

Press Release

GIRP publishes recommendation for elected MEPs

27 May 2019

GIRP, the European Healthcare Distribution Association, congratulates the newly elected MEPs. We wish them all the very best in their new endeavours and a mandate full of constructive debates and successful propositions. In the current context, there will be many challenges to tackle, and we trust the European Parliament will undertake the necessary measures to enable for a strong and thriving Europe.

In this new era, healthcare must be at the forefront of Europe's agenda. Innovation can be the catalyst to improve access to healthcare for European citizens and to ensure the sustainability of healthcare systems. To do so, European institutions must implement a regulatory framework which incentivises innovation driven by healthcare stakeholders. Healthcare distributors are eager to keep playing their role in this process and to work hand in hand with their supply chain partners for the utmost benefit of European patients.

Healthcare distributors are indispensable and crucial components of European healthcare systems. While navigating a highly complex regulatory environment, they supply hundreds of thousands of dispensing points with millions of medicines every single day.

Healthcare distributors typically work out of sight yet bring tremendous value to patients and healthcare systems. Patients trust that their local pharmacy and other healthcare institutions will have the correct medicine in the precise quantity and at the exact time needed. Patients rely on healthcare distributors to continuously provide a rapid, safe and manufacturer-independent supply of products, including life-saving medicines, to sites of healthcare provision.

GIRP is committed to advocating its members' and calls on EU institutions and policy-makers to address the key issues which ensure GIRP members can properly fulfil their responsibilities towards patients:

1. Recognise the role and function of healthcare distributors
2. Ensure the sustainability of healthcare systems
3. Ensure the cost of regulation does not cripple the healthcare distribution sector
4. Incentivise healthcare distribution digitalisation
5. Improving safety and reliability and removing inequity from the supply chain
6. Improve medicines availability and help reduce shortages

To view the GIRP manifesto, please click [here](#).

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ABOUT GIRP

GIRP, the European Healthcare Distribution Association, is the umbrella organisation for pharmaceutical full-line wholesalers and distributors of healthcare products and services in Europe. It represents the national associations of over 750 pharmaceutical wholesalers serving 33 European countries, as well as major international and pan-European healthcare distribution companies.

GIRP members employ over 140,000 people and distribute around 15 billion packs of medicines as well as a wide range of healthcare products per year. As the vital link in healthcare, they are committed to developing and providing innovative and efficient healthcare products and services to improve health and wellbeing of patients across Europe.