



# **Beyond US Borders:**What do global drug prices really mean for MFN?

30<sup>th</sup> June 2025



### **Webinar objectives**

# **OBJECTIVES**



#### Set the scene:

Recap the Most Favored Nation (MFN) policy, including latest developments and what it may mean for the US



#### **Discuss how ex-US pricing works:**

Introduce how medicines are priced outside the US and explain why these mechanisms matter for the MFN



#### **Assess global pricing implications:**

Discuss how ex-US pricing dynamics are likely to influence the practical impact, potential implementation and viability of the MFN Policy



# Today's agenda



# INTRODUCTION TO THE MFN POLICY



SETTING & ITS
CONSEQUENCES



POTENTIAL GLOBAL MFN IMPLICATIONS



**AUDIENCE Q&A** 



### Why are we here today?







Americans are overcharged for prescription drugs and "must therefore have access to the most-favored-nation price..."

The EO directs multiple federal agencies to take specific actions to lower drug prices in the United States in a manner comparable with other "developed nations."





#### What do we know as of now?







HHS expects each [drug] manufacturer to commit to aligning [United States] pricing for all **brand products** across all markets **that do not currently have generic or biosimilar competition** with the **lowest price** of a set **of economic peer countries**.









# Today's agenda



INTRODUCTION TO THE MFN POLICY



**Ex-US PRICE SETTING**& ITS CONSEQUENCES



POTENTIAL
GLOBAL MFN
IMPLICATIONS

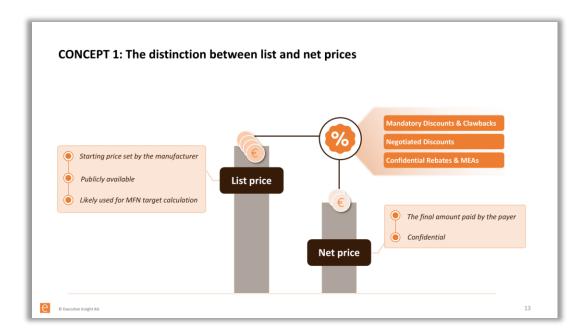


**AUDIENCE Q&A** 



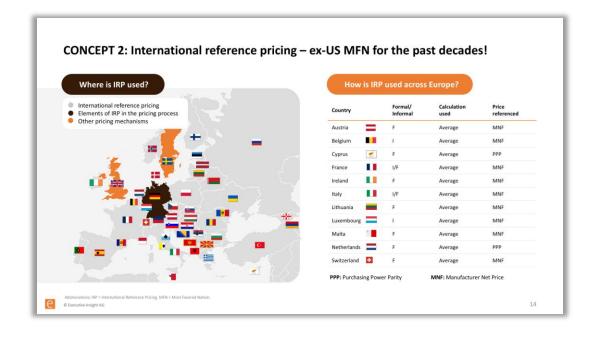
# Before we begin, there are two background concepts we would like to introduce

Concept 1
The distinction between list and net



It's the same in the US!

Concept 2
International Reference Pricing



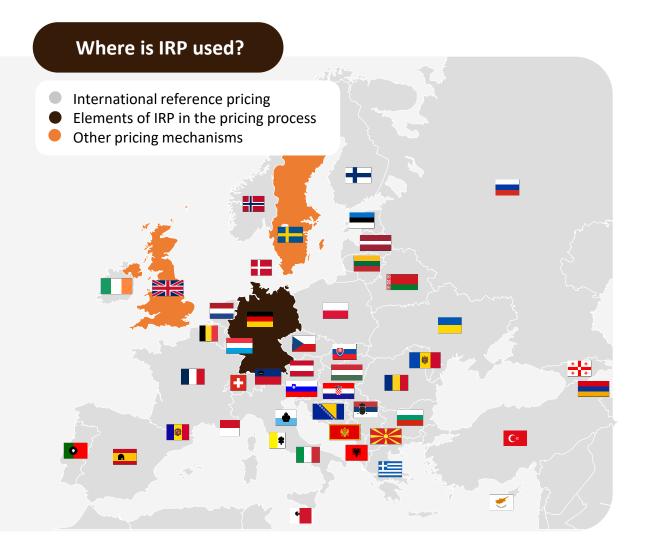
#### New concept!

And it impacts prices at launch, and price evolution over time

### **CONCEPT 1: The distinction between list and net prices**



# **CONCEPT 2: International reference pricing – ex-US MFN for the past decades!**



#### How is IRP used across Europe?

| Country     |                          | Formal/<br>Informal | Calculation<br>used | Price<br>referenced |
|-------------|--------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Austria     |                          | F                   | Average             | MNF                 |
| Belgium     |                          | 1                   | Average             | MNF                 |
| Cyprus      | $\overline{\mathscr{C}}$ | F                   | Average             | PPP                 |
| France      |                          | I/F                 | Highest or lowest*  | MNF                 |
| Ireland     |                          | F                   | Average             | MNF                 |
| Italy       |                          | I/F                 | Average             | MNF                 |
| Lithuania   |                          | F                   | Average             | MNF                 |
| Luxembourg  |                          | 1                   | Average             | MNF                 |
| Malta       | <b>4</b>                 | F                   | Average             | MNF                 |
| Netherlands |                          | F                   | Average             | PPP                 |
| Switzerland | +                        | F                   | Average             | MNF                 |
|             |                          |                     |                     |                     |

**PPP:** Purchasing Power Parity

MNF: Manufacturer Net Price

<sup>\*</sup> for ASMR I to III the price is either the highest or the lowest in the 4 reference countries, depending on whether the product is manufactured in France

# **CONCEPT 2: International reference pricing – ex-US MFN for the past decades!**



IRP is a regulatory method used to set drug prices by referencing the prices of the same product in other countries

| Parameter               | Description  |  |  |  |
|-------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Reference<br>Basket     | Set of countries used for comparison (e.g. OECD, similar markets)            |  |  |  |
| Calculation<br>Method   | Common methods include:  |  |  |  |
|                         | • Lowest price in basket (e.g. Greece)                                       |  |  |  |
|                         | Average of lowest 3 (e.g. Portugal)  |  |  |  |
|                         | Median or average (e.g. Poland)  |  |  |  |
| Exchange<br>Rate Policy | Static or regularly updated currency conversion; some use fixed annual rates |  |  |  |



#### **Challenges & Considerations**

- Launch delays due to pricing impact on other countries
- IRP typically uses list prices, which does not include confidential / negotiated discounts
- Prices may spiral downwards since countries reference each other cyclically
- Public price data may be outdated or inconsistently reported

### To understand MFN implications, we first need to unpack...

# US vs. ex-US LIST PRICE TENSION



How do OECD and US list prices branded drugs compare?



What are the lowest-priced OECD markets?



How do OECD list prices evolve over time?

# OECD reference countries have different approaches to pricing of branded drugs – but overall, countries fall under one of three archetypes

#### Key archetypes and drivers



**Primarily Negotiated Price** 



**Primarily Regulation-Based Price** 



**Manufacturer-Set** (at Launch) Price

Negotiations are informed by



**Clinical benefit** assessment





IRP-based



Free pricing\*





**Cost-effectiveness** 



Formula-based

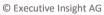




**Budget impact** 

<sup>\*</sup>Germany is free-priced for the first 6 months after launch.





# In many markets, prices can be set through direct negotiation between the manufacturer and health authorities, typically reflecting the drug's clinical benefit, cost-effectiveness & budget impact



# Primarily Negotiated Price

Prices\* are set through negotiations between the manufacturer and national authorities or public payers. This process considers multiple criteria to determine a fair and sustainable price

#### **KEY CHARACTERISTICS**

- Prices \* are negotiated through structured processes within legally defined frameworks that set clear boundaries for the negotiation
- Emphasis on value-based pricing
- Typically involves HTA bodies

#### PRICE-SETTING CRITERIA

Clinical benefit assessment

Cost-effectiveness

**Budget** impact

Evaluation of therapeutic advantage over existing options

Value for money relative to health outcomes (e.g., QALYs)

Financial feasibility within the healthcare system

Germany (post-HTA), France



UK, Canada, Sweden



Italy, Spain

Abbreviations: HTA = Health Technology Assessment. QALY = Quality-Adjusted Life Years.

<sup>\*</sup>Negotiated prices can be either list or net, depending on the country.



#### Primarily Regulation-Based Price

Countries under this model regulate drug prices\* directly using fixed rules or benchmarks. These can be based on international prices or predefined formulas

#### **KEY CHARACTERISTICS**

- Less flexible but ensures pricing predictability
- Strong government control over pricing

#### **SUBTYPES**

**IRP-based** 

Formula-based

Price benchmarked against other countries

Price derived from production costs, mark-ups or comparators

Turkey, Greece, Poland

Japan

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\* Prices can be either list or net, depending on the country.



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# In some markets, incl. the US, manufacturers set the initial list price independently at launch, based on internal pricing strategy, market expectations and perceived therapeutic value



# Manufacturer-Set (at Launch) Price

Manufacturers freely set drug prices at launch without upfront governmental controls, however public / private payers may later negotiate reimbursement conditions

#### **KEY CHARACTERISTICS**

- No formal price regulation at launch whereby high initial launch prices are common
- Market forces and payer negotiations influence sustainability of higher prices

#### **COMMON METHODOLOGIES**

Although there is no formal methodology for free pricing, manufacturers often apply internal strategies and benchmarks to guide pricing decisions

Value-based pricing

Aligned to outcomes or cost-effectiveness

Premium pricing

Set high to reflect breakthrough status or unmet need

Anchor pricing

Set with reference to analogues or future impact

#### **EXAMPLES**



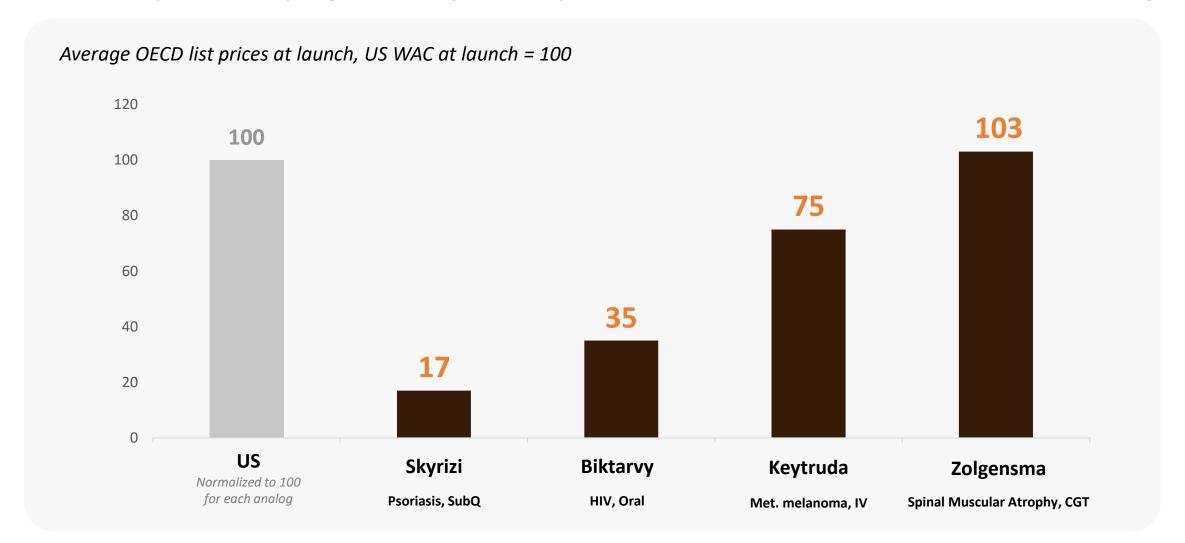
United States



Germany (initial 6months)



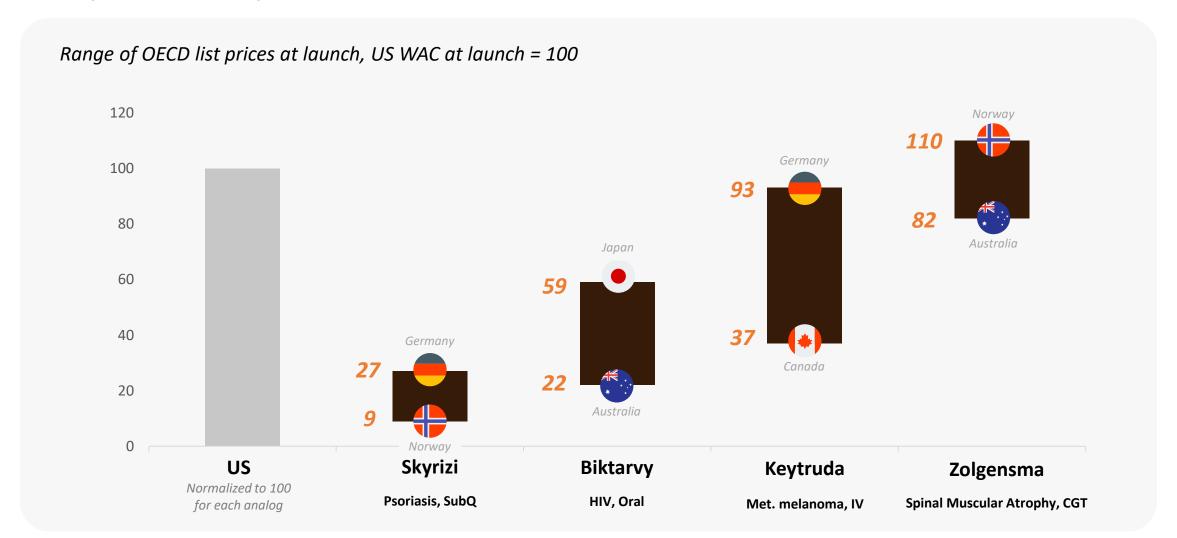
# Ex-US list prices vary significantly vs. US prices, and in some instances can even be higher



Source: Navlin. Notes: Ex-factory (WAC) list prices are used, converted to USD at the average quarterly rate at launch reported by the IMF. Germany's prices are at launch prices post the P&R process; price of Zolgensma in Germany is hospital price as the ex-factory price was not reported.



# The spread of list prices within OECD is diverse as well...

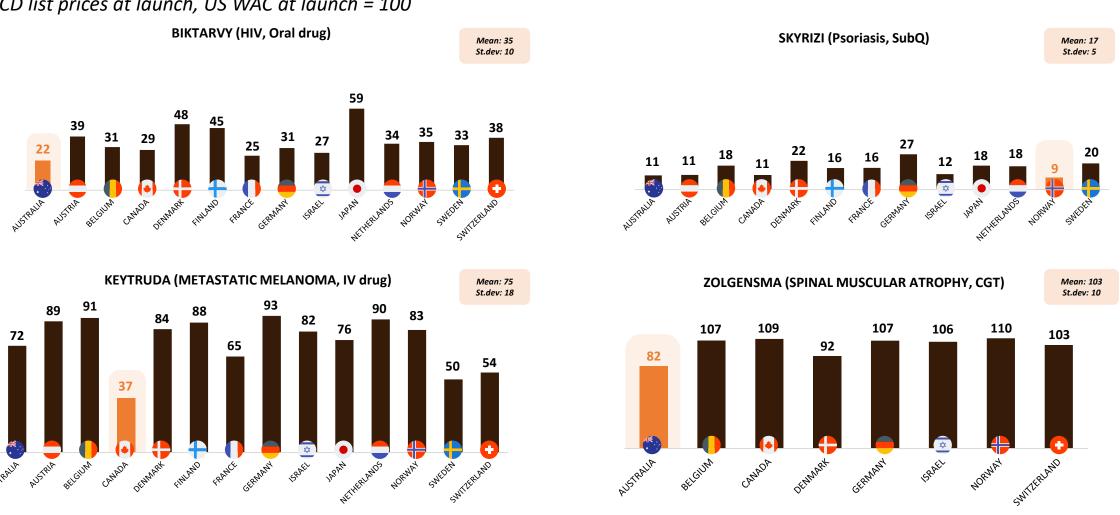


Source: Navlin. Notes: Ex-factory (WAC) list prices are used, converted to USD at the average quarterly rate at launch reported by the IMF. Germany's prices are at launch prices post the P&R process; price of Zolgensma in Germany is hospital price as the ex-factory price was not reported.



# Both the size of the US-to-ex-US price gap and the lowest-priced country vary significantly by product

OECD list prices at launch, US WAC at launch = 100

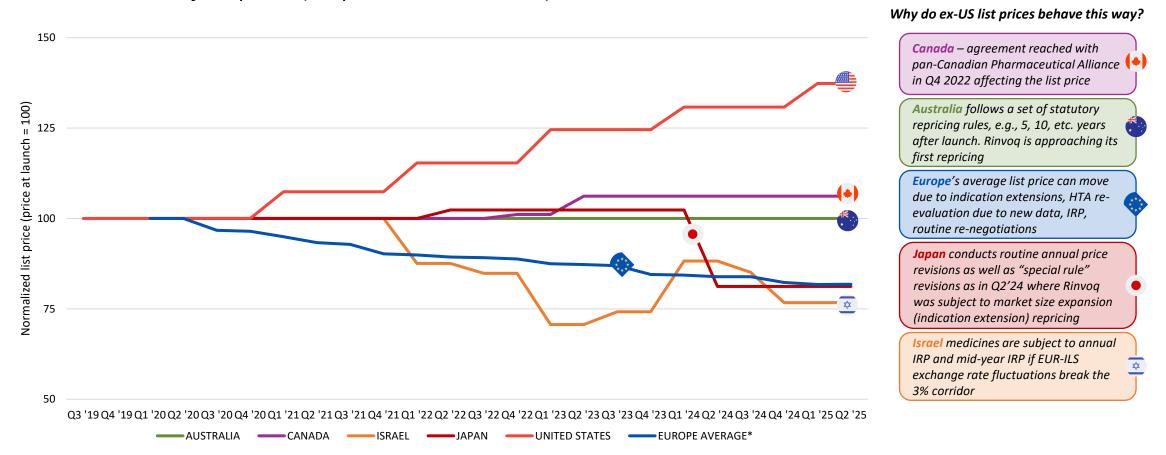


Source: Navlin. Notes: Ex-factory (WAC) list prices are used, converted to USD at the average quarterly rate at launch reported by the IMF. Canadian prices are approximated by Ontario's prices. Germany's prices are al launch post the P&R process, price of Zolgensma in Germany is hospital price as the ex-factory price was not reported.



# The gap between US and ex-US list prices only widens over time – creating dynamic implications if MFN is applied periodically

**RINVOQ**: Evolution of list prices (list price at launch = 100)



Source: Navlin. Notes: Ex-factory (WAC) list prices are used, converted to USD at the quarterly rate, reported by the IMF, averaged over the period since the first launch of Rinvoq. Canadian prices are approximated by Ontario's prices. Germany's prices are al launch post the P&R process. \*Europe average includes the following countries: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland.



Abbreviations: MFN = Most Favored Nation.

### Why do prices in ex-US behave this way?

Changes in drug's value proposition and price renegotiations

Following an indication extension



Indication extensions
 may significantly affect
 the drug's value
 proposition or eligible
 patient population, and
 in turn, the budget

Following HTA re-evaluation of the same indication



 Manufacturer may request new HTA reevaluation if significant new evidence is available, triggering a subsequent price renegotiation



Potential of price increase, but rare

Changes in external environment

Routine re-negotiations



- Periodic renegotiations
- Expiration of pricevolume agreements
- Major changes in competitive landscape
- Combo therapy with the drug in question

Periodic IRP



 Some countries apply IRP periodically, e.g. Israel applies it up to 2 times per year

# We want you to leave with these three insights...





Although U.S. list prices are generally higher, exceptions exist



The country with the lowest list price varies by product, so does the price gap vs. the US



List prices typically decline over time because of changes in drug's value proposition and built-in repricing mechanisms

# Today's agenda



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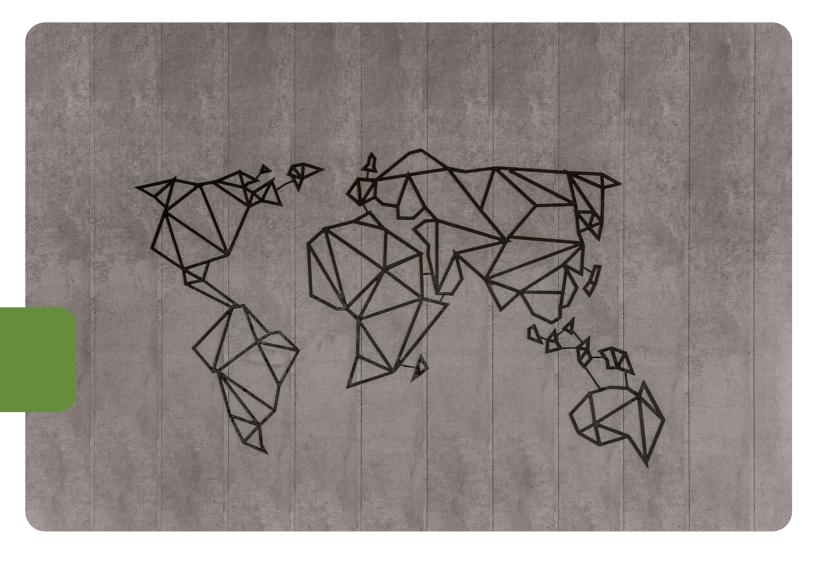
Ex-US PRICE
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**AUDIENCE Q&A** 



# What do we think the effect of the MFN will be on the prices they will be compared to?



There is little political or fiscal appetite in Europe to raise drug spending.

Trung Huynh, Healthcare Analyst, UBS, May 2025 Australia will not compromise on our policy setting. The Pharmaceutic al Benefits Scheme is not up for negotiation.

Australian
Department of
Foreign Affairs
and Trade,
May 2025

Raising prices
in Europe can't
just happen
without
changing
national laws.
There would
be strong
public and
political
pushback.

Prof. Kerstin Vokinger, University of Zurich, May 2025 Drug prices
are a national
matter in
Germany,
governed by
law. Our
regulatory
framework
remains
unchanged.

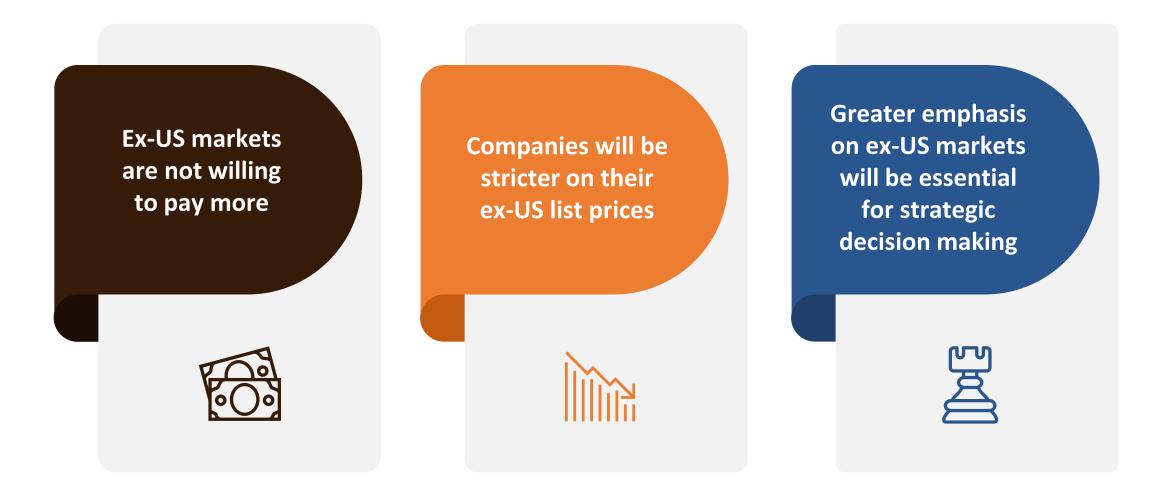
German Health Ministry spokesperson, May 2025 Unless there is an overhaul of UK law or policy, Trump's order will not result in higher UK prices.

Dr. Daniel Howdon, Health Economist, University of Leeds, May 2025

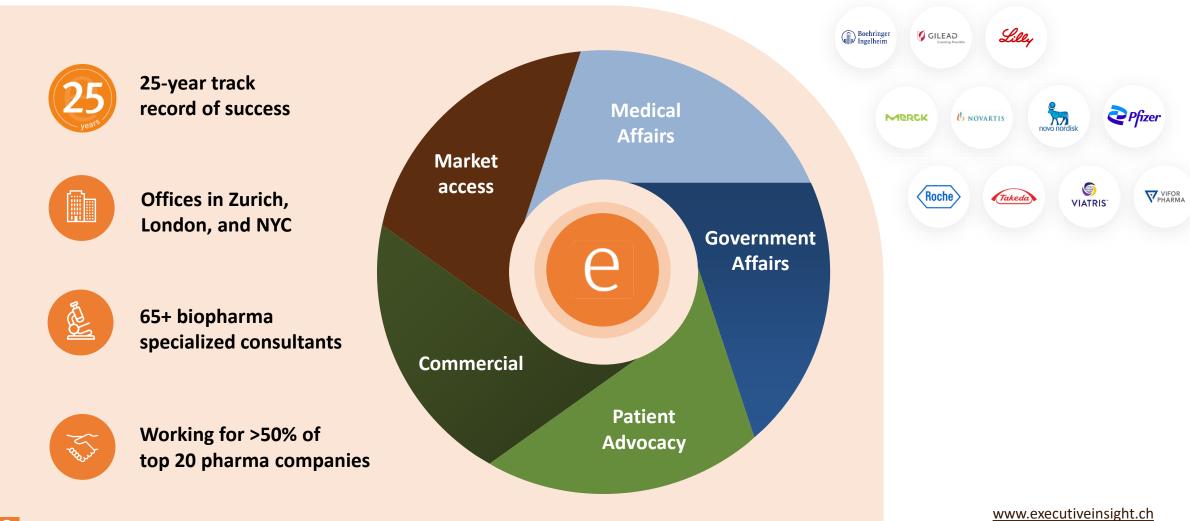




# What do we think the effect of the MFN will be on the prices they will be compared to?



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