

# COUNTDOWN TO EU ELECTIONS 2019

## HEALTHCARE: EU HAS GROWING IMPACT ON INFLUENCING HEALTH POLICY AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL

What healthcare issues are on the agenda before May 2019? What does it mean for business?



### UNDER DISCUSSION

**IP OF MEDICINES:** The EU regulates the intellectual property of medicines and is currently agreeing new IP rules to allow the manufacturing of generic medicines within Europe for sale in a third country. Big pharma claim this will damage Europe's innovation ecosystem, while generic companies foresee a boost to jobs and manufacturing sites throughout the continent.

**HEALTH TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT:** There is currently no legislative basis for Member States to work together to analyse the benefits different medicines provide. This fragmented approach leads to duplication and inefficiencies. The EU seeks to enforce collaboration around clinical assessments of medicines, leading to strong opposition from the larger countries.

**BREXIT:** Relocation of the EU's premier regulatory body responsible for granting marketing authorisations of all new medicines across Europe will need to have been undertaken by 29th March to ensure a smooth transition. Assuming Brexit happens, the EMA will be moving from its current HQ in London to a new site in Amsterdam. If not, could it stay after all?

### COMING UP

**INNOVATIVE MEDICINES INITIATIVE 3:** Horizon Europe, the EU's €100 billion R&D funding programme, is currently being negotiated. As part of this, IMI is the world's biggest public/private partnership in the life sciences, representing collaboration between industry and the EU. Divergent views on the value of such a partnership pose a question mark as to its very future.

**COUNTRY COLLABORATION ON PRICING:** On the sidelines of the EU, some Member States are starting to informally work together to negotiate with industry on the price of medicines. The objective is the financial benefits of collective bargaining to drive down price and maximise value, particularly for the smaller Member States.

**DIGITAL HEALTH:** The EU is working on pilot initiatives across several Member States to empower European citizens in owning, managing and accessing their medical data across borders. Digital health standards and interoperability are set to become a key national and EU level issues in 2019 as we move towards digital transformation of healthcare systems.

### UNLIKELY

**IMPLANTABLE MEDICAL DEVICES:** EU may review its medical devices regulation following another scandal. Debate is being driven by concern that it is failing to protect patients sufficiently. An important conversation but one that is likely to be deferred to the new Commission.

## FTI CONSULTING'S KEY TAKEAWAY:

As the EU becomes increasingly active in the sector and some Member States embark on closer collaborations, we will see a stronger EU influence emerging. With ageing populations, diminishing health workforces and new technologies making greater demands on healthcare budgets, Europe will be looking at different ways to preserve its social model, protect national healthcare systems and manage patient expectations. Want to know more? Contact us [here](#) or go to [www.fticonsulting.com](http://www.fticonsulting.com).