



Implications of the ESMO study findings on oncology pharmacy

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Conflict of interest

No conflicts of interest to declare related to this study





European Society of Oncology Pharmacy







Oncology pharmacy

- Services
 - Safe handling of cytostatics
 - Clinical services
- General Question in ESMO survey:

Is oncology pharmacy service provided in your country?

YES	NO
35	10
	Greece, Turkey, Georgia, Kosovo, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Malta, Serbia





Actual availability of medicines

- Drug shortages are occurring more frequently in Europe and globally
- All classes of medicines are affected, but it is common issue with antineoplastic agents
- Number of reports of drug shortages is increasing
 - ESOP (European Society of Oncology Pharmacy) survey 2013
 - EAHP (European Association of Hospital Pharmacists) survey 2012-2013,2014
 - PGEU (Pharmaceutical Group of the European Union) survey 2013
 - Reports from national authorities in several EU member states

99% of hospital pharmacists reported it as a problem, 63% said it is a weekly or daily occurrence, and 73% reported the problem to be getting worse



Consequenses of drug shortages

- For patients
 - Lower quality and safety of care
 - Omitted and reduced doses
 - Modified, delayed or stopped treatment
- For healthcare professionals
 - Capacity and communication challenges
 - Increasing risk of medication errors
- For health care providers
 - Increased cost



Possible causes of shortages

- Economic causes
 - Globalisation of pharma market
 - Parallel import
- Manufacturing causes
 - Inadequate quality assurance
 - Monopoly on raw materials
- Causes related to the organisation of pharmaceutical market
 - Increase in demand due to another shortage
 - Minimum national stock keeping requirements in some countries



ESMO Survey results: barriers to actual availability

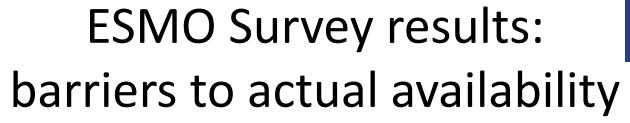
- No/unreliable supplier
- Budget capitation
- No commercial motive
- Manufacturing problems
- Parallel import



ESMO Survey results: barriers to actual availability

- Heterogenous data clear conclusions cannot be drawn
 - No/unreliable supplier
 - Budget capitation
 - No commercial motive
 - Manufacturing problems
 - Parallel import





Trends

- No/unreliable supplier: more profound in some Eastern European countries (Belarus, Macedonia, Montenegro, Uzbekistan)
- Budget capitation
- No commercial motive
- Manufacturing problems
- Parallel import



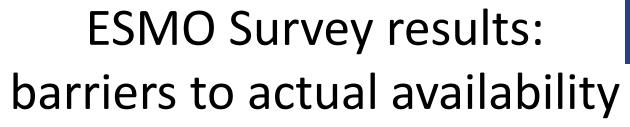
ESMO Survey results: barriers to actual availability

 Budget capitation: more profound in Eastern European Countries, specially with new and expensive agents

Lung cancer - biological and bone

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Austria							Armenia						
Belgium							Belarus						
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Denmark							Bulgaria						
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Germany							Georgia						
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Holland							Kosovo, Republic of						
Ireland							Kyrgyzstan						
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United Kingdom							Ukraine						
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Trends

- No/unreliable supplier: more profound in some Eastern European countries (Belarus, Macedonia, Montenegro, Uzbekistan)
- Budget capitation: more profound in Eastern European Countries, specially with new agents
- No commercial motive: inexpensive drugs cited more often
- Manufacturing problems: rare mentioned
- Parallel import: rare mentioned





Need for action

- Raise awareness of this problem with European political institutions and healthcare authorities
- Data collection and reporting
- Develop policies and stategies to prevent and manage shotages of cancer drugs
 - Locally
 - In European level





Implications of the ESMO study findings on oncology pharmacy

- Data from all Europe
- Collaboration
 - **Oncologists**
 - Oncology pharmacists



http://gozonews.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/EU_countries_flags.jpg

