

Off-patent biologicals and biosimilars tendering in Europe – a proposal towards more sustainable practices

Pharmaceuticals – Biosimilars special issue

Liese Barbier, Steven Simoens, Caroline Soontjens, Barbara Claus, Arnold G. Vulto, Isabelle Huys

Corresponding author: Liese Barbier, Email: liese.barbier@kuleuven.be

| Supp. Table S2. Survey questions and results - Experience with and perceptions about tenders for off-patent biologicals and biosimilars | | |
|---|---|-------------|
| Question | Answer options | Results |
| What is the experience of your organisation with tendering for biological medicines? | Not (yet) tendered for biological medicines | 7% (4/56) |
| | Limited experience | 32% (18/56) |
| | Moderate experience (conducted multiple tenders for biologicals) | 36% (20/56) |
| | Extensive experience | 25% (14/56) |
| Please indicate which stakeholders participate in formulating the tender conditions/criteria and subsequent product selection: <i>(multiple answers possible)</i> | Hospital pharmacist | 88% (50/57) |
| | Physician | 68% (39/57) |
| | Procurement office | 67% (38/57) |
| | Hospital board of directors | 26% (15/57) |
| | 3 rd party payer | 3% (2/57) |
| | Insurer | 2% (1/57) |
| | Other | 25% (14/57) |
| <i>Mentioned open answers under “Other”: hospital management, lawyer, nursing staff, patient representative/organization</i> | | |
| Are there differences between tendering procedures applied for biologicals and small molecule medicines? | Yes | 44% (23/52) |
| | No | 46% (24/52) |
| | I don’t know | 8% (4/52) |
| | Other | 2% (1/52) |
| | <i>Mentioned differences under “Yes”: more attention towards discussion with prescribers, greater involvement of HCP staff due to switch, reimbursement, deciding to include biosimilar and RP in same lot or not, switching restrictions, administration route, device or dosage, differences in internal mandate; the emotion with biologicals is greater, tender level: on active substance vs therapeutic group, criteria applied</i> | |
| <i>Mentioned open answer under “Other”: theoretically not, but there are difficulties with switching patients</i> | | |
| Which challenges do you identify with tendering for biological medicines? | Questions about interchangeability and switching between a biological | 60% (31/52) |

Off-patent biologicals and biosimilars tendering in Europe

| | | |
|---|---|-------------|
| <i>(multiple answers possible)</i> | reference product and its biosimilar(s) | |
| | Formulation of award criteria | 25% (13/52) |
| | Supply chain reliability | 23% (12/52) |
| | I do not identify specific challenges with tendering for biological medicines, different from those with tendering for medicines in general | 21% (11/52) |
| | Formulation of criteria to select viable suppliers | 19% (10/52) |
| | Other | 10% (5/52) |
| | <i>Mentioned open answers under “Other”: knowledge of involved stakeholders, switching between biosimilars, device</i> | |
| <u>Abbreviations:</u> RP: reference product | | |