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Subject: Meeting with Industry: Covid-19 second wave risk
Date: mercredi 23 septembre 2020 16:29:34
Attachments: [20200915 EU industry cooperation.pdf](#)
[31072020_procurement principles letter final.pdf](#)
[Medicines for Europe-EFPIA presentation update.pdf](#)
[20200917- Trends in demand_v01FINAL.pptx](#)
Importance: High

*****For Commissioner Kyriakides in anticipation of the 30 September meeting on Covid-19*****

Dear Commissioner,

On behalf of Medicines for Europe and of EFPIA, we thank you for the kind invitation to meet and look forward to your leadership on Covid-19 planning for a second wave risk.

In your invitation, you sent us three questions:

1. *What is the level of preparedness for the resurgence of COVID-19 cases ? Please confirm adequate supply for the ICU medicines until the end of the year in the EU? Do you expect any supply shortages of medicines and medical devices?*
2. *Do you still encounter any export restrictions within the EU?*
3. *What kind of EU level or Member States actions do you expect ?*

On question 2, we do not currently encounter any export restrictions within the EU. We should underline that many export restrictions during the first wave were linked to the inability of Member States to assess patient demand and the level inventories of medicines available on their territory. This relates to questions 1 and 3.

For questions 1 and 3, we would like to reference the two letters that we have sent you dated 31 July and 15 September 2020 which outline in some detail that industry efforts to replenish inventories for a second wave risk are challenged by the absence of information from Member States regarding the demand for ICU medicines and a lack of clarity on the inventories of Member State stockpiles of ICU medicines (left over from the first wave). As we are aware that many Member States engaged in medicines compounding, those stocks would have an extremely short shelf life rendering them unusable for a second wave in the future. It is therefore important to understand what useful stock is actually available in Member States.

We also attach a powerpoint presentation shared with the EMA providing detailed requests for information that would help industry plan for a second wave risk and, we believe, help the EU ensure equitable access to medicines across the EU. We attach a second powerpoint that we had planned to share with the EMA at a meeting this week, but which has been postponed, providing a detailed list of information that we seek regarding changes to the demand for ICU medicines in Member States relative to infection rates.

Without this critical information on demand and inventories, companies cannot build up their inventories and cannot plan for fair allocation across the EU based on patient need. We therefore appreciate your efforts to strongly encourage the Member States to engage in an open dialogue to plan for a second wave risk and look forward to discuss this with you directly next week.

Yours respectfully,

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