European Specialised Nurses Organisation (ESNO) launches translations into multiple European languages of switch management guide between similar biological medicines, for nurses

20 June 2019, Brussels, Belgium

The European Organisation for Specialised Nurses (ESNO) has today launched the guide for switch management between similar biological medicines in 7 additional languages.

The guide is adapted to the specialised nursing community, given their role in interacting with patients being treated with biological (including biosimilar) medicines. Nurses have an essential function to ensure patient trust in their medical treatment, in making the link with the prescriber and contributing to patient adherence. These medicines play a crucial role in the management of conditions such as cancer, auto-immune diseases and diabetes.

Biosimilar medicines can increase patient access to life-saving treatments, enhance competition and contribute to healthcare system sustainability.

Nurses have a fundamental role in leading the transition between a biological and biosimilar medicine, or vice-versa. This includes managing the process and communicating with the patient before, during and after the switch. The availability of the guide, in English, German, French, Spanish, Polish, Italian, Portuguese and Dutch, aims to make the information more accessible for nurses in those countries.

Ber Oomen, Executive Director at ESNO commented "*nurses play a very important role in guiding a patient through their treatment path. Our aim with the guide was to empower the nurse in their interactions with their patients. By translating the guide in to 7 additional languages, we aim to educate even more of the nursing community by providing the information in their language. We hope the guide is a useful tool for nurses and we aim to build on initiatives like this to continuously facilitate the work of nurses all around the EU.*"

This initiative was supported by EFPIA and Medicines for Europe

The guide can be accessed at http://www.esno.org/publications.html