

Biosimilars adoption must be boosted by pharmacist involvement

Perception and adoption of biosimilars in a tertiary hospital: a survey among prescribers

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BACKGROUND & OBJECTIVE

Biosimilars are **safe, effective, and cost-saving**; their uptake depends on trust. Swiss law now allows pharmacist substitution, but confidence remains crucial.



Assess physicians' perceptions and identify barriers and facilitators to biosimilar use in our hospital

CONCLUSION

Prescribers view biosimilar switching positively, but adoption is **limited by patient reluctance, insurance barriers, and persistent safety concerns**.

Greater uptake will require **institutional support, reduced administrative hurdles, clear evidence-based communication and pharmacist involvement**.

METHODS



17-item questionnaire covering 8 thematic domains sent to 174 physicians by e-mail



Survey conducted between **november 2024** and **january 2025**



Results collected and analyzed

RESULTS



Respondents : **24 physicians**



Rheumatology (n=5)



Immunoallergology (n=5)



Gastroenterology (n=5)

- dermatology (n=3)
- neurology (n=3)
- oncology (n=3)

SURVEY ANALYSIS – KEY MESSAGES



KNOWLEDGE

13 out of 24

Over half (54%) reported being familiar with biosimilars



18 out of 24

Most respondents (75%) had already switched patients to biosimilars



EXPERT

8.2/10 confidence

Participants reported a high level of confidence in explaining biosimilar benefits to patients



80-100% success

Success rates in switching patients to biosimilars are very high



Switch failure

Lack of confidence in biosimilar (28%) and patient request to return to original (28%) are the main reasons for switch failure



Limited comparative data on immunogenicity (33%)



Patient reluctance (29%)



Administrative issues (23%) (i.e insurance hurdles, art. 71abcd)



BARRIERS AND FACILITATORS

Official recommendations from medical societies (25%)



Pharmacist involvement (21%)



PHARMACIST

Need for additional post-marketing evidence (17%)

