

Updated Guide to empower nurses managing patients on biological therapies

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Nurses in all health domains and specialities play a crucial role in the management of patients with serious non-communicable diseases such as cancer, auto-immune conditions, and diabetes. The incidence of these diseases is increasing, and more patients require biological therapies to manage their condition.

With over 15 years of experience with biosimilar medicines in major disease areas, and over 2 billion patient treatment days accumulated, we can be confident that biosimilar medicines offer much needed solutions to healthcare professionals and their patients. Experience has shown that there are additional benefits from their use like re-investment in patient care to improve treatment pathways which leads to better health outcomes. Since the start of biosimilar competition, EU countries have saved 18BN€.

Nurses support patients in the management of their diseases, including treatment regimes. Nurses are a source of information and confidence. Very often, nursing care directly impacts patients' outcomes while using biological therapies. The second edition of the biosimilar medicines guide for nurses aims to equip them with the latest information and experience sharing between peers. The guide has been developed by the ESNO community, based experience gained through the years in major disease areas.

Commenting on the launch of the updated guide, **Ber Oomen, Executive Director at ESNO** said *"the role of the specialist nurse is evolving as health needs increase. Never has that been clearer than during the pandemic. Nurses need support, information, and investment to meet the increased demands on them. This guide will contribute to that endeavour, assisting nurses in confidently managing biological therapies with their patients."*

Julie Maréchal-Jamil, Director of biosimilar medicine and science at Medicines for Europe said *"it is important for us to partner with the nursing community and hear their needs. We heard that nurses are busy, time constrained, and need digestible information to empower them in their work. The updated guide aims to deliver just that, with the latest updates from a multitude of therapy areas, and patient FAQ's that real nurses have encountered. I hope this update helps nurses continue to deliver on excellent patient support and care in hospitals and clinics across Europe towards improved outcomes."*

Resource hub

The 2022 version of the ESNO guide can be accessed at

<https://www.esno.org/assets/files/Biosimilars%20Guideline%20V2%20EN.pdf>

To hear more about the role of nurses in managing biosimilar medicines and integrated care, you can listen to a dedicated podcast [here](#).

About ESNO

ESNO promotes and represents the interests of Specialist Nurses in Europe. Through collaboration with stakeholder organisations and utilising advanced science, we pursue recognition under the Directive of Professional qualification. We contribute to effective co-operation between health professionals, organisations, institutes and agencies, thus setting professional standards for education and continuing development.

The Biosimilar medicines group

The Biosimilar Medicines Group is a sector group of Medicines for Europe representing the leading companies developing, manufacturing and/or marketing biosimilar medicines across Europe. With more than 15 years of positive patient treatment experience, biosimilar medicines provide today a huge opportunity to deliver significantly improved access to modern therapies for millions of European patients in both chronic and acute care. Our members bring competition to the biological medicines market, thereby increasing access to highly innovative treatments to patients, in Europe and around the world, and supporting the sustainability of the European healthcare systems.