

External reference pricing (ERP) availability vs. reimbursement timelines in Poland and other European countries: the analysis of EURIPID database

Elżbieta Kuriata¹, Aleksandra Pelczarska¹, Maciej Dzik¹, Kacper Mucha¹, Peter Schneider², Gergely Nemeth³

¹Agencja Oceny Technologii Medycznych i Taryfikacji, Warsaw, Poland,

²Gesundheit Österreich GmbH, Vienna, Austria,

³National Institute of Health Insurance Fund Management of Hungary, EURIPID Collaboration, Budapest, Hungary.

Poster Code: HPR88

Introduction

EURIPID database provides information on medicinal products (MPs) reimbursement and pricing across European countries.

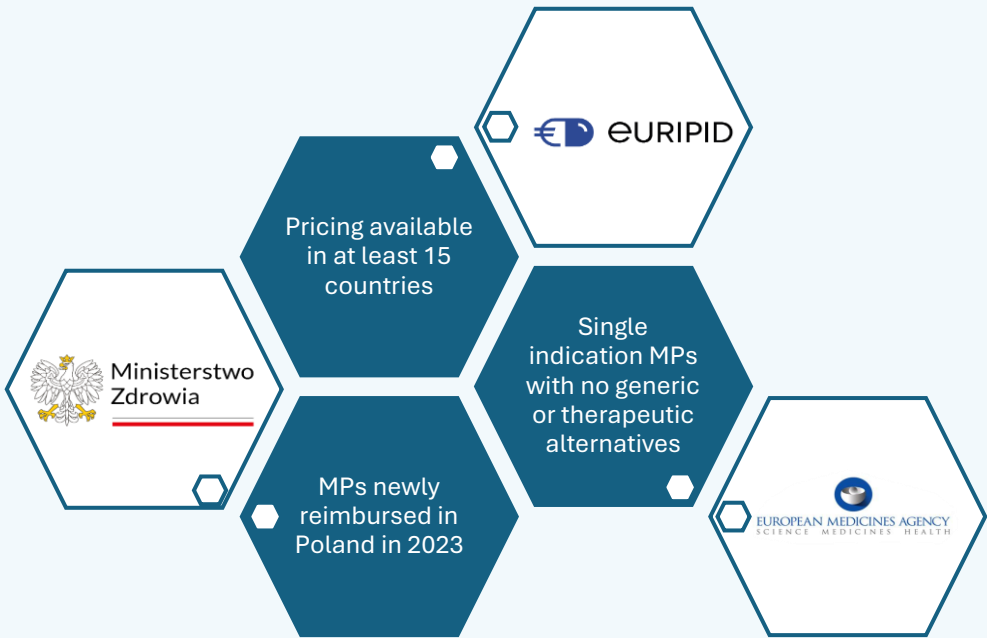
External Reference Pricing (ERP), is a practice of using the price(s) of a medicine in one or several countries to derive a benchmark or reference price for the purposes of setting or negotiating the price of the product in a given country.

Aims

- To analyse differences in reimbursement timelines between Poland and other countries.
- To understand how ERP basket composition affects reference pricing availability at the time of the first reimbursement, and at the time of price revision.

Methods

We used the following databases and criteria for medicinal products (MPs) selection:



1 Information collected from EURIPID database

Reimbursement launch and price revision dates
Ex-factory launch and revision prices

2 KEY INDICATORS for ANALYSIS

MPs time to Launch: A number of days between the dates of reimbursement in the respective country and the country of the first reimbursement.

Reimbursement Rankings: rank based on reimbursement dates order (number “1” was assigned to the first country, number “2” to the second country that reimbursed index MP, etc.). Rankings were based on the most common formulation of each active substance (INN), regardless of strength or package size.

MPs Price Comparison: % of highest market’s ex-factory price.

ERP Basket Availability: avg. no of countries in the ERP basket with pricing information available at key timepoint

3 METHOD NOTES

Day 0 = first reimbursement date
Fixed exchange rates to starting date
Ex-factory prices prioritized
Cut-off date: June 30, 2024
Polish ERP basket: CZ, EE, HU, LT, LV, MT, RO, SI, SK

Results

- A total of **461** records for 28 countries were retrieved from the EURIPID database covering MPs with a distinct combination of INN, dosage form, and strength (introduced into reimbursement between **Sep 30, 2019**, and **Jun 30, 2024**).
- Eleven active substances met the analysis selection criteria (see Table 1)**
- UK, DK, SI, NL, SE, and NO consistently rank among the first countries to reimburse MPs, with minimal ranking variability.

Analysis of TIME TO LAUNCH against the backdrop of PRICING approaches

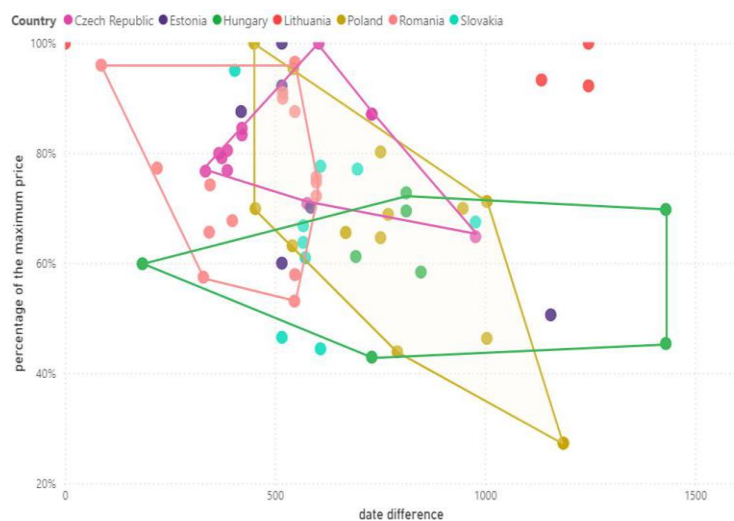
Table 1. Reimbursement Rank (order of launch)

	abrocitinib 50mg/100 mg/200 mg	acalabrutinib 100 mg	asciminib 20 mg/40 mg*	avatrombopag 20 mg	bimekizumab 160 mg	larotrectinib 25mg/100 mg	larotrectinib 20 mg/ml	pegcetacoplan 1080 mg	siponimod 0.25 mg / 2 mg	trastuzumab deruxtecan 100 mg	tucatinib 50mg/ 150 mg*	zanubrutinib 80 mg
United Kingdom	1	1	1	3	1		1	1	2	1	4	4
Denmark	4	3	7	2	2		2	4	5	2	2	1
Slovenia	5	4	4	6	4		4	3	3	3	5	10
Netherlands	2	2	2	9	5		5	7	8	3	1	
Sweden	10	4	3	8	3		3	5	1	10	5	13
Norway	3	7	8	4	10		1	3			9	8
Switzerland	6	6	6	13	10		12	14	9	12		2
Finland	12	19		6	10		3	5			8	16
Cyprus	15	17	5				8	10	6	9	3	18
Romania	20	10	9	17	5			2	17	5	11	11
Belgium	16	10	10	10	6		9	11	7	19	11	6
Spain	14	8	17	5	10		16	17	8	13	6	5
Austria	10	18		12	8		10	12		10		15
Iceland	9	13	17		17				7	3	19	7
Ireland	7	9	15	1	18		15	16				2
France	8	26	11		7		6	8	12		12	20
Israel	23	13	17				7	9		10	7	8
Czech Republic	12	12		11	9			16	12	14	16	17
Italy	21	21	17	13	19		11	13	8	14	17	12
Bulgaria		16	21	22	15			6	20	8	10	19
Croatia	18	20	12	16	20			14	7	16		
Slovakia	16	13		15	17			17	14	14		
Lithuania		25	12						18			
Poland	22	24	15	19	16		13		15	23	14	14
Greece	19	27		19	14		14	15	11	22	13	
Estonia		22	12	21					14			
Hungary	23	23		18	21				25			
Lithuania		28							24			

For Poland (yellow lines & dots in figure 2):

- The time to launch ranged from 450 to 1,186 days.
- Most of the countries referenced by PL tend to reimburse MPs earlier and with higher prices at the time of reimbursement
- The later the MPs are reimbursed, the lower the price achieved.
- Despite longer time to reimbursement, only about a quarter of PL’s ERP basket was available at the time of reimbursement, suggesting significant potential to optimize PL’s ERP basket composition.

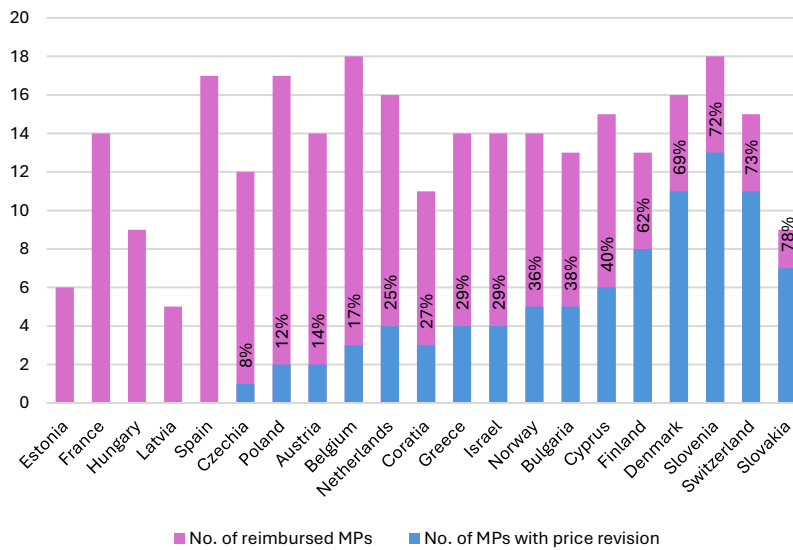
Figure 1. Time to launch vs. reimbursement price level. Dots for MPs pricing. Lines to show the overlap of timelines and pricing between the countries.



Analysis of ERP BASKET AVAILABILITY & PRICE REVISIONS

- The ERP basket availability at launch was on average 4.8 countries.
- Out of 21 countries 16 performed price revisions.
- The number of MPs with price revisions varied. across the countries, with FI, DK, SI, CH, and SK revising prices of over 60% of selected MPs.
- The availability of the ERP basket pricing improved on average by 2.1 countries at the time of the first price revision.
- The improvement was minimal for Poland (0.2 more countries being available), likely due to relatively longer launch dates of MPs.

Figure 2. The rate of price revisions by country.



Conclusions

- Short time to launch was associated with higher reimbursement prices, whereas longer time to launch helped to achieve lower list prices of the MPs, especially for Poland.
- Short time to launch doesn’t allow for inclusion of ERP in price setting due to low availability of reference pricing information.
- Future price revisions and ERP basket composition revisions most likely improve the availability of information during ERP procedures.
- The EURIPID database served as a useful source of information and a tool for pricing analysis. Inclusion of further countries (i.e. pricing information from Germany) and exploring new features (i.e. the Pricing & Reimbursement (P&R) tracker) would be helpful for future analyses.

Acknowledgments

This research was supported by internal funding of Agency for Health Technology Assessment and Tariff System. Authors would like to thank Piotr Krakowian for his contribution in development of the Quick Check Policy Brief on ERP models that served as a basis for this poster. This abstract is based on findings derived from research conducted in the context of the "Development of early warning features and guidance in the area of pricing through the EURIPID database" (Project number: 101100610) that is co-funded by the European Union as part of the EU4Health Programme (2021-2027). Views and opinions expressed in this poster are however those of the researcher only and do not necessarily reflect those of the members of the grant consortium, the European Union or the European Health and Digital Executive Agency (HaDEA). Neither the European Union nor HaDEA can be held responsible for them.



Co-funded by
the European Union