

Statement on the publication of the 24th WHO Model List of Essential Medicines

05 SEPTEMBER, GENEVA

Responding to the publication of the updated WHO Model List of Essential Medicines (EML), IFPMA Director General, Dr. David Reddy said:

“The inclusion of innovative medicines on the updated EML highlights how scientific advances are transforming how we prevent, treat and cure disease, and reinforces the importance of ensuring patients everywhere can benefit from them.

“Pharmaceutical companies work with governments and healthcare systems around the world to drive access to medicines and vaccines, including through tiered pricing, voluntary licensing and value-based healthcare models.

“Alongside this, healthcare systems need to be strengthened with the right infrastructure, diagnostics and trained professionals in place, alongside effective regulatory pathways and sustainable procurement, to help ensure these innovations can achieve greatest impact for patients.

“We welcome the opportunity to contribute our expertise to the EML process, to help ensure that decisions are informed by the most current and robust evidence, while maintaining the policies and IP framework that sustains the innovation our companies deliver for patients.”

Notes to editors

- The WHO EML guides countries in identifying medicines that address priority health needs and supports progress towards better health outcomes. Each country adapts the WHO EML to its own context by developing or updating national essential medicines lists.
- Some of the new additions to the 24th EML were included in the Complementary List, which covers medicines that may require specialized infrastructure, diagnostics, or medical expertise. This important distinction underscores that access to medicines, particularly innovative and complex products, must go hand in hand with investments in health system capacity to ensure patients can fully benefit from them.
- As the trade association representing the innovative pharmaceutical industry, IFPMA [has contributed to the EML process](#), and we remain committed to contributing our expertise to ensure future decisions reflect the best evidence but also translate into sustainable access and better outcomes for patients.

About IFPMA

IFPMA represents the innovative pharmaceutical industry at the international level, engaging in official relations with the United Nations and multilateral organizations. Our vision is to ensure that scientific progress translates into the next generation of medicines and vaccines that deliver a healthier future for people everywhere. To achieve this, we act as a trusted partner, bringing our members' expertise to champion pharmaceutical innovation, drive policy that supports the research, development, and delivery of health technologies, and create sustainable solutions that advance global health.

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