

CONCEPT NOTE

Can We Afford the Current Model of Medical Innovation? Towards New Models of Innovation

Themes

- The cost and financing of medical innovation
- EU Council Conclusions on Global Health
- The shared needs of North/South citizens
- The need for structural change
- New models of biomedical innovation
- De-linking R&D cost from price of medicines
- The financial crisis and health expenditure

18 November 2010, 09:00 – 13:30

Room JAN 6Q2, József Antall building, European Parliament, Brussels

Hosts



Thijs Berman MEP, Progressive Alliance of Socialists & Democrats

Eva Joly MEP, The Greens/EFA

**Carl Schlyter MEP, The Greens /EFA and on behalf of the
European Parliament Working Group on Innovation, Access to Medicines and
Poverty-Related Diseases**

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Health Action International (HAI) Europe

IQsensato Group

Knowledge Ecology International (KEI)

Oxfam International

TransAtlantic Consumer Dialogue (TACD)

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Event summary

At present, we suffer from a lack of public health-driven medical innovation and of global access to essential medicines. At the same time in the EU and around the world, governments are incapable of facing the growing cost of health care of which medicine prices are an important factor. To respond to global health needs new models of affordable and socially useful medical innovation are needed.

The EU Council Conclusions on Global Health in May 2010 have called for further exploration of innovation models that de-link the cost of R&D from the price of medicines. At the same time, a resolution was adopted at the World Health Assembly encouraging member States to develop new models of biomedical innovation in order to ensure both Access and Innovation.

The objective of this meeting is the practical design and implementation of EU policy and budget decisions to support new models of biomedical innovation that ensure both health-driven medical innovation and affordable access to life-saving products.

The recent price cuts of patented medicines by various European governments have shown that the sustainability of the current innovation model is a real issue not only for developing countries, but also for EU Member States. It is increasingly obvious that the issue of universal access to medical products should be integrated into the early stages of the innovation process.

The panels will feature experts, NGO representatives, scientists and academics, with input from the pharmaceutical industry, the EU Commission and country delegates. There will be two public panels in the morning, followed by an invitation-only technical workshop in the afternoon where the participants will formulate specific recommendations for EU policy changes and the launching of pilot projects.

PROGRAMME

09.00: Welcome: *Eva Joly MEP*

09.10: Introduction: *Ruxandra Draghia-Akli (DG Research, EU Commission)*

PANEL ONE - THE CURRENT MODEL OF INNOVATION HAS REACHED ITS LIMITS

Moderator: *Carl Schlyter MEP*

09.25: The Status Quo of Innovation and Access, and Responses to the Financial Crisis: *David Hammerstein (TACD)*

09.35: Intellectual Property, Competition, and Access in Europe: *Sophie Bloemen (HAI)*

09.45: How the Current Model is Failing Europe: *Jorg Schaaber (ISDB)*

09.55: Access to Medicines in Eastern Europe. *Raminta Stuikyte (EATG)*

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10.05: Response: *Bernard Pecoul (DNDi)*

10.15: Response: *Maria Iglesia Gomez (DG SANCO, EU Commission)*

10.25: Discussion (*30 minutes*)

10.55: **COFFEE BREAK**

PANEL TWO - NEW MODELS FOR INNOVATION AND ACCESS TO MEDICINES

Moderator: *Thijs Berman MEP*

11.05: Policy framework for new models on Innovation and Access: *Judit Rius Sanjuan (KEI)*

11.10: Towards new models of innovation: future work in WHO: *Zafar Mirza (WHO)*

11.20: UNITAID & Medicines Patent Pool: *Ellen t'Hoën (Medicines Patent Pool)*

11.30: De-linking Research Costs from the Price of Medicines: *Michelle Childs (MSF)*

11.40: Discussion (*20 minutes*)

12.00: **COFFEE BREAK**

12.10: The Prize Fund Model for Innovation and Access: *James Love (KEI)*

12.20: New innovation models from the South I- Proposals for Latin America: *Francisco Rossi (Alianza LAC-Global)*

12.30: New innovation models from the South II- Open Source Drug Discovery: *Zakir Thomas (OSDD)*

12.40: Response: *Robert Sebbag (Sanofi-Aventis)*

12.50: Response: *Ruxandra Draghia-Akli (DG Research, EU Commission)*

13.00: Discussion (*20 minutes*)

13.20: Closing remarks: *Thijs Berman MEP*