Value Added Medicines: What Value Repurposed Medicines Might Bring to Society?

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BACKGROUND

• Value added medicines are defined as “medicines based on known molecules that address healthcare needs and deliver relevant improvements for patients, healthcare professionals and/or payers” [1]. (Figure 1)

Figure 1. Value added medicines concept and examples

Objectives

The objective of this study was to assess from healthcare providers’ perspectives the value of drug repositioning that might bring to society.

Methods

Primary research was conducted to assess how value added medicines might respond to various stakeholders’ needs.

Twenty European stakeholders among healthcare professionals, regulatory authorities and HTA bodies/payers (Country scope: Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Poland, Spain, The Netherlands, Scotland, Sweden) were interviewed using a standardised discussion guide.

Patient’s perspective was also collected during the first European Patient’s Forum – Medicines for Europe Dialogue that took place on 31st May 2016 following presentation of key examples of value added medicines.

A written survey complemented by a focus group were conducted among representatives of pharmaceutical industry developing medicines in this field.

Ad hoc literature review was conducted to illustrate, when appropriate, statements of the various stakeholders, especially targeting healthcare inefficiencies related to medicines.

RESULTS

• Stakeholders’ interviews highlighted three main potential benefits for value added medicines:
  1. To address some healthcare system inefficiencies related to medicines. (Figure 2)
  2. To improve healthcare system efficiency through the opportunity to better address healthcare provision and organisation.
  3. To contribute to sustainability of healthcare systems through economic advantages.

Value added medicines could contribute to address healthcare inefficiencies.

Value added medicines could contribute to address irrational use of medicines.

Value added medicines could contribute to address non-availability of appropriate treatment options.

Value added medicines might contribute to address geographical inequities.

Figure 2. Opportunity of value added medicines to address healthcare inefficiencies

Figure 3. Illustrative representation of intermediate step create by value added medicines and potential price

CONCLUSIONS

• Value added medicines represent an opportunity for society to address a number of medicine related healthcare inefficiencies and also present an opportunity to deliver better health to patients, to enhance healthcare system efficiency and contribute to the sustainability of the healthcare systems.

References