**Van:** Markaya HENDERSON <markaya.henderson@edf-feph.org>
**Verzonden:** Tuesday 3 October 2023 16:36
**Onderwerp:** RE: EU pharmaceutical strategy - affordability innovative medicines

Hi Natallia,

Thank you for the inquiry.

I can add that the EU pharmaceutical proposals include a ‘reduction of the standard regulatory period by 2 years (compared to today) and measures that encourage early market access of generic and biosimilar entry’ which should provide more affordable options for patients. There are also proposed changes to the regulatory framework for medicines research and development (shortening assessment period) and a proposed modulated system of incentives that would reward companies that fulfil important public health objectives, such as giving access to medicines in all Member States, all of which could impact costs for industry, health systems and hopefully patients.

As my colleagues mentioned, we recently kicked-off a project aimed at assessing barriers to equitable access to healthcare for persons with disabilities. A key aspect of the analysis is affordability, and we will be developing guidelines to overcome this and other barriers. We will of course keep Members informed with project updates and with potential requests for input at different stages.

I hope this helps and remain available for further questions.

Best,

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| **Markaya Henderson (she/they)** |
| **Project Officer**European Disability Forum |
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**From:** Haydn hammersley <haydn.hammersley@edf-feph.org>
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 3, 2023 3:29 PM
**Subject:** RE: EU pharmaceutical strategy - affordability innovative medicines

Dear Natalia,

The short answer from my side is that I also don’t believe EDF has an existing position that addresses the issue of cost of medicines. We are increasingly looking at the cost-of-living crisis for persons with disabilities but the issues of medicines is not something we have yet looked at in detail.

Indeed we can see if this is likely to be addressed in the project our colleague Markaya will be working on. If not it is something we could bring up with our head of Policy, Alejandro, to see if EDF needs to develop a specific position on it or not.

All the best

Haydn

**From:** marie denninghaus <marie.denninghaus@edf-feph.org>
**Subject:** RE: EU pharmaceutical strategy - affordability innovative medicines

Dear Natallia,

Thank you for your e-mail. I don’t know anything about this topic so maybe Haydn or my other colleague Markay (in cc) could tell you more. Markaya just started working on a project about access to health for persons with disabilities – I’m not sure if affordability of medication is included in the project, but it’s worth checking.

EDF doesn’t have any positions on this yet, I believe, apart from the Covid-19 related vaccines.

Best regards,

Marie

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| **Marie Denninghaus (she/her)** |
| **Senior Policy Coordinator**European Disability ForumAvenue des Arts 7-8, B-1210 Bruxelles  **Working hours:** Mon, Tue, Thur: 09:00 – 15:00Wed: 09:00 – 17:00Fri: 09:00 – 12:00 |
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**From:** Mastsepan Natallia <Natallia.Mastsepan@minsoc.fed.be>
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 27, 2023 11:00 AM
**To:** marie denninghaus <marie.denninghaus@edf-feph.org>; Alvaro Couceiro <alvaro.couceiro@edf-feph.org>; Haydn hammersley <haydn.hammersley@edf-feph.org>
**Cc:** Magritte Olivier <Olivier.Magritte@minsoc.fed.be>; Duchenne Véronique <Veronique.Duchenne@minsoc.fed.be>
**Subject:** EU pharmaceutical strategy - affordability innovative medicines

Greetings,

I am writing you from the secretariat of the **Belgian Disability Forum**. Our members are concerned about the **affordability of (new, experimental) medication** such as Lecanemab in the fight against Alzheimer's. I'm not sure who to address with the question, but on Olivier's advice I’m contacting the three of you!

The EU’s Pharmaceutical Strategy talks about “[*fostering patient access to* ***innovative and affordable*** *medicines*](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52020DC0761#:~:text=The%20Pharmaceutical%20Strategy%20for%20Europe%20builds%20on%20these%20foundations.%20It%20will%20foster%20patient%20access%20to%20innovative%20and%20affordable%20medicines.)”, but how exactly will that be done? Perhaps an EU budget is being worked on that could be used to reduce the development costs of the Big Pharma - as was done with the COVID vaccines? **Or is the policy limited to national actions and exchange of good practices regarding determining prices and reimbursements**?

**Does the EDF has a position in that regard?**

Thanks in advance,

Kind regards,

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