

Press Release

EU Critical Medicines Act must protect secure supply of essential medicines

Brussels, 26 September 2024

Today, Medicines for Europe is hosting a panel at the European Health Forum Gastein, addressing the urgent issue of access to critical medicines. The session aims to foster a multi-stakeholder dialogue to strengthen critical medicine supply chains and improve patient access to medicines across Europe through collaborative solutions and insights at both regional and national levels.

Medicines for Europe, which represents the off-patent industry producing over 90% of the EU's critical medicines, supports President Ursula von der Leyen's priority for an EU Critical Medicines Act in the upcoming political mandate. Such an Act would serve to ensure equitable access to high-quality, safe, effective and affordable off-patent medicines for conditions like cardiovascular disease, infections, and cancer.

Speaking ahead of a dedicated session on [Critical Medicines at the European Health Forum in Gastein](#), Adrian van den Hoven – Medicines for Europe Director General said *“It is important to advance our discussions on the Critical Medicines Act, as mandated by President von der Leyen. We have learned the hard way during COVID how critical the off-patent sector really is to public health and wellbeing in Europe and it is heartening to see legislative acts to support the sector. But now is the time to advance on what the Act will do concretely, and discussions like we are having here in Gastein and within the EU Critical Medicines Alliance bring us ever closer to that goal.”*

Resource hub

Medicines for Europe has launched a proposal for a critical medicines act which can be accessed at <https://www.medicinesforeurope.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/Critical-Medicines-Act-delivering-a-secure-supply-of-critical-medicines-and-active-pharmaceutical-ingredients-in-Europe.pdf>

A dedicated session at the European Health Forum in Gastein can be viewed remotely via this link <https://www.ehfg.org/conference/programme/sessions/access-to-critical-medicines-across-europe>

Medicines for Europe

Medicines for Europe represents the generic, biosimilar and value-added medicines industries across Europe. Its vision is to provide sustainable access to high quality medicines, based on 5 important pillars: patients, quality, value, sustainability and partnership. Its members directly employ 190,000 people at over 400 manufacturing and 126 R&D sites in Europe, and invest up to 17% of their turnover in R&D investment. Medicines for Europe

member companies across Europe are both increasing access to medicines and driving improved health outcomes. They play a key role in creating sustainable European healthcare systems by continuing to provide high quality, effective generic medicines, whilst also innovating to create new biosimilar medicines and bringing to market value added medicines, which deliver better health outcomes, greater efficiency and/or improved safety in the hospital setting for patients. For more information, please follow us at www.medicinesforeurope.com and on Twitter @medicinesforEU.