

---

# The EU Pharmaceutical Reform

DGRA-Jahreskongress May 2023



European  
Commission

#HealthUnion



# The EU pharmaceutical sector

Revenue of worldwide pharmaceutical market is EUR 1 trn+ per year, tripled in last 20 years



Approx. 20% of all EU R&D spending  
EU is the second biggest R&D investor after US

1,5-2% of EU GDP  
is spent on  
pharmaceuticals



**The EU  
pharmaceutical  
sector**



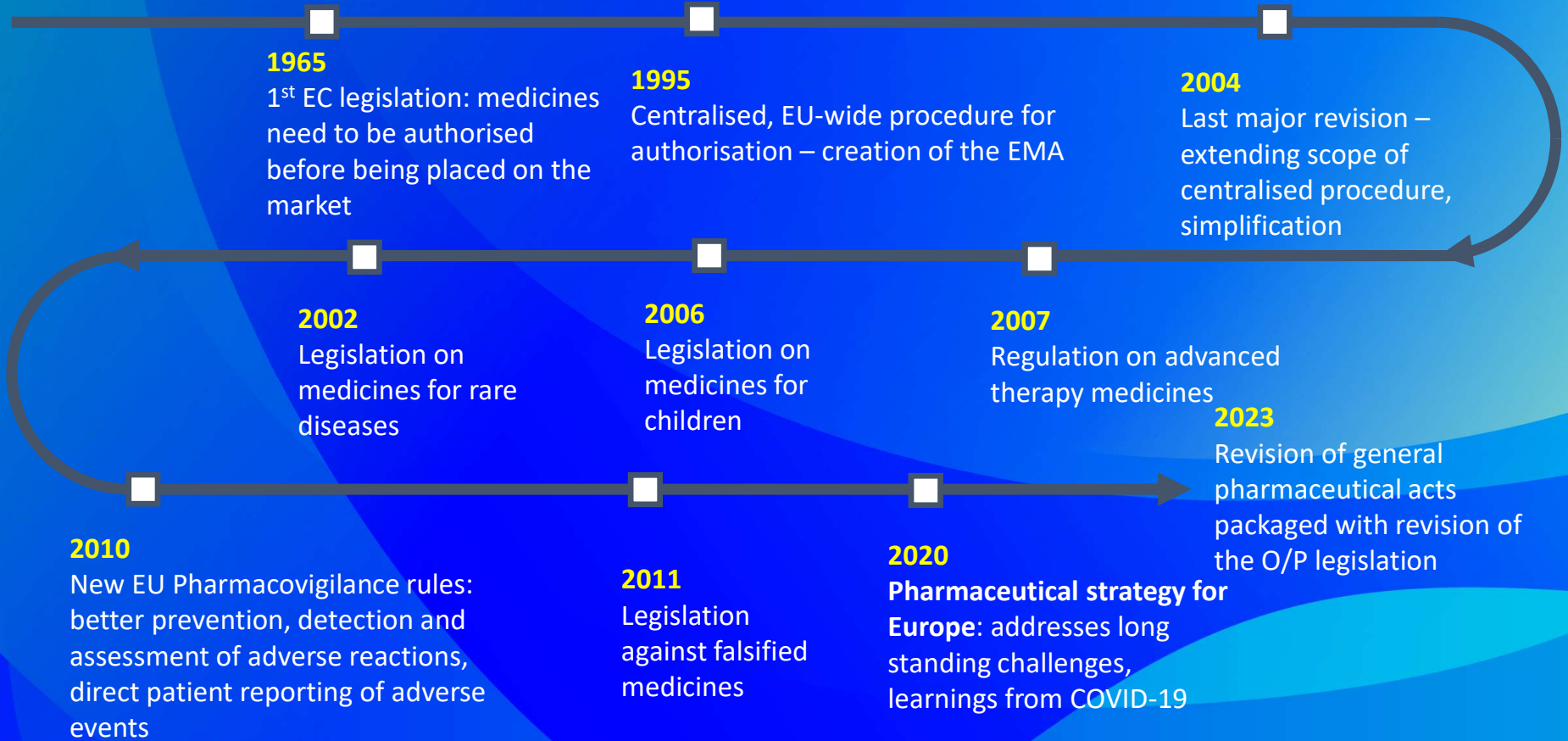
**89 new medicines**  
authorised in 2021 at EU  
level

The biggest single contributor to  
EU's trade surplus –  
EUR 235 bn in exports



**+ EUR 136 bn trade balance**  
(tripled in last 10 years)

# A quick look back



# #EUPharmaStrategy

- Adopted in November 2020
- Ambitious long-term agenda in the field of pharmaceutical policy
- Objective: creating a future proof regulatory framework and at supporting industry in promoting research and technologies that actually reach patients in order to fulfil their therapeutic needs



# EU Pharmaceutical Reform

**Builds  
on the  
Pharmaceutical  
Strategy for  
Europe (2020)**

**Supports  
EU citizens and  
industry**

**Addresses  
long-standing  
challenges  
and public  
emergencies**

**Marks a  
European  
Health Union  
milestone**

# A 4-part package

## Chapeau communication

### New Regulation

- Specific rules for the most innovative medicines such as orphans, antimicrobials
- Rules on shortages
- EMA governance

### New Directive

- Placing on the market of all medicines
- Authorisation and labelling requirements
- Strong incentives for access



## Council Recommendation on AMR

# 6 Key political objectives

## “TRIPLE A”

No Single Market  
**ACCESS**

Shortages  
**AVAILABILITY**

Budgets  
**AFFORDABILITY**

Competitive  
regulatory  
framework

Environmental  
Sustainability

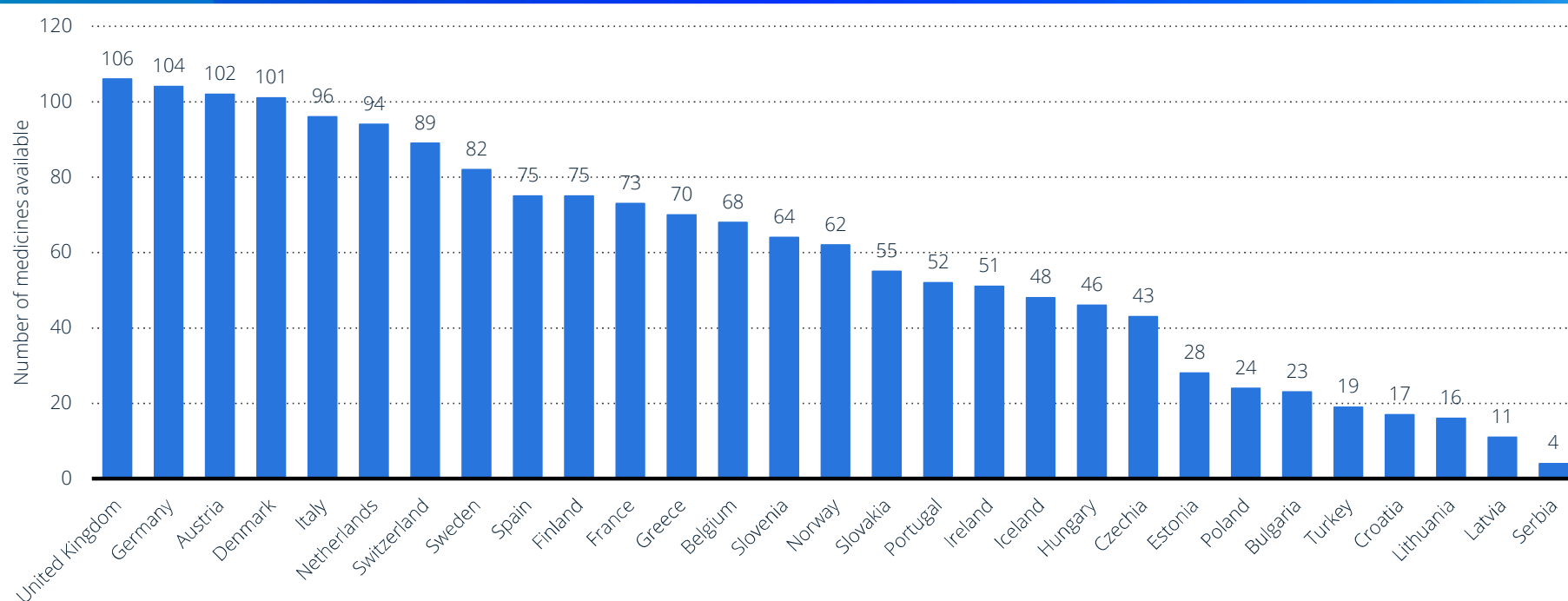
Combat  
AMR

Single market of medicines in the EU

# Access to medicines

Number of medicines approved by the EMA between 2015-17 available to patients in Europe as of 2018, by country

Availability of new medicines in Europe in 2018, by country



Note(s): Europe; 2017

Further information regarding this statistic can be found on [page 8](#).

Source(s): IQVIA; ID 1011132



# 1. Access to medicines

## Current challenges:

Access is not timely and differs across Member States:

90% variance between Northern and Western European countries and Southern and Eastern European countries

Average waiting time across the EU is from 4 months to 29 months

## Proposed solutions:

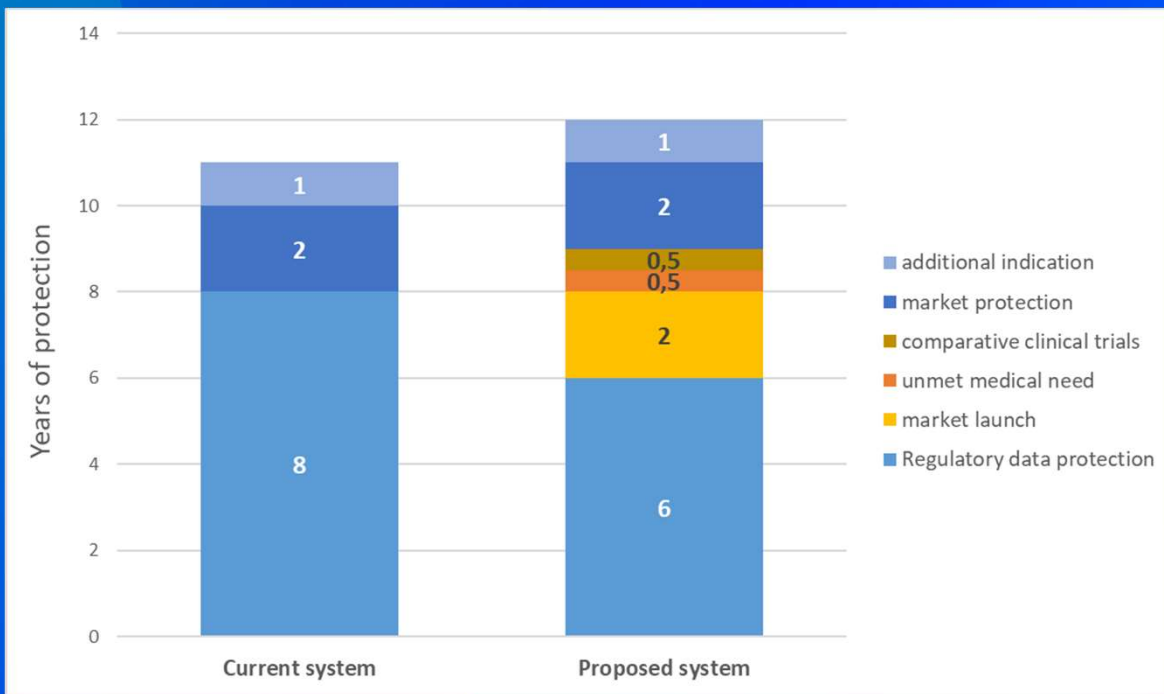
Incentives for innovation and access:  
Targeted approach vs current “one-size-fits-all” with 8 years of unconditional data protection

Earlier market entry of generic and biosimilar medicines

- Faster authorisation
- Pre-authorisation support

# Modulation for the majority of innovative medicines

Regulatory data and market protection today and as proposed



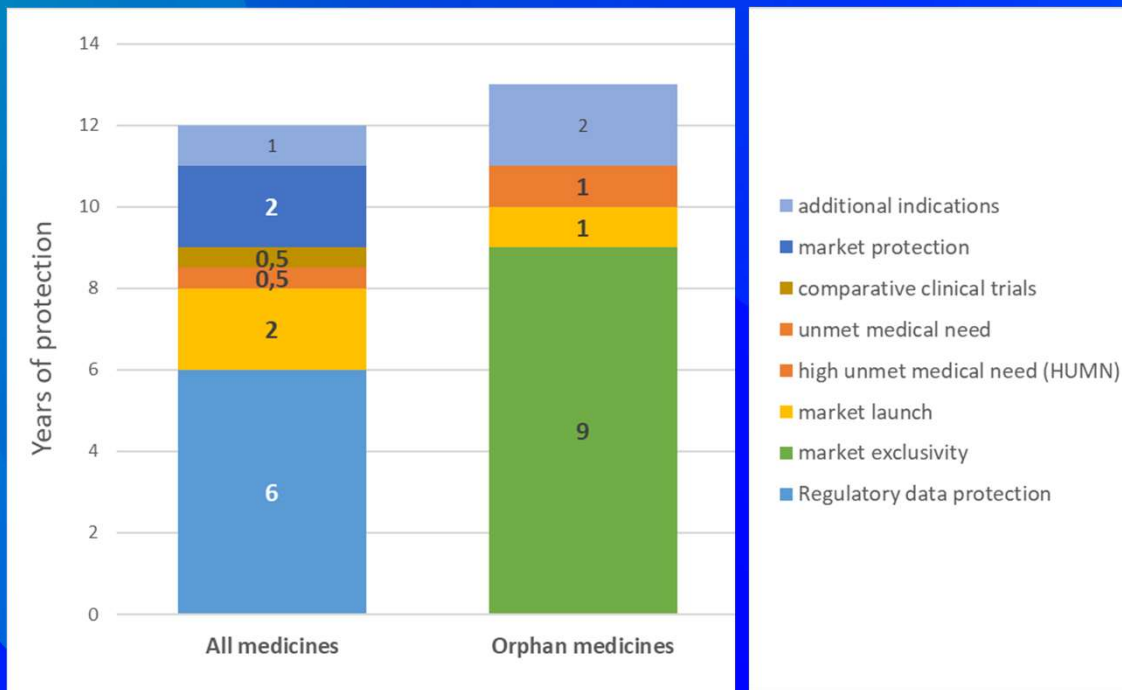
Current system, max 11 years protection

Proposed system, max 12 years protection

# Access to medicines - proposed changes for medicines for rare diseases (orphan medicines )

## Modulation of data protection

## Modulation of market exclusivity



## List of changes

- Default market exclusivity is 9 years (from 10 today)
- Products addressing HUMN get +1 year market exclusivity = 10 years
- Launching in all MS adds +1 year market exclusivity

max 12 years protection

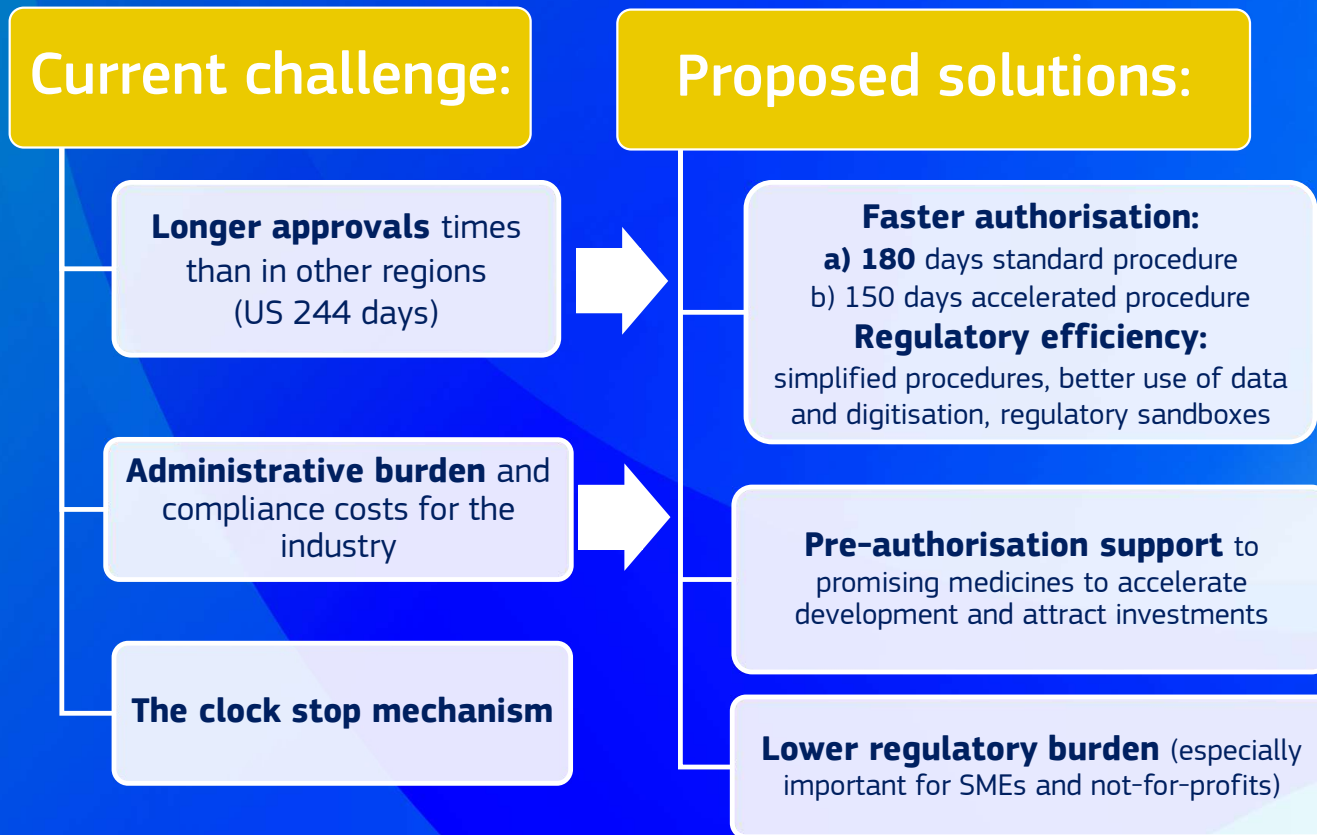
max 13 years protection for orphan medicines

# Modulation of incentives and EU competitiveness

- IP rights outside scope of pharmaceutical legislation will not be affected
- Ability to have the same regulatory protection as today
- EU system of regulatory incentives is already one of most generous (table)
- The incentives apply equally to all products, regardless of where they are developed – in the EU or elsewhere

Country	Protection	Duration
Canada	New Chemical Entity+ Market Protection	6+2 years
EU	New Chemical Entity+ Market Protection	8+2+1 years
Switzerland	New Chemical Entity	10 years
USA	New Chemical Entity (small molecule)	5 years
USA	Biosimilar Application Approval Exclusivity (biologic)	4+8 years
Israel	Market Protection	6 or 6.5 years
China	New Chemical Entity	6 years
Japan	New Chemical Entity	8 years

## 2. A streamlined regulatory framework



### 3. Availability – preventing shortages

#### Shortages

##### Multiple causes

- Insufficient preparedness by Member States/industry
- Declining manufacturing in Europe
- EU dependency on non-EU countries for medicines

#### Challenges

Growing concern for **all EU countries**

Most affected medicines: **antibiotics, painkillers** (also in paediatric formulations)

**Ad hoc processes** for dealing with shortages

#### Proposed solutions

**Better monitoring of shortages** (MS and EMA); Earlier notification of shortages and withdrawals (industry)

**Shortages Prevention Plans**

**EU list of critical medicines**

Stronger coordinating role for **EMA &** more powers for **Commission** (contingency stocks or other measures to improve security of supply of critical medicines)

#### Outside pharma package

- HERA work
- IPCEI in the area of health
- Critical Raw Materials Act

# 4. Affordability

## Current challenges:

Pricing, reimbursement and procurement of medicines is a **national** competence

High prices endanger national health systems' sustainability & **restrict patient access**

Lack of **transparency of public funding** is a growing issue

Lack of **streamlined coordination** among national authorities

## Proposed solutions:

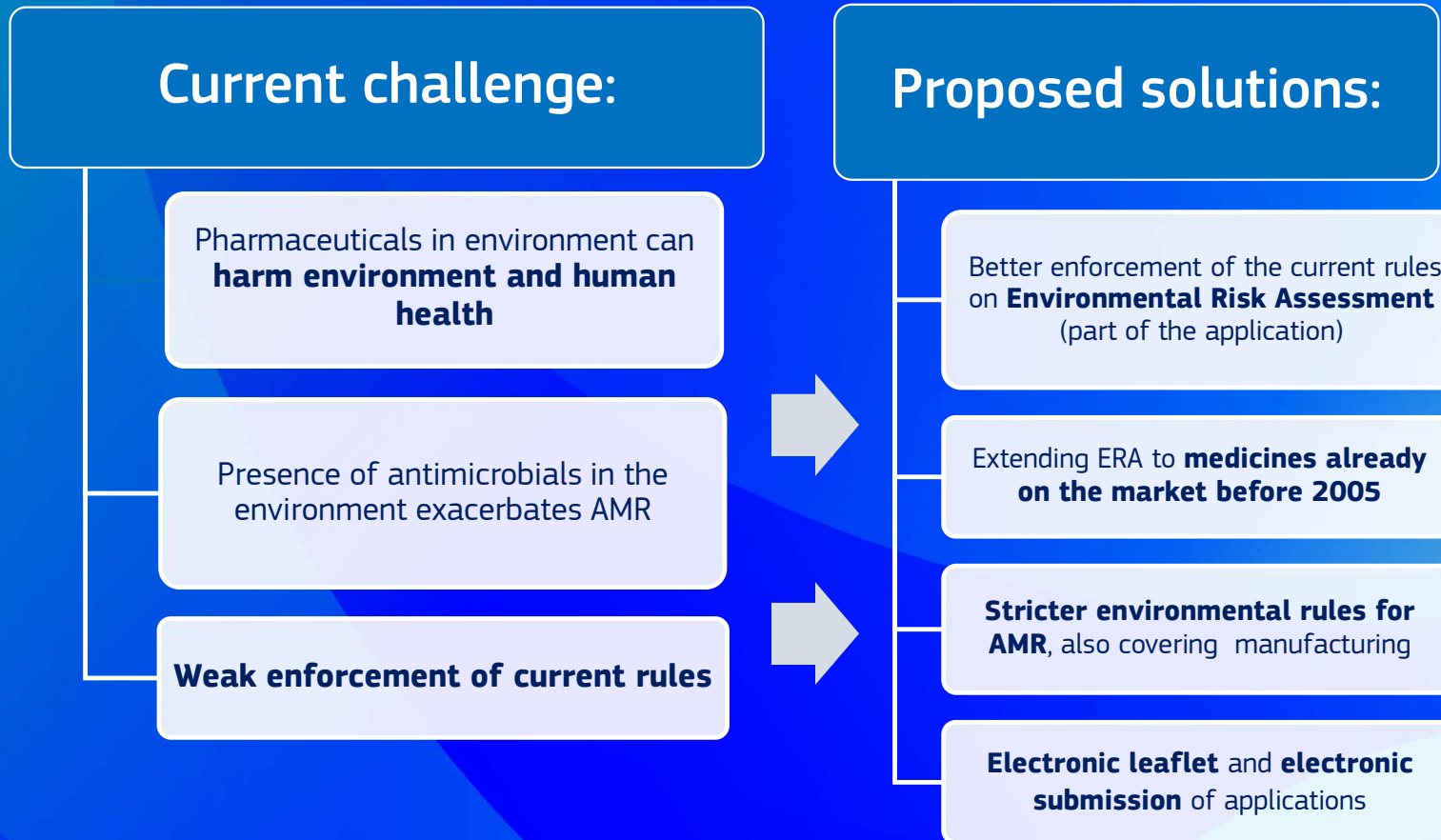
**Earlier market entry of generics/biosimilars** to increase competition and reduce prices

Increased **transparency on public contribution** to R&D

Comparative **Clinical Trials** to support national decisions on pricing

Further support for **information exchange** between Member States (cooperation on pricing, reimbursement and payment policies)

# 5. Environmental sustainability





## 6. Combatting AMR

### Current challenge:

AMR causes **35000 deaths per year** in the EU.

It amounts to +/-1.5 bn EUR per year in healthcare costs

By 2050, **10 million deaths globally each year**

**Current market failure/ Lack of effective antimicrobials**

**Lack of market incentives**

0,5 bln EUR cost of a new antibiotic

### AMR toolbox

Measures on **prudent use of antimicrobials** – prescription, restricted quantities, education etc.

Regulatory incentives with **transferable exclusivity vouchers** under strict conditions

Financial incentives with **procurement mechanisms** (HERA)  
5 Targets, incl on the total **EU consumption of antibiotics for humans** (ECDC) → reduction by 20% by 2030  
(Council Recommendation)

### AMR voucher

- Additional year of data protection
- Strict conditions (only novel antimicrobials, full transparency of all funding, obligation of supply, max 10 vouchers in 15 years, review after 15 years, etc.)

---

# Thank you for your attention

#HealthUnion #EUPharmaStrategy #AMR



© European Union 2022