



EAHP launches new Shortage Survey

27 February 2023

Medicines availability in the new year started very much as it ended in 2022. News outlets across Europe reported the increase in respiratory infections, in particular in children, leading to shortages of vital treatment options, including antibiotics. At the same time, healthcare professionals, patient representatives and notified bodies were ringing the alarm bells due to increasing concerns about medical device shortages.

Five years passed since the last comprehensive investigation by the European Association of Hospital Pharmacists (EAHP) into the problem of medicine shortages. Since new data is vital – especially ahead of the upcoming revision of the general pharmaceutical legislation – EAHP has decided to launch a new Shortage Survey, this time looking at both the shortage of medicines and medical devices in the hospital environment.

The 2023 Shortage Survey, focused on medicinal products and medical devices, seeks to investigate the reasons and impacts of shortages on patients in European hospitals as well as possible solutions. Besides hospital pharmacists, EAHP's Survey targets other healthcare professionals working in hospitals, like nurses and physicians, as well as patients and their carers that have experienced medicine shortages during their hospital stay.

EAHP has been advocating on the issue of medicines shortages for more than a decade. Five surveys were conducted by EAHP in 2013, 2014, 2018, 2019 and 2020, with the last one focusing also on the pandemic preparedness of pharmacists. The results of these surveys have provided an overview of the severity of the problem as well as its impact on overall patient care.

Healthcare professionals and patients impacted by a medicine shortage during their treatment in a hospital are invited to provide feedback until 30 April 2023.

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For further information contact [info\[at\]eahp\[dot\]eu](mailto:info@eahp.eu) ^[1] | 0032 2 669 2513

The European Association of Hospital Pharmacists (EAHP) is a not-for-profit organisation that defends the interests of more than 25.000 European hospital pharmacists from its 36 full and associate member organisations. EAHP works to develop knowledge on hospital pharmacy to ease the improvement of care and outcomes for patients in the hospital setting. The Association achieves this through science, practice, research, education, as well as sharing best-practice and responsibility with other healthcare professionals. More information about EAHP is available [HERE](#) ^[2].

2. Contribute to the 2023 Shortage Survey focused on medicinal products and medical devices via the following [LINK](#) ^[3]

3. Learn more about EAHP's work on medicine shortages [HERE](#) ^[4]

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Links

[1] <https://www.eahp.eu/contact/info/eahp/eu> [2] <https://www.eahp.eu/about-us/who-we-are> [3] <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/EAHP2023ShortageSurvey> [4] <https://www.eahp.eu/practice-and-policy/medicines-shortages>