EFPN
EUROPEAN FAIR PRICING NETWORK

The European Fair Pricing Network (EFPN) aims to achieve fair prices for cancer medicines and works towards a sustainable pharmaceutical market which produces accessible, affordable and truly innovative medicines for patients.

Message 1	Message 2	Message 3
Secure timely access to best available medicines to patients who need them	**Achieve a fair price for cancer medicines**	**Increase transparency in the pharmaceutical system**
There have been significant advances in medical treatment of cancer in the past decades, however, access to new therapies remains a challenge. Timely access to products with proven benefit should be assured for patients who need them. Significant differences exist in patient access to cancer treatments throughout Europe. These differences and access delays are often caused by unaffordability, lack of robust clinical evidence, differences in decision making policies, different payment systems and budgetary constraints.	A 'fair price' is justifiable, predictable and cost-effective within the aims and priorities of the healthcare systems and the available budget.* (ECL 2020) Pharmaceutical spending, and especially spending on novel oncology medicines are rapidly rising. The quantity of expensive cancer medicine entering the European market increases, which challenges economical sustainability. Prices are independent of efficacy, and variate across countries due to private negotiations and rebates. ** Whereas 'justifiable' means a price that reflects the documented and clinically relevant benefit of the medicine, and a reasonable relationship between the cost of bringing the product to market (including R&D, production, marketing) and the price.* *Whereas 'predictable' relates to the need for health payers, policy makers and systems to be able to predict the total costs of investing in the treatment.* *'Cost-effective'(ness) could be a common criterion for evaluating whether the price seems 'justifiable' as it links benefits with costs in a systematic way and provides a comparable decision-making tool across healthcare interventions.* *Finally, 'affordability' addresses the financial side of the sustainability of health systems.* *A prerequisite for obtaining fairer prices is a higher level of transparency and access to information about end-user prices, documentation of product value and the cost of developing and bringing the pharmaceutical product to market as well as reimbursement decision-making processes.*	Transparency is needed throughout the entire system. Starting from research and development all the way to manufacturing, marketing, trade, financing and governmental evaluation and approval. A transparent system, understandable for both patients and payers, should ensure timely access to best available treatments. These should be uniformly assessed based on safety, quality, efficacy, and cost-effectiveness.

Supporting Facts 1	Supporting Facts 2	Supporting Facts 3
• Timely access to newly developed cancer medicines varies largely across European countries (Jönsson, Hofmarcher et al. 2016, Uyl-de Groot, Heine et al. 2020) • Coverage, access and societal willingness to pay for cancer medicines may vary at national, regional and institutional level. (OECD 2020) • To ensure timely patient access, current processes have to be adapted to keep pace with scientific developments and affordability needs. (Wilking, Bucsics et al. 2019)	• Over the last two decades, health spending on cancer and especially cancer medicines have increased faster than the increase in cancer incidence. (Hofmarcher, Lindgren et al. 2020) • There is no significant association between treatment price and clinical benefit. (Vokinger, Hwang et al. 2020) • Actual costs of cancer medicines vary across countries and are untransparent due to rebates and private negotiations. (van Harten, Wind et al. 2016) • Multiple policy proposals can be identified in order to reduce medicine prices. These policy proposals should be tested in small-scale experiments or pilots in order to identify price-effects. (Franzen, Retèl et al. 2020)	• The EMA and the FDA are often willing to grant approval for cancer medicines for which data on efficacy and safety are less complete then usually required. (Salcher-Konrad, Naci et al. 2020) • Each country has their own standards for medicine reimbursement regulations, resulting in a broad variation in prices, access, and reimbursement for novel therapies across Europe. Increased use of managed-entry agreements raise transparency concerns due to the confidentiality clause. (Vogler, Paris et al. 2017)
Policy Recommendations 1	**Policy Recommendations 2**	**Policy Recommendations 3**

➢ Ensure high quality benefit-risk assessments of patient-relevant endpoints, stressing the need for high-quality clinical trials with sufficient primary endpoints reflecting overall survival and quality-of-life measures; ➢ Demand systematic collection and submission of real-world evidence once medicines enter the market and their timely re-assessment; ➢ Support independent (non-profit) clinical research that ultimately demonstrates the added therapeutic value for patients. Patients across all countries should have access to participate in such trials.	➢ Provide structures, control systems and incentives to either reward socially responsible and highly ethical industrial behaviour in their pricing strategy or punish unethical behavior (e.g., abuse of dominant market power and excessive pricing); ➢ Review regulatory incentives where they may lead to unaffordability of products (e.g., orphan medicines) and ensure that awards for innovation do not lead to a lack of competition and monopolistic prices; ➢ Attach conditionalities to both national and European public funding (e.g., Horizon Europe, Innovative Medicines Initiative - IMI), and ensure that public investment in R&D is accounted for and that medicines resulting from publicly funded research are available for a fair and affordable price; ➢ Conduct research into novel pricing strategies, either by modeling, pilots and/or experiments.	➢ Strive towards the full implementation of the WHA Resolution on improving the transparency of markets for medicines, vaccines and other health products; ➢ Make research results and data from all clinical trials submitted to the EMA publicly available, in order to build trust in the EU's framework and foster further research concerning a product's efficacy and safety; ➢ Ensure criteria and processes for priority setting in health care are explicit and that there is a clear link with national pricing policies and practices, and the actual price of medicines. Authorities should be transparent about their decisions, how they are made, what criteria are used and who is involved in the process; ➢ Pool resources and enhance collaboration through the medicines access pathway (horizon scanning, HTA, P&R, procurement), to enhance countries' ability to (a) prioritise medicines with higher clinical value, (b) review and adjust prices based on new evidence, and (c) effectively negotiate prices of medicines.