How the Euripid Collaboration contributes to the affordability of medicines in Europe

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- EURIPID (www.euripid.eu) is a voluntary collaboration between European countries to run a database with information on national prices of pharmaceuticals in a standardized format.
- Prices of publicly funded medicines are made more transparent via a reliable 24-hour–online database.
- Access only for registered users, currently from 26 countries + EC.

Guiding Principles for External Price Referencing (ERP) of Medicinal Products

1. ERP is an important policy tool that should be used in a mix with other instruments and not as stand-alone policy tool.
2. ERP should take place on single product basis rather than by indices.
3. The aim of the national pharma policy should determine the selection of reference countries.
4. Evidence has shown that ERP is most effective when applied to medicines without generic or therapeutic competition.
5. Comparison of prices of medicines should be done on the 1st price (type) in the distribution chain.
6. Authorities should apply clear and transparent procedures to determine which medicines are considered as comparable.
7. The pricing formula applied should reflect the national objective of ERP.
8. ERP procedures should be performed with the highest accuracy and completeness of data sources.
9. If price information is adjusted to national requirements, it should be done in a transparent and sustainable manner.
10. ERP activities need careful planning to consider it as a policy tool for price revisions and monitoring.
11. The procedures and price inputs to ERP should be as transparent as possible, to ensure predictability and effectiveness.
12. Policy-makers should consider strengthening their cooperation, in particular through the contribution and benefits of existing policies.

Efforts are made to improve affordability of medicines by better price transparency, e.g., adding information on MEA + volumes to Euripid → see the recent WHO Transparency Resolution that urges countries to take appropriate measures.