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MARKET ACCESS FOR PHARMACEUTICALS IN UK: NUMBER AND SPEED OF DRUG REVIEWS TO IMPROVE AFTER INTRODUCTION OF VALUE BASED PRICING

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CONCLUSIONS: It has been reported that 50-65 % of the Indian population has no access to essential medicines, whereas a small portion of the population uses medicines, do so irrationally and unnecessarily. Irrational use of medicines leads to wastage of national wealth and also emerging Adverse Drug Reactions (ADRs) and developing resistance to some drugs especially antibiotics. In order to improve the situation, several interventions have been suggested. One such intervention is promoting the concept of Rational Use of Medicines (RUM) through conducting workshops and seminars. Several workshops at stake holders in the health care system.

The study was conducted to determine the effect of an intervention on drug use pattern in a community. METHODS: Study was conducted in the semi urban areas covering three districts of West Bengal, India. Community pharmacies mainly serving the prescriptions of private practitioners were involved in this study. Prescriptions were collected from community pharmacies, serving prescriptions of private practitio-

ners in a semi urban area within a month. 30 prescriptions each from 10 pharma-
cies were collected from the area where workshop/seminars were conducted. The current duration of a NICE STA review and the time required to

pave guidance under VBP could to be just 15 weeks – 19.2% of the time currently required. On the negative side, manufacturers would be expected to offer products at an

acceptable price – calculated in accordance with yet-to-be-finalised criteria – in

METHODS: SMC advice and final NICE guidance issued between 1 June 2010 and 31 May 2011 were assessed to determine the number and outcome of total appraisals, of Single Technology Appraisals (STAs), and of appraisals based on a manufacturer submission. The current duration of a NICE STA review and the time required to provide guidance under the NICE Scientific Advice Programme were also reviewed.

RESULTS: Under VBP, all new originator drugs entering the market and all new

indications of existing medicines will be reviewed: as is the case currently in

Ireland. Over the 12-month period, the SMC reviewed a total of 101 new drugs or indications for existing medicines. The usual approval process was also performed. NICE – which only reviews treatments it is commissioned to review by the DH – conducted 28 STAs. Some 47% of SMC drug reviews resulted in positive guidance – rising to 58% among reviews based on a manufacturer submission. The average length of a NICE technology appraisal is 18 months, however, NICE scientific guidance can be provided in as little as 15 weeks.

CONCLUSIONS: Pharmacueti-
cal market access in England and Wales will potentially improve following the introduction of VBP as more products are reviewed in a more timely manner. Three times more originator medicines or new indications will be reviewed in compari-

to the number currently reviewed by NICE. The average duration of an

appraisal under VBP could be just 15 weeks – 19.2% of the time currently required.

On the negative side, manufacturers would be expected to offer products at an

acceptable price – calculated in accordance with yet-to-be-finalised criteria – in

exchange for gaining reimbursement.

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PERFORMANCE STUDY OF UNDERGRADUATES TOWARDS MEDICINES – A SURVEY

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OBJECTIVES: To know the perception of undergraduate students about various aspects (Cost, quality and safety) of over-the-counter and prescription medicines.

METHODS: Structured, non-disguised, pretested self-administered questionnaire was used for the study. The total sample was 200 undergraduates (Group 1 – 100 students; Group 2 – 100 students) from 2 different universities. The study aimed to analyze the data.

RESULTS: Most of the science graduates (78%) have expressed the cost of medicines were affordable and feel appropriate. They expressed Research and Development and manufacturing requires huge money and time, hence the cost.

On the other hand, most of the respondents (68%) were satisfied. However, as far as safety is concerned, many respondents (79%) have expressed that they are safe as they pass through several phases of clinical trials. They were in an opinion that over-the-counter medicines are safer than the prescription medicines.

Whereas most of the arts graduates (84%) have said that cost of medicines are higher and were not having any idea about the research, development and manufacturing costs involved. Many respondents (87%) said that quality is just acceptable. Quite a few respondents (69%) said that medicines are not safe and have to be taken with caution, whether it is over-the-counter or prescription medicines.

CONCLUSIONS: Significant differences were noted between two groups of respondents. Sciences graduates feel the cost charged on medicines is appropriate, are of right quality and often safe. Whereas arts graduates were affirmative to quality and safety aspect but were in opinion that costs charged on medicines are higher.

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IMPACTING USE OF MEDICINES IN THE COMMUNITY THROUGH INTERVENTIONS

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OBJECTIVES: This study seeks to evaluate the impact on market access for phar-

aceuticals in the context of introducing the concept of Value Based Pricing (VBP). OBJECTIVES:

The study tries to investigate the following issues: firstly, it tries to figure out the major determinants of R&D investment of pharmaceutical firms. Secondly, it computes the effects of those determinants on R&D intensity between U.S. and the rest of the world. METHODS: Using a 10 year panel dataset extracted from several sources such as Compustat, KISINFO, PhRMA, and JPMA, this study empirically investigates whether US pharmaceutical market which is relatively unregulated has higher profitability and cash flows than its counterparts where drug prices are regulated by government agencies. Employing OLS, random-effects, and fixed-effects specifications for established R&D investment models from the literature, the study tries to explore the links between pharmaceutical price regu-

lization and firm R&D investment intensity. RESULTS: Data from 32 major pharma-

cial firms have been collected for the years 2000 through 2009, and several models of the determinants of R&D investment were estimated. The regression results show that expected profits and lagged cash flows are principal determin-

ants of firm R&D-to-sales ratios. It has been argued that pharmaceutical price regu-

lation influences R&D investment through both of these channels, resulting in

significant differences were noted between two groups of respondents. Sciences graduates feel the cost charged on medicines is appropriate, are of right quality and often safe. Whereas arts graduates were affirmative to quality and safety aspect but were in opinion that costs charged on medicines are higher.