research area:	Aukje Mantel-Teeuwisse (*1973) was trained as a pharmacist and obtained her PhD degree in Pharmacoepidemiology (2004) at Utrecht University. Thereafter she was appointed assistant professor at the same department. She worked at the Dutch Medicines Evaluation Board (MEB) as a pharmacovigilance expert and liaison for the collaboration between Utrecht University and the MEB (2005–2010). From 2008 onwards, she is appointed managing director of the WHO Collaborating Centre for Pharmacoepidemiology & Pharmaceutical Policy Analysis. The Centre participates in the TI Pharma Escher project. Key objectives of this project are to identify, evaluate and remove regulatory bottlenecks hampering the efficiency in pharmaceutical innovation and stimulate factors helping innovation. In addition, the Centre is one of the consortium members of the EU ATOME project. Aukje's main research interests include drug regulatory science, pharmacovigilance, pharmaceutical policy analysis and rational drug use.



Jaana Martikainen

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Current position & research area:	Jaana Martikainen is the Head of Drug Research, Lic.Sc. (Pharm.), Research Department in the Social Insurance Institution, Helsinki, Finland. Her research interests include prescribing and use of medicines, medicinal costs and effects of drug reimbursement systems. She participated in international research projects in the area of statistics on drug consumption and costs.



Ján Mazag

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Current position & research area:	<p>Since March 2006 Jan Mazag works at the State Institute for Drug Control, Bratislava, Slovakia as an executive director. His main task is to arrange the activities within the medicine agency namely licensing of human medicines, postlicensing activities, inspections in the field of human medicines production, distribution and dispensing, quality assurance, medical devices regulation. Market surveillance for use of medicines and medical devices is another important activity of State Institute. Besides responsibilities in the Agency Mr. Mazag is in close co-operation with the respective department in the Ministry of Health, Slovakia for pricing and reimbursement issues for medicines.</p> <p>From 2005 Mr. Mazag was involved in international collaboration in the field of human medicines, namely PPRI –Pharmaceutical Pricing and Reimbursement Information – a networking and information-sharing initiative focusing on topical issues of pharmaceutical policies from a public health perspective. The network of competent regulatory persons in pharmaceutical pricing and reimbursement systems was developed across EU countries as follow-up of the PPRI EU research project (2005–2007). Mr. Mazag actively contributed to project from the perspective of Slovak republic but also from international perspective.</p> <p>Mr. Mazag actively contributed to the EU research project Pharmaceutical Health Information System (PHIS), which started in September 2008, as Work Package Leader. This project aimed at improving the exchange of information and knowhow on pharmaceutical systems, in particular pricing and reimbursement, in the EU member states, for the first time also for the in-patient sector. Mr. Mazag actively contributed to Health care report in respect to Drug policy in Slovak republic and other countries in collaboration with OECD in the past, presently he is a member of Committee for Human Medicinal Products at European Medicine Agency (EMA) and a member of advisory committee for pricing at Ministry of Health in Slovak republic.</p>



Øyvind Melien

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Current position & research area:	Øyvind Melien is senior adviser in the field of Medicines Use And Safety. He engaged in international collaboration through OECD-GSF to facilitate cooperation in non-commercial clinical trials. He is specialist in clinical pharmacology with research in pharmacogenetics and has experience as leader of Drug and Therapeutics Committees at Rikshospitalet University Hospital and Health Region South East in Norway.



Margarit Melikyan

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Current position & research area:	Margarit Melikyan is a member of the Board of NGO "Drug Utilization Research Group in Armenia". She is in this position since 1998. Ms. Melikyan is actively involved in research projects carried out by the NGO, particularly in the field of medicines policy, use, pharmacoepidemiology and pharmacoconomics. Margarit Melikyan published several related research papers and articles in the mentioned fields – both in Armenian and foreign publications. In 2004 Ms. Melikyan attended at the second international conference on improving use of medicines in chang mai, thailand and presented a poster on the research "outcomes of introducing the essential drugs concept in Armenia". In 2009 she participated in the "patient advocacy seminar for palliative care in cancer care", which took place in Budapest, Hungary.



Ntobeko Mpanza

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Current position & research area:	Ms. Ntobeko Mpanza is Director for the Pharmaceutical Economic Evaluations (PEE) Directorate. The PEE Directorate, established in 2003 by the Minister of Health, is responsible to implement a transparent pricing system in South Africa in all sectors except the State Sector. Ms. Mpanza started her career in high school learning, teaching as a Maths and Science teacher. She obtained her B Scad Science degree from the University of Zululand in 1993 and taught for almost 4 years. Ms Mpanza later ventured into pharmacy, a degree she obtained from Rhodes University in the year 2000. Policy development and implementation is Ms Mpanza's area of interest and specialty, particularly in medicines. A study commissioned and fully supported by Haiweb, on Medicines Prices survey in Gauteng province in South Africa – realized by Ms Mpanza and a colleague in the department of Health – is available on www.haiweb.org . Ms Mpanza was recently involved in the development of oncology Standard Treatment Guidelines at the World Health Organization (WHO) in Geneva. Part of her work with the WHO involved the analysis of affordability of Asthma medicines Beclomethasone and Salbutamol in more than 10 countries .This work has since been used as part of WHO publications.



Kate Mulvenna

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Current position & research area:	Kate Mulvenna is the Chairperson of the 'Products Committee' which operates as the gateway to Reimbursement status under the general medical services and community drugs schemes for drugs and medicines in Ireland. She is also the Head of pharmacy function in the Primary Care Reimbursement Service within the Health Service Executive and is responsible for the operation of the Community Pharmacy Contractor Agreements within the Republic of Ireland. She has a particular interest in influencing prescriber behaviour and patient adherence.



Valérie Paris

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Current position & research area:	<p>Valérie Paris has joined the Secretariat of the Organisation for Economic Development and Cooperation (OECD) in September 2005 to contribute to the work undertaken by the Health Division. Since then, she has contributed to several projects on health systems' characteristics and performance. She is a co-author of the report on pharmaceutical pricing policies published in 2008 by the OECD and continues to follow developments in pharmaceutical policies for the Health Division.</p> <p>Previously, she was researcher at the French Institute of Research and Information on Health Economics (IRDES), a non-for-profit organization. She participated in research projects on pharmaceutical policies, physicians' payment schemes, health accounts and comparative analysis of health systems.</p> <p>She holds a master's degree in Economics, statistics and econometrics from the University of Paris 1-Sorbonne (1990).</p>



Aarti Patel

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Current position & research area:	<p>SADC's Pharmaceutical business plan (2007 – 2013) provides strategic priorities for the SADC regional economic community with its 14 active member states to improve access to essential medicines. Aarti Patel provides technical assistance towards implementation of these priorities by directly supporting the senior programme officer responsible for health and pharmaceuticals as well as member states. Her position is funded through dfid-sa's southern African regional programme on access to medicines (SARPAM). Within the 8 priorities of the business plan, Sarpam's support is focused on areas of regional cooperation in medicines' procurement, regulation, and improving access through the trips flexibilities. We also engage with civil society and the private sector to better understand the SADC pharmaceutical marketplace plus creating a platform for information exchange for decision-making. Her research area is around regional approaches to improving access to medicines.</p>



Kenneth R. Paterson

Position:	Professor
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Current position & research area:	<p>Educated and trained in Glasgow, Ken Paterson was appointed consultant physician with interest in diabetes mellitus at Glasgow Royal Infirmary in 1986. In addition to his clinical work in a busy city-centre diabetes service, he was actively involved in the wider world of diabetes, forming the Glasgow Local Diabetes Services Advisory Group and chairing a SIGN guideline development group looking at diabetic renal disease.</p> <p>He has also worked for the British Diabetic Association (now Diabetes UK), chairing both its Professional Advisory Committee and Project Grant Committee, and served on the Council of the European Association for the Study of Diabetes (EASD). He was Honorary Secretary of the Royal College of Physicians & Surgeons of Glasgow from 2001 – 2004 and is currently a Member of the Board of the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Medicine. He was also Clinical Director of Medicine for North-East Glasgow (Glasgow Royal Infirmary and Stobhill Hospital) from 2006 – 2008.</p> <p>His other interests include clinical pharmacology and therapeutics and, after many years as Vice-Chair of his local Area Drug and Therapeutics Committee, became Chair of the New Drugs Committee of the Scottish Medicines Consortium (SMC) in 2004 and held the Chair of SMC from 2008 to 2011.</p> <p>Ken recently stepped down from his clinical post and plans to continue his interests in health technology assessment of medicines and medicines management.</p>



Joan Rovira

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Current position & research area:	<p>Joan Rovira has been lecturing and doing research and consulting mainly in the areas of economic evaluation of health technologies, pricing and financing of pharmaceuticals, drug market regulation and the economics of tobacco.</p> <p>His present areas of interest include economic evaluation of health technologies, modeling disease processes, economics of smoking, health systems financing, IP policies pricing, generic drug policies, local production, and other topics related to innovation and accessibility to medicines.</p>



Bettina Schmickl

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Current position & research area:	Bettina Schmickl has extensive experience in the analysis of pharmaceutical prices on European as well as an international level. Since 2005 Ms. Schmickl has worked at the Austrian Health Institute (Gesundheit Österreich GmbH). First she worked at the Department of Health-care Planning and then changed to the Department of Health Economics, where she is an expert on pharmaceutical prices and medical devices. She is also a team member of the web-based platform on Austrian hospitals. At the moment her main projects are the translation of the GMDN-Code from English into German in collaboration with Germany and Switzerland, as well as the EU project "Infoprice" where different prices from all EU countries and Switzerland are compared regularly. Her Master's degree is in Economics from the Faculty of Economical Sciences of the University of Applied Science in Wiener Neustadt. Additionally, she works as an Emergency Medical Technician on a voluntary basis. Because of previous employments she has extensive experience in project management and leadership.



Erik Schokkaert

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Current position & research area:	Erik Schokkaert (*1954) is full professor of public economics at the Department of Economics and chairs the interdisciplinary think tank "Metaforum" at the KULeuven. He has been visiting professor at the London School of Economics. His research focuses on (a) the theoretical modelling of different concepts of distributive justice; (b) the application of these concepts for the analysis of specific policy problems in the fields of health, social security and taxation. He has participated in many applied research projects on the accessibility of the Belgian health care system and on the (risk-adjusted) financing of the Belgian sickness funds. He has published in academic journals such as Rand Journal of Economics, Journal of Health Economics, Health Economics, Journal of Public Economics, Health Policy. With Wulf Gaertner he just finished a book on Empirical Social Choice: Questionnaire-Experimental Studies on Distributive Justice, that will be published by Cambridge University Press.



A.R. Schuurman

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Current position & research area:	<p>Ad Schuurman completed his study in Utrecht as a clinical psychologist in 1980. He subsequently worked for five years as head of a patients' association. In the following years, as staff officer of a regional Institute for Mental Health, he organized the cooperation the Regional Institutes for Mental Health and the other healthcare organisations. After spending several years as manager of the national project relating to pharmacotherapeutic decisionmaking, he became head of a geriatric department.</p> <p>In the meantime he completed studies on management consultancy and on business administration (MBA).</p> <p>As deputy director of the Dutch College of General Practitioners (NHG), he set up the Electronic Prescription System. In recent years, as manager of the Pharmacy department, he was responsible for the pharmacy-related activities of the CVZ. Since 2006 he was head of the Reimbursement Department, covering the healthcare reimbursement issues in the Netherlands.</p> <p>In 2006 he became President of the Medical Evaluation Committee (MEDEV) in Brussels, in which reimbursement authorities of 18 EU countries cooperate.</p> <p>Since 2010 is Ad is Head of Business Contactcentre and International Affairs of the Dutch Health Care Insurance Board (CVZ).</p>



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Regina Skavron

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Mehtap Tatar

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Current position & research area:	<p>Mehtap Tatar's research fields/interests are in health economics and health policy, health care reforms in Turkey and other countries, health care financing and national health accounts, reimbursement and pricing policies of pharmaceuticals, health technology assessment and economic evaluation in health care</p>



Cara Usher

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Current position & research area:	Cara Usher is Senior Research Fellow at the National Centre for Pharmacoeconomics – the independent body responsible for conducting health technology assessments of pharmaceutical products for the health care payer (i.e. HSE) in Ireland. She holds a PhD (pharmacology) from university college Dublin and is currently undertaking a diploma in health economics from the university of York. Overall her work has focused on evaluation of health care technologies, education about the evaluation process and examining the effects of reimbursement decisions through a national primary care prescription database. Her research interests include analysis of pharmaceutical policy interventions and their impact on prescribing in the community. She holds a new investigator award from the international society for pharmacoeconomics and outcomes research (ISPOR, 2008) and is a visiting research fellow at Trinity College Dublin.



Irma van den Arend

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Current position & research area:	<p>Irma van den Arend is Senior Director of Pricing & Market Access for Ipsen Pharma. When Irma joined Ipsen in 2008, she created the Corporate Pricing, Reimbursement and Funding function including the processes and the team. She was successful in raising market access awareness within the company and established new working processes with affiliates, as part of the strategic vision and action plan for the function. In her role Irma is responsible for the development, implementation and maintenance of international pricing and market access strategies, including anticipating price impacts of international price referencing rules. She assesses the price potential for business development opportunities and supports activities for pipeline market access strategy development. Also as part of this function she advises the drug development organization on clinical and health economic evidence needed for market access.</p> <p>Irma has evolved in the Life Sciences sector for 20 years in a mix of pharma (Ipsen, BMS and Janssen Cilag), healthcare-related consulting (Healthy Solutions) and academic research at the Utrecht University in the Netherlands. Irma studied Medical Biology, has a Master's degree in Public Health and a PhD in Health Care Management and Epidemiology.</p>



Sabine Vogler

Position:	Head of the WHO Collaborating Centre of Pharmaceutical Pricing and Reimbursement Policies at the Health Economics Department and Head of the Pharma team
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Current position & research area:	Sabine Vogler is head of the WHO Collaborating Centre and of the Pharma team which is composed of staff of the Department of Health Economics. She is a senior health economist with in-depth knowledge on European countries with regard to pharmaceutical pricing/prices, reimbursement and distribution, as well as cost-containment reforms, access and affordability issues. Dr. Sabine Vogler is the project leader of the PPRI project (http://ppri.goeg.at) and the Pharmaceutical Health Information System (PHIS) project (http://phis.goeg.at), both including networks of competent authorities from the whole EU. She has regularly been invited to seminars and conferences, and she has published several Austrian and international studies and reports. She is a member of the Austrian Pharmacological Society. Additionally, she is a volunteer at a human rights organisation and has gained major knowledge on human rights, including labour and social rights. Before joining the Austrian Health Institute in 1995, Dr. Vogler worked as research assistant at the Department of Social Policies at the Vienna University of Business Administration and Economics, where she also did her doctorate on care for elderly people.



Lenka Vostalová

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Current position & research area:	Lenka Vostalová is a pricing and reimbursement specialist dealing with price references (both external and internal) for the purpose of setting maximum prices and reimbursement prices in the Czech Republic. She is responsible for evaluation of reimbursement price and conditions in the ongoing revision of all reimbursable pharmaceuticals, mainly in the pharmacotherapeutic group of antibiotics. Furthermore she is responsible for assessing relative effectiveness, safety profile and usage of each antibiotic in clinical practice in the Czech Republic. According to the evaluation of the above mentioned characteristics pharmaceuticals are clustered into the reference groups which have the same reimbursement price based mainly on external reference pricing. The department of statistics and analyses also evaluates impacts of the changes stemming from pricing and reimbursement regulation including evaluation and analyses of planned changes e.g. in legislation.



Anita Katharina Wagner

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Current position & research area:	<p>Anita Katharina Wagner conducts research to inform evidence-based decisions for improving affordable access to and use of medicines for vulnerable populations, particularly in low and middle income countries. She founded and leads the global Medicines and Insurance Coverage Initiative (MedIC), a unique partnership between academics, health care delivery systems, health financing institutions, and international organizations which aims to improve population health by supporting the design, implementation, evaluation, and routine monitoring of evidence-based medicines benefit policies across the world.</p> <p>Dr. Wagner received her Master of Public Health degree in international health and Doctor of Public Health degree in epidemiology from the Harvard School of Public Health. She also holds a doctorate in clinical pharmacy from the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Allied Health Sciences and a German master-equivalent degree in pharmacy.</p>



Philip Wahlster

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Current position & research area:	<p>Philip Wahlster studied pharmacy in Saarbrücken and Greifswald. He spent 6 month at the School of Pharmacy of the University of Auckland. Philip's project included a systematic literature review on the access to high cost drugs, a field of research that is rapidly growing. This compilation became the basis of a diploma thesis he compiled and a manuscript that is currently prepared for publication in a peer-reviewed journal (with a second one planned).</p>



Veronika J. Wirtz

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Current position & research area:	Veronika J. Wirtz, BFarm, MSc, PhD has joined the National Institute of Public Health in Mexico in 2004 where she has been involved in a wide range of national and international program evaluations and policy studies focusing on medicines access and use. She has worked as a technical advisor for various international organizations, among them the World Health Organization, Pan America Health Organization, the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and Health Action International. She has also worked with the Ministry of Health in Mexico on various program evaluations and capacity building initiatives. Dr. Wirtz brings extensive experience in antiretroviral medicines price analysis at global level as well as procurement and supply chain management in Latin America. She also carried out analysis cross-country comparison on medicines consumption data using large sales data bases to inform policy to promote adequate medication use.



Nina Zimmermann

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Current position & research area:	Nina Zimmermann has experience in international, national and regional research of pharmaceutical systems in the EU Member States. Ms. Zimmermann works at the Austrian Health Institute (GÖG/ÖBIG) in Vienna, Department of Health Economics, where she is doing research in two major EU projects on pharma-economic issues (PPRI, PHIS) and other relevant projects at national level in the pharmaceutical field. Only recently she conducted a research study on the pharmaceutical system in Austrian hospitals with a special focus on pricing and reimbursement. Nina Zimmermann has a master's degree in Health Management with a specialisation in hospital management and health promotion from the University of Applied Science Krems, Austria. Furthermore she completed a master course on "European studies – Management of EU projects" at the University of Applied Science Eisenstadt, Austria. She has also gained working experience in the fields of injury prevention and addiction prevention as well as international cooperation and research projects.