Webinar

LOCAL PRODUCTION OF ESSENTIAL MEDICINES IN BRAZIL AND EUROPE: LESSONS AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS

GABRIELA COSTA CHAVES, PAULINE LONDEIX

21 October 2021

Q&A Session with the Participants

16:06:48
From Global Health Centre Research:
Welcome to our webinar series at the Global Health Centre, The Graduate Institute of Geneva. Thank you for joining us. The recording and materials from the webinar will be made available at https://www.knowledgeportalia.org/webinars. If you have any questions or comments, please type them in the chat box (don't forget to select "everyone").

16:07:20
From Global Health Centre Research: The research paper being presented today is available at:

- Gabriela Costa Chaves, Interfaces entre produção local e acesso a medicamentos no contexto do Acordo TRIPS da Organização Mundial do Comércio (PhD thesis), Escola Nacional de Saúde Pública Sergio Arouca, Rio de Janeiro, 2016.
- Chaves, GC; Oliveira, MA; Bermudez, JAZ. Brazil: Patent Barriers and Access to Medicines**:** Through the Public Health System. In: Intellectual Property Law and Access to Medicines - TRIPS Agreement, Health, and Pharmaceuticals (ed. Srividhya Ragavan and Amaka Vanni), 2021. p. 147-171.
- OTMeds, Relocalisation de l'industrie pharmaceutique en Europe et dans les états membres, 2021, https://blogs.mediapart.fr/edition/transparence-dans-les-politiques-du-medicament/article/031021/union-europeenne-10-mesures-pour-une-politique-pharma

16:32:51
From Ken Shadlen: Gabriela -- There was a story last week about Fiocruz being in discussions with Merck about local production of molnupiravir. Do you know more about that?

16:35:17
From Sandra Tuhairwe: Gabriela- what are some of the policies that you have in place in Brazil that attract foreign investors in local production

16:35:59
From Susan Adong: So true, brazil should have been up there with India in supplying essential medicine to the world, with strong government backing

16:36:35
From Carlos Fioravanti: Gabriela, do you believe that Brazilian pharmaceutical companies and government have interest in working together to produce new, cheaper, more accessible medicines, beyond generic drugs? I am a science journalist based in São Paulo and have seen that the lack of common objectives among research centers, companies and government is a great problem in Brasil -- and rarely the molecules emerging in universities go ahead (take a look at the journalistic coverage on the research of new medicines in Brazil. "The sample consists of 214 journalistic stories on 40 compounds published in two daily newspapers and a monthly science magazine from January 1990 to December 2016. After 27 years, although journalists and scientists had claimed that all compounds would become drugs in a few years, only two completed the evaluation tests and were approved for commercialisation" https://jcom.sissa.it/archive/17/02/JCOM_1702_2018_A02)

16:44:52
From Adrián Alonso Ruiz: To Gabriela: have there been evaluations or studies on the relationship between the development of national production capacity in Brazil and the development of pharmaceutical innovations (i.e., innovative treatments, innovative manufacturing processes, scaling up academic innovations, etc)?

16:45:40
From Raffaele Calandrelli to Everyone: One question regarding the API importation from Brazil. Is there any country/company that is more privileged? is there any strategy/agreement behind?

16:47:52
From Susan Adong to Everyone: clinical trials for injectable ARVs begin in South Africa, Kenya, Uganda

16:51:26
From Krisantha Weerasuriya to Everyone: Question from perspective of Low and Middle Income countries on domestic production

16:53:03
From Krisantha Weerasuriya to Everyone: What is the minimum population in a country that would support the manufacture of standard essential medicines (salbutamol, paracetamol, oral penicillins) ?

16:53:50
From Krisantha Weerasuriya to Everyone: Some countries with 3 million are trying - that is insufficient. Maybe 10 million?

16:53:55
From Nina Tousch to Everyone: Ola Gabriela, do you know what is the situation of insulin production in Brasil?

16:54:04
From Global Health Centre Research, Graduate Institute Geneva to Everyone: The document with the recommendations from the OTMeds report is available here OTMeds, Relocalisation de l'industrie pharmaceutique en Europe et dans les états membres, 2021,https://blogs.mediapart.fr/edition/transparence-dans-les-politiques-du-medicament/article/031021/union-europeenne-10-mesures-pour-une-politique-pharma

16:55:52
From Carlos Fioravanti to Everyone: Nina, may I help? You could find some info on insulin in Brazil at https://revistapesquisa.fapesp.br/en/the-discovery-of-insulin/

16:56:40
From Raffaele Calandrelli to Everyone: Do not you think that when international pharma companies bring job and settle some offices in some countries they are also able to settle/fix the price in a certain way? According to you: How should the negotiation price be afforded

16:56:50
From Evans Mwemezi to Everyone: Congrats for the steps taken. We in Eastern Africa, have a lot to learn from you

16:56:54
From Nina Tousch to Everyone: Great Carlos ! Thanks a lot !

16:57:32
From Susan Adong to Everyone: I have always believe that some countries with very small population sometimes commit themselves more to R &D in health than countries with ls

16:57:45
From German Velasquez: very good presentations thanks

16:58:04
From Krisantha Weerasuriya: API cannot in isolation - it is part of an overall chemical industry and there is a strong connection with petroleum and other raw materials

16:58:29
From Vitor Ido: Thanks for the great presentations. Question for Pauline regarding the mapping of manufacturing capacity and contracts/licensing between companies, whose data is not always available and often protected by non-disclosure agreements. How much does this lack of data affect the quality of public policies such as the relocation proposal? Thank you

16:59:26
From Melissa Barber: Question re incentives for resilience / sustainability of production and supply: surplus/overlapping production cost more than the just in time, lean model we have. A more robust/resilient strategy might be cost-effective in the long term, but politically it may be difficult to sell as cost-effective in the short term. What are some ways forward to structure incentives/financing/payment structures to both keep prices low (especially for patients where out of pocket) low but also promote resilience in the system?

16:59:48
From Amitabha Sarkar to Everyone: Thanks to both the speakers for such wonderful sessions. Among the scientific papers cited by drug patents, private-institution originated papers are only a quarter of the public. By linking theses scientific papers with funding sources, some study shows that almost 90% are public-funded and only a tiny portion are private-funded or public-private joint-venture. So the importance of research on basic sciences like pharmacology, chemistry (including medicinal chemistry, biochemistry, and organic chemistry), molecular biology, neurosciences, and immunology have great impact on applied sciences (i.e. helping in pharmaceutical innovation). Has any one of you found anything on this process of 'knowledge translation', from basic science to applied science, that involves in the production of knowledge (i.e. new medicine or incremental medicine), to

analyse whether governments can regulate pharma industry's innovation-based production charges?

16:59:58
From Adrián Alonso Ruiz to Everyone: Question for Pauline: Very interesting point on the ecological & ethical aspects of manufacturing. What would be the impact of incorporating these two aspects, in the final price of medicines?

17:00:49
From Eloan to Everyone: The pharmaceutical industry for generics, do not have interest to produce locally the API, because they buy API from China and India with low price.

17:01:33
From Janis Lazdins to Host and Panelists: Successful API can only be achieved if strong medicines regulatory authorities capable to certify quality exist. Transfer of technology is important but also requires high technical level at local level. Education and regulation strengthening

17:03:48
From Janis Lazdins to Everyone: In part API is concentrated because very few producers can comply with strong medicine regulatory agency requirements

17:04:29
From Claudia Vaca to Everyone: Thanks for wonderful presentations. Gabi, could you go in deep on Sinovac Tech Transfer? Sinovac has been very hard to open the option to transfer to other LA countries

17:05:12
From Eloan to Everyone: Very good Pauline, incentives are necessary

17:05:33
From José Barros to Everyone: Congratulations for the webinar and thank you to the panelists

17:06:22
From Vitor Ido to Everyone: Claudia, if you allow me, maybe this webinar from March when Butantan explained a bit about the partnership with Sinovac could be useful: https://ipaccessmeds.southcentre.int/event/manufacturing-capacity-for-covid-19-vaccines-the-experience-of-butantan-sinovac/

17:06:23
From Judit Rius sanjuan to Everyone: I think an important consideration/barrier for API diversification and local production could also be environmental impact of API production. I wonder if speakers know of any good data/study on this and strategies to reduce environmental impact.

17:08:25
From Claudia Vaca to Everyone: Thanks Vitor!

17:09:52
From Claudia Vaca to Everyone: It is important to understand how the regulatory issues are a harder barriers beside the Intellectual Property

17:09:53
From Paul Fehlner to Everyone: Clearly local production of pharmaceuticals in every market would not make sense. However, at least for small molecules, continuous flow manufacturing could provide small and large scale manufacturing, and the environmental footprint is much less. This could be an opportunity on a large country (e.g., Brazil) or regional level. What are your thoughts about this option?

17:12:39
From Eloan to Everyone: Congratulations to the panelists in this important issue.

17:15:30
From Jérôme Martin to Everyone: On API, transparency and pollution : J. Larsson, J. Fick, 2009/04. « Transparency throughout the production chain – a way to reduce pollution from the manufacturing of pharmaceuticals? »; Regulatory Toxicology and Pharmacology, Issue 53, pages 161-163

17:16:08
From Melissa Barber to Everyone: Would be happy to follow up with anyone interested to discuss the enviro dimensions with that cost of production methodology (which I co-wrote). We had real challenges in pricing in environmental protections, which WHO asked us to do. There was almost no lit and a lot of questions

17:16:28
From Paul Fehlner to Everyone: Thank you for a great webinar

17:16:33
From Ellen and David THOEN BANTA to Everyone: Thank you for a great seminar!

17:16:49
From Francisco Viegas to Everyone: Excellent panel, congrats!

17:16:51
From Vitor Ido to Everyone: Thank you so much! Really amazing webinar and congrats, Gabriela and Pauline! Also Suerie and Marcela, of course

17:16:51
From Barbara Milani to Everyone: Thank you for the extremely interesting presentations

17:16:52
From Adrián Alonso Ruiz to Everyone: Thank you!! great webinar!!

17:16:53
From Wilbert Bannenberg to Everyone: in the Netherlands we have aired a documentary on pollution in Indian manufacturers. Contact me wilbert@ftv1.nl

17:16:55
From Judit Rius sanjuan to Everyone: Thank you!

17:17:02
From Wilbert Bannenberg to Everyone: thanks for great webinar!

17:17:08
From Global Health Centre: Thank you for joining our webinar today. After the webinar, you will be directed to a survey page. We kindly ask you to take a few minutes to answer the questions in order to help us improve the quality of the webinar series. The recording and

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