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Global perspectives and future implications of biosimilars in next generation treatment

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Biosimilars offer one way of widening access and enabling better value to be obtained from the money spent on health care. In some country such as South Korea, India and Brazil they are seen as a key macroeconomic driver of growth, attracting foreign capital by creating manufacturing and R&D centers of excellence. Countries around the world face a growing, aging population and an increase in chronic disease. With expanding demand for good-quality health care comes the challenge of controlling healthcare expenditure. The safe and regulated introduction of biosimilars into the market has been forecasted to increase access to much needed biologic medicines and reduce costs. The imperative to find cost-effective alternatives to biologic reflects the growing demand for these specialty drugs. Over the next few years, a new generation of complex biosimilars will be developed as numerous leading biologic medicines, worth an estimated $81 billion in global annual sales, will lose their patents by 2020. Fusion proteins and monoclonal antibodies used in cancer and autoimmune diseases are expected to form a substantial proportion of this new line of biosimilars. The biosimilars sector has reached very different stages of evolution around the world. Clarity of guidelines is variable and regulatory pathways diverse, leading to various definitions of biosimilars across countries and regions. With patent expiration of innovative products, the biosimilars will increasingly become available. Awareness of the deviations between biosimilars and innovator products in terms of efficacy, safety and immunogenicity is essential for proper prescription and safety of the patients.

Biography

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