



Lancet EMP Newsletter

Lancet Commission on Essential Medicines Policies

Countdown to 2016

Welcome to the February 2016 newsletter of the Lancet Commission on Essential Medicine Policies

Recent Updates

The 69th World Health Assembly (WHA) in May 2016 will discuss topics related to medicines, among others

- addressing the global shortages of medicines,
- safety and accessibility of children's medication, and
- comprehensive evaluation of the global strategy and plan of action on public health, innovation and intellectual property.

The Lancet Report on Essential Medicines Policy will address these topics and make recommendations regarding a global strategy on public health, innovation and intellectual property.

More about the upcoming WHA can be found at: http://apps.who.int/gb/e/e_eb138.html



Recent Publications

Beran D, Ewen M, Laing R [Constraints and challenges in access to insulin: a global perspective](#). *The Lancet Diabetes and Endocrinology*. Published Online: 05 February 2016.

Bigdeli M, et al. [Access to Treatment for Diabetes and Hypertension in Rural Cambodia: Performance of Existing Social Health Protection Schemes](#). *PLoS One*. Published: 27 January 2016. DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0146147

Diependaele L, Cockbain J, Sterckx S. [Raising the Barriers to Access to Medicines in the Developing World - The Relentless Push for Data Exclusivity](#). *Developing World Bioethics*. Published online: 27 January 2016. DOI: 10.1111/dewb.12105

Ferrario A, et al. [Progress in increasing affordability of medicines for non-communicable diseases since the introduction of mandatory health insurance in the Republic of Moldova](#). *Health Policy and Planning*. Published Online 01 February 2016.

Hill A et al., [Target prices for mass production of tyrosine kinase inhibitors for global cancer treatment](#). *BMJ Open* 2016. doi:10.1136/bmjopen-2015-009586

Iyer J. [Access by prescription](#). Stanford Social Innovation Review. Spring 2016.

WHO Essential Medicines and Health Products. [Promoting access, quality and innovation to save and improve lives](#). Geneva: WHO, 2016.

Upcoming Events and News relevant to Essential Medicine Policies

[WHO EML 2017](#): Applications for inclusion of new medicines, and changes to or deletion of currently listed medicines in the EML and EMLc now open until 2 December 2016.

[Rethinking regulation and value assessment of medical technologies: challenges and opportunities](#), London, United Kingdom, March 8-9 2016

Spotlight: Lancet EMP Commissioner: Bernard Pécoul, MD, MPH, Executive Director, Drugs for Neglected Diseases initiative (DNDi)



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Dr Bernard Pécoul has led the Drugs for Neglected Diseases *initiative (DNDi)* since its foundation in 2003. Under his guidance, DNDi – a not-for-profit research and development organization – with hundreds of public and private partners, has delivered six new treatments for the most neglected diseases (leishmaniasis, sleeping sickness, and Chagas disease) and for malaria. It has developed a robust portfolio of projects spanning from discovery to implementation for these diseases as well as filaria, paediatric HIV, mycetoma, and hepatitis C. As part of DNDi's dynamic portfolio approach, Pécoul is also leading the incubation of a product development partnership to address R&D for new antibiotic treatments.

DNDi aims to deliver a total of 16 to 18 new treatments for neglected patients by 2023, with a total of EUR 650 million, spanning 10 disease areas. The initiative, through its R&D work, also builds capacity in disease endemic countries through research platforms and technology transfers and advocates for greater public leadership to sustainably address the health needs of neglected patients.

Prior to DNDi, Dr Pécoul was Director of the Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) Campaign for Access to Essential Medicines from 1998 to 2003, a position he took on after that of Executive Director of MSF-France. While working with MSF, Dr Pécoul carried out field missions in Africa, Latin America, and Asia. In 1988, he co-founded Epicentre, an MSF-affiliated NGO specialized in epidemiology.

After obtaining his medical degree at the University of Clermont-Ferrand, France, Dr Pécoul earned a master's degree in public health at Tulane University, USA. In 2012, he was awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws Degree by the University of Dundee, UK.

Bernard Pécoul is member of the Joint Coordination Board of the Special Programme for Tropical Disease Research (WHO/TDR) and a board member of UNITAID's Medicines Patent Pool.

Recent publications of interest:

Balasegaram M, Bréchet C, Farrar J, Heymann D, Ganguly N, Khor M, Lévy Y, Matsoso P, Minghui R, Pécoul B, Peilong L, Tanner M, Røttingen JA. **A global biomedical R&D fund and mechanism for innovations of public health importance.** *PLoS Medicine*, May 2015

Hotez PJ, Dumonteil E, Betancourt Cravioto M, Bottazzi ME, Tapia-Conyer R, Meymandi S, Karunakara U, Ribeiro I, Cohen RM, Pécoul B. **An unfolding tragedy of Chagas disease in North America.** *PLoS Negl Trop Dis.*, October 2013

Pedrique B, Strub-Wourgaft N, Some C, Olliaro P, Trouiller P, Ford N, Pécoul B, Bradol JH. **The drug and vaccine landscape for neglected diseases (2000—11): a systematic assessment.** *The Lancet Global Health*, October 2013

Lallemant M, Chang S, Cohen R, and Pécoul R. **Pediatric HIV – A neglected disease ?.** *The New England Journal of Medicine*, August 2011

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