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SAFEMed

MONTHLY NEWS DIGEST

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SETTING THE STAGE FOR FAMILY DOCTORS TO PROVIDE SERVICES TO INSULIN-DEPENDANT PATIENTS

USAID's SAFEMed project has been a trusted and long-term partner of the National Health Service of Ukraine (NHSU) in the implementation of the Affordable Medicines Program. The project and the NHSU have gone many miles together toward advancing Ukraine's medicines reimbursement program, which has been a perfect opportunity to update and extend the program, as well as to encourage innovations.

Currently, SAFEMed is supporting the NHSU in transferring the administration of the insulin into the reimbursement program. Expected to come into effect in 2020, success means that family doctors will be equipped with the knowledge and skills needed to ensure quality medical care to insulin-dependent patients. Numerous consultations with endocrinologists, detailed calculations, and patients' roadmaps have been completed so far.

It is important to identify the issues that need to be improved when providing care to patients with diabetes. In early May 2020, SAFEMed developed a questionnaire to better understand the difficulties family doctors may have when prescribing medicines to and changing dosages for their patients who take insulin. In response to the questionnaire, the answers of nearly 1,000 primary care physicians helped identify their needs and weaknesses in providing quality medical care to their patients with diabetes.

The most evident key findings of the questionnaire:

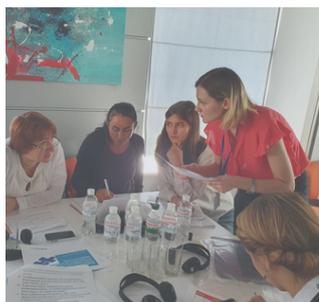
- Family doctors are aware of proper treatment and managing patients with type II diabetes;
- Most respondents have little knowledge about type I diabetes, which requires insulin therapy;
- Family doctors are open to gaining more knowledge of care and are unanimously ready to invest their time and efforts into learning;
- Family doctors are ready to join both online and offline trainings to catch up on missing pieces in their practice.

As a result of the questionnaire and findings, SAFEMed will be providing a communications support to NHSU to better prepare family doctors, as they join endocrinologists to provide quality care to insulin-dependent patients.



HTA WEBINAR SERIES

Globally, the impact of COVID-19 on daily lives is undeniable. While health care decisions are made on a daily, even hourly, basis, decision makers struggle when evidence is lacking. Policymakers, as well as health care professionals, encounter challenges in obtaining, understanding, and putting the right information into practice. The current need for learning is immense. Unfortunately, learning opportunities are scarce right now with closures or interruptions in university programs, face-to-face trainings, and conferences.



SAFEMED WEBINAR SERIES HTA AROUND THE WORLD

Thursday, May 28, 2020
15:30-17:30

SAFEMed

Health technology assessments (HTAs) are used by many European Union countries to identify the most optimal health care solutions by comparing safety, clinical efficacy, and cost. Since 2017, SAFEMed's HTA activities have generated a better understanding of the HTA function in Ukraine and advanced an open dialogue among core HTA actors in Ukraine. To continue supporting the HTA learning and institutionalization process, SAFEMed is rolling out an HTA webinar series, which will serve as a platform for core HTA stakeholders in Ukraine. The series will bring country-specific experience from recognized HTA thought leaders to the Ukrainian setting and cover key technical issues of interest through online collaboration.

The HTA webinar series started at the end of May 2020 and will cover the following:

- HTA country-specific case studies and adoption of HTA models for different countries;
- Managed entry agreements;
- Analysis of endpoints and results and credibility of studies—clinical and economic—for overall assessment of evidence;
- Economic modeling;
- HTA and cost effectiveness;
- Technical questions for HTA dossier preparation;
- Using HTA for orphan diseases in different countries;
- How to apply HTA to prioritize diseases and conditions;
- Case studies for critical assessment and appraisal of evidence;
- Utilization of HTA results in policy level decision making.

The series started with the presentation of worldwide HTA case studies. Each case study includes: an overview of the health care system; the role of HTA in decision making and institutionalization; HTA methods and processes, impact, pricing strategies, and reimbursement schemes; and experience with Managed Entry Agreement, if any.

Stay Tuned for the Next Digest

Contact Information
17 Reitarska Street, Suite 23, 5th Floor
01034, Kyiv, Ukraine

Oksana Romaniuk
SAFEMed Communications Advisor
oromaniuk@safemedua.org