



INTERNATIONAL GENERIC AND
BIOSIMILAR MEDICINES ASSOCIATION

Beyond Cost- Effectiveness.

**Patient access
depends on the
whole health system
working together.**

Core Proposition

Competition creates the opportunity for cost-effectiveness. Whether that opportunity becomes patient access depends on what happens next: diagnosis, registration, procurement, distribution, uptake and the capacity of health systems to deliver treatment.

80%

Of Medicine Volumes Globally

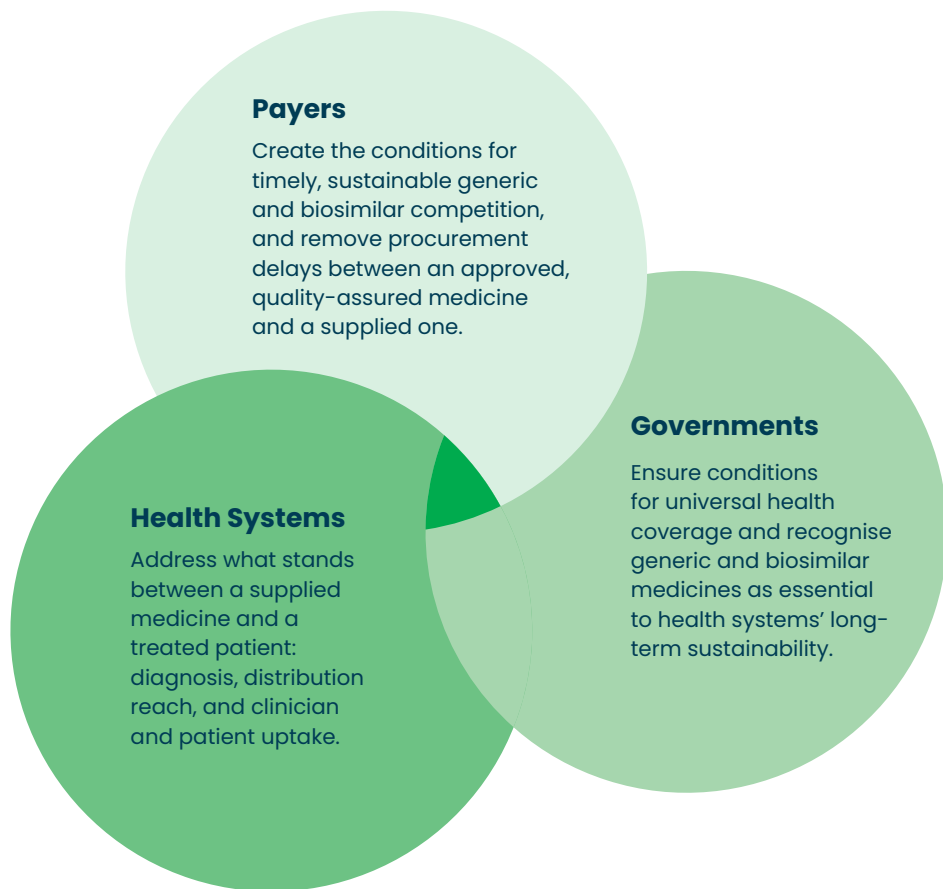
Generic and biosimilar medicines account for 80% of medicine volumes globally while representing only about 25% of medicine expenditure.

Why it Matters

Competition from generic and biosimilar medicines can lower the cost per treatment and increase the supplier base. But cost-effectiveness at the price-tag level does not automatically translate into patients treated.

Diagnosis rates, registration and procurement timelines, distribution reach, clinician and patient uptake, and health-system capacity all shape whether a cost-effective medicine reaches the person who needs it. Closing that gap is a shared task involving governments, regulators, purchasers, healthcare professionals, health systems and industry.

What Patient Access Requires



Shared Outcome

Real Patient Access.

Cost-effective, quality-assured generic and biosimilar medicines reach the people who need them, turning the opportunity created by competition into real patient access.

Turning Biosimilar Savings Into Wider Access

NHS policies supporting biosimilar adalimumab adoption show how competition can translate into both savings and broader access.

Within three years, the NHS saved more than £400 million, while the number of patients receiving biologic and targeted therapies increased by 62%, with no increase in overall drug expenditure.

Conclusion

Competition delivers its full value when lower treatment costs translate into more patients receiving appropriate care. Policy and health-system action are essential to turn cost-effectiveness into diagnosis, uptake and treatment.

£400m+

saved within three years

62%

increase in the number of patients receiving biologic and targeted therapies with no increase in overall drug expenditure



Scan this QR code to access all 4 fact sheets on the IGBA website.

igbamedicines.org

Sources

Bayley, H. (2023, November 3). Surveying the generics and biosimilars landscapes from multiple angles. IQVIA. IQVIA article

IQVIA Institute for Human Data Science. (2024). The global use of medicines 2024: Outlook to 2028. IQVIA.

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IGBA and its members remain committed to partnering with governments, international organisations, civil society, and industry stakeholders to improve patients' access to quality-assured, safe and cost-effective medicines.