

# Increasing prices to ensure availability of medicines? Financial incentives implemented as shortage mitigation policy in PPRI member countries

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## What do we want to know? How have we collected the data?

### BACKGROUND

- Shortages of medicines have been increasing globally
- Governments have taken policy measures to prevent and mitigate medicine shortages
- There seems to be an increasing use of financial incentives, particularly granting of higher medicine prices, as shortage mitigation policy

### OBJECTIVE

- To survey the implementation of financial incentives as a policy measure to reduce or avoid medicine shortages in Europe and globally



About PPRI

### METHODS

#### Countries

- 38 countries, comprising
- 24 EU Member States, 10 further countries in the WHO European Region; Australia, Brazil, Canada, Saudi Arabia

#### Time period

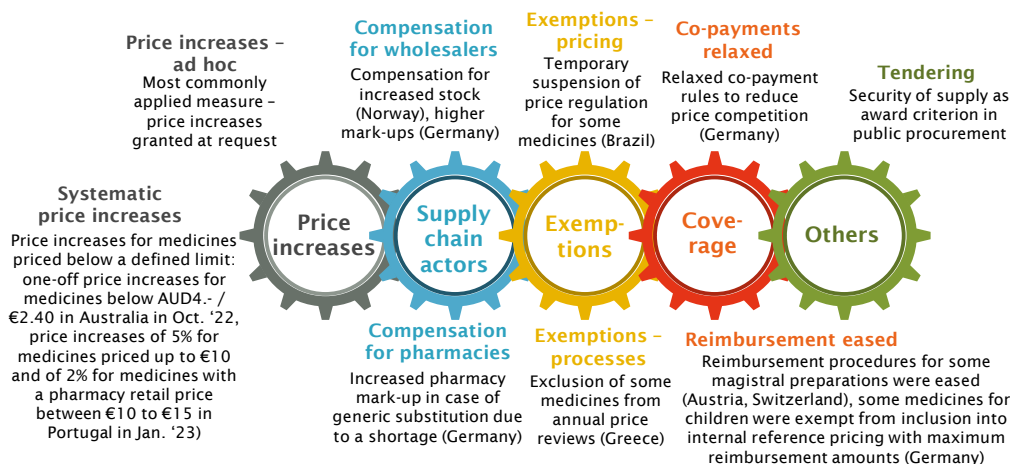
- Year 2023 (Q2/'23: 11 countries, Q4/'23: 27 countries)
- Developments in the years 2020–2023

#### Data collection

- Survey with public authorities that are members of the **Pharmaceutical Pricing and Reimbursement Information (PPRI) network**
- Validation (e.g. compilation of preliminary findings)

## What have we learned?

- At least **18** of the 38 surveyed **countries** used financial incentives as shortage mitigation measure
- Ad-hoc price increases** were frequently used incentives
- Financial incentives were mostly introduced in **late 2022 and 2023**
- Comprehensive shortage legislation** in some countries (e.g., Australia, France, Germany), with more than one financial measure



## What could be the new steps?

### IMPACT ASSESSMENTS OF SHORTAGE MITIGATION POLICIES ARE MISSING!



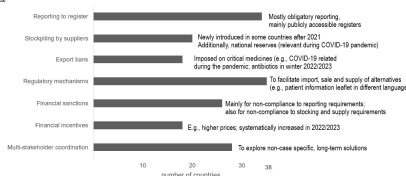
#### Evaluation of policy measures:

Have the measures contributed to prevent and mitigate medicine shortages? Have they led to other effects?

### Measures to manage and mitigate medicine shortages in 38 countries

Survey with national public authorities for pharmaceuticals  
33 European countries, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Israel and Saudi Arabia

#### Commonly applied governmental policy measures in 2023



This study is part of a larger piece of research on policies to tackle medicine shortages (published in February 2024). It offers a detailed descriptive overview and may serve as a valuable source for future impact assessments.



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Tackling medicine shortages during and after the COVID-19 pandemic: Compilation of governmental policy measures and developments in 38 countries

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