



INTERNATIONAL GENERIC AND
BIOSIMILAR MEDICINES ASSOCIATION

PRESS RELEASE

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IGBA LAUNCHES A BIOSIMILAR MEDICINES INFORMATION CAMPAIGN

Today, the International Generic and Biosimilar medicines Association (IGBA) launched an information campaign on biosimilar medicines. The foundation of this campaign is the IGBA biosimilar medicines public slide deck¹. Access to well-referenced information is fundamental to improving worldwide understanding and acceptance of biosimilar medicines, which support patient access to life-saving treatments, enhance competition and contribute to healthcare system sustainability by offering savings for the same medical outcome.

Biosimilar medicines, like their reference medicinal products, help treat many complex diseases, including cancers, rheumatoid arthritis, psoriasis, inflammatory bowel disease, growth disorders and diabetes.

The EU has approved the highest number of biosimilar medicines worldwide, and has acquired considerable experience of their use and safety. There is real world experience available of over 700 Million patient days from EU licensed biosimilar medicines alone², and *“over the last 10 years, the EU monitoring system for safety concerns has not identified any difference in the nature, severity or frequency of adverse effects between biosimilars and their reference medicine”*³. IGBA believes that this accumulated wealth of clinical experience with biosimilar medicines can become a worldwide game-changer for access to medicines for certain complex medical conditions.

The slide deck has been developed to be shared for educational purposes with any stakeholder, and is complementary to the extensive information on biosimilar medicines, which has already been made available for example in the USA⁴ and the European Union⁵.

¹ [IGBA Communication on biosimilar medicines](#)

² [Biosimilar Medicines Clinical Use: An Experience Based-EU Perspective](#)

³ [EMA – European Commission: Biosimilars in the EU – Information guide for healthcare professionals, 2017 \(link\)](#)

⁴ [U.S. FDA Patient and Prescribers Outreach Materials on Biosimilars](#)



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About IGBA

The International Generic and Biosimilar Medicines Association (IGBA) was founded as IGPA (International Generic Pharmaceutical Alliance) in March 1997 to strengthen cooperation between associations representing manufacturers of generic medicines from around the world. Its membership includes AAM (USA), CGPA (Canada), GBM – Southern Africa (South Africa), IPA (India), JAPM (Jordan), JGA (Japan), Medicines for Europe (Europe), and TGPA (Taiwan), while the associations from Australia (GBMA), Brazil (ProGenericos), Mexico (AMEGI), and Malaysia (MOPI) are Associate Members. The IGBA is at the forefront of preserving sustainable competition within our industry, by stimulating competitiveness and innovation in the pharmaceutical sector; thereby, ensuring millions of patients around the world have access to high quality, pro-competitive medicines. Through its constituent member associations, the IGBA maintains constant dialogue with government authorities around the world, as well as with international institutions such as WTO, WIPO and WHO. More information: www.igbamedicines.org

⁵ [What I need to know about Biosimilar Medicines - Information for](#)