

# Medicines **Shortages**

MEDICINE SHORTAGES HAVE **MULTIFACTORIAL ROOT CAUSES:** 

THE EU SHOULD ESTABLISH A **COOPERATION MECHANISM ON SHORTAGES** COORDINATING POLICIES TO AVOID NATIONAL SPILL OVER EFFECTS BY:



### **ECONOMIC CAUSES:**

- X Cost containment measures following the 2009 financial crisis:
  - → Price-cuts
  - Clawback and payback
  - → Reference pricing
- X Unsustainable tender practices (single-winner, price-only)



#### **INDUSTRIAL FACTORS:**

- Consolidation of Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (API) industry production in third countries
- X Less medicines manufacturers on the market
- X Accidents or natural disasters



#### **REGULATORY BURDEN:**

- X New regulation:
  - → Falsified Medicines Directive
  - → Brexit
- X Variation Regulation

## **SUSTAINABLE POLICIES:**

- Ensure predictable pricing & reimbursement policies and sustainable market
- ✓ Targeted guidelines on medicines procurement under the current EU directive

## STIMULATING INVESTMENT IN MANUFACTURING AND SUPPLY **FOR EUROPE:**

- A comprehensive Industrial policy to stimulate APIs and medicines manufacturing for EU by:
  - → Creating incentives & competition measures to stimulate investment
  - → Targeted guidelines on medicines procurement under the current **EU** directive

## IMPROVING REGULATORY **OPTIMISATION:**

- Regulatory flexibility (e.g. eleaflets / multi-packages / lower fees for low-price medicines / fast-tracks)
- Digitalisation (use of telematic tools)
- Reduction of regulatory fees for older molecules
- Amend the EU variations legislation to optimise systems and manage information

