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Our focus
From the patient at
the centre to the strong
economic-policy framework

The association
Facts and figures for
the past year

ANNUAL REPORT 2023

Principles for a sustainable Swiss healthcare system


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A compass for the challenges facing the healthcare sector

Jörg-Michael Rupp
Head of Roche
Pharma International
President of Interpharma

Dr. René P. Buholzer
CEO Interpharma

Interpharma celebrated its 90th anniversary in 2023. During the anniversary year, we looked back over the tremendous progress that has taken place in healthcare and which is improving the lives of countless people thanks to relentless commitment to research and development. As a result of this progress, we now have access to medicines and treatments that are increasingly effective and personalised. This is primarily because Switzerland, aided by its good political and economic framework conditions, is a hugely attractive location for research-based pharmaceutical companies. At the same time, however, we are aware that this situation cannot be taken for granted. It is now more challenging than ever before to remain a competitive location. It will require a huge effort by all stakeholders to retain our position among the international leaders going forward and to continue to improve our already high standards.

Interpharma intends to keep making an important contribution to achieving these ambitious goals. Last year, our work focused systematically on our three focal areas – "Putting patients at the centre", "A strong economic framework" and "Leader in research and development" – and will continue to do so. Above and beyond this, we have been concentrating on the main key points needed to achieve this:

Switzerland needs a holistic health policy that gives the necessary consideration to change in society and the growth in medical options – to say nothing of increasing costs and the need for sustainable healthcare funding. This will require intensive collaboration between the different levels of the state apparatus and the involvement of business and society. Going forward, it will be more important than ever to have a data-based healthcare system and nationwide digital infrastructure as a prerequisite for achieving these goals. The Federal Council took an important step in the right direction at the end of the year by approving DigiSanté because Switzerland urgently needs to catch up when it comes to digitalisation. Similarly, patients need fast and equitable access to medical services. Towards the end of 2023, the number of days between Swissmedic authorising a medicine and patients gaining access to it increased alarmingly, and this is a trend that fills us with concern. Not only that, recent amendments to revisions have further impeded patient access. In contrast, we see empowerment and prevention as areas with major potential that can be leveraged with comparative ease to improve the health of the population. Doing so would reduce the burden on the healthcare system and society without causing horrendous costs.

This Annual Report uses the principles we have developed for the healthcare system to show where we think the challenges and also the points of leverage lie if we are to remain a leader in the future, and we are pleased to be sharing it with you. These principles give Interpharma a compass for making a constructive contribution to the search for solutions to the challenges facing the Swiss healthcare system. Let's persist!

Jörg-Michael Rupp

Dr. René P. Buholzer

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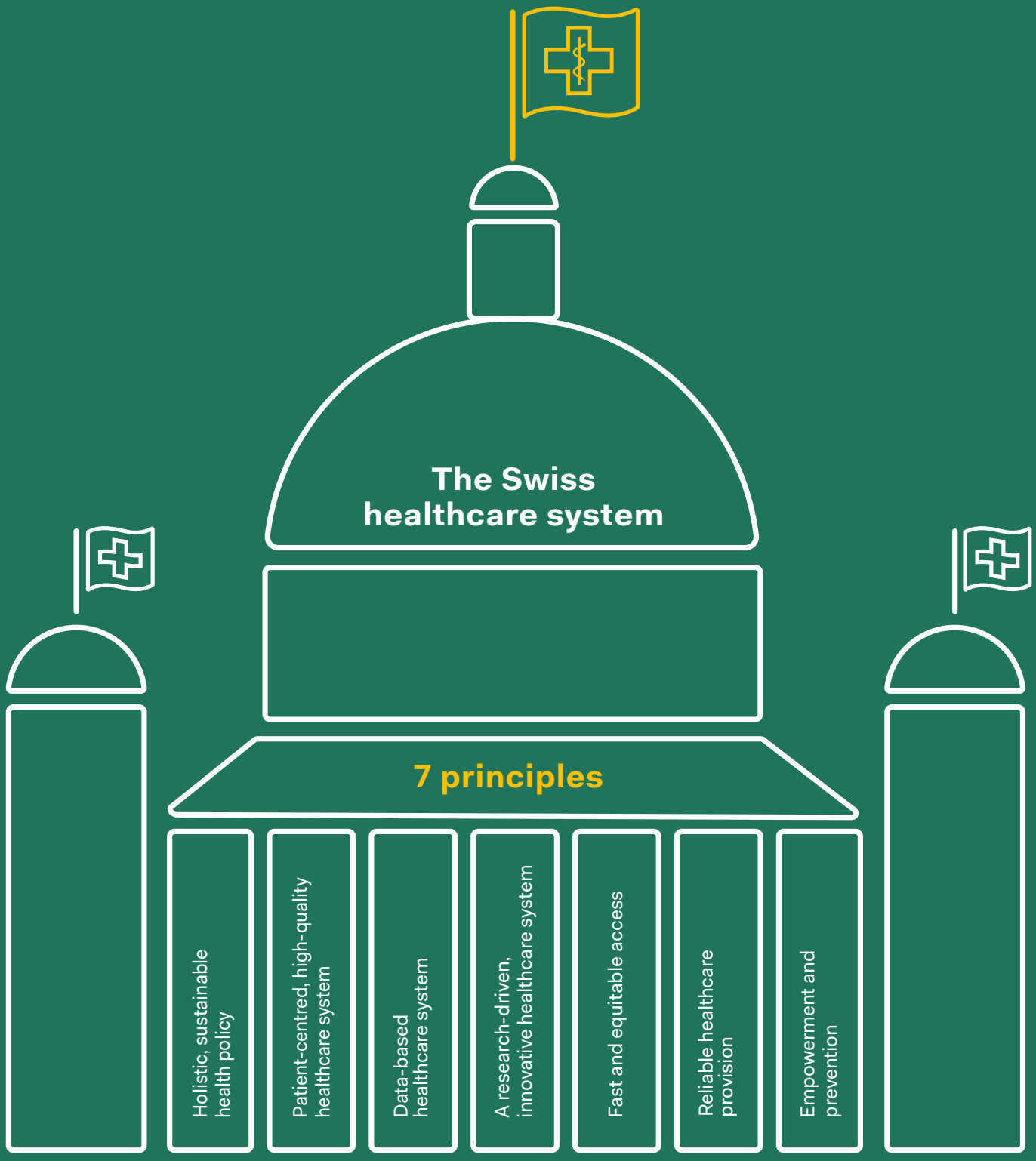
Our principles for a sustainable Swiss healthcare system

The Swiss healthcare system faces major challenges. An ageing population and the growing demands created by medical progress are creating cost pressure. International conflicts, increased protectionism and outdated approval and pricing regulations are jeopardising supply reliability and Switzerland is lagging far behind other countries on digitalisation. Since Interpharma is an important and experienced player in the healthcare sector – we celebrated our 90th anniversary in 2023 – we see it as our role and our responsibility to contribute actively to the ongoing development of the healthcare system in Switzerland. In view of these challenges, we have defined guiding principles to provide a compass for the ongoing development of the Swiss healthcare system. These seven principles are explained in more detail below. There is no order of precedence – each principle is equal in status to the others.

The principles are complementary to our "Pharma hub Switzerland 2030" strategy. This strategy outlines a vision, mission and strategic focal areas describing ways in which the pharmaceutical industry, government and the authorities can jointly contribute to the development of a successful pharma and research hub and safeguard patient access to innovative medicines. Whereas countries such as Denmark, the United Kingdom, Italy and, more recently, Germany have developed their own strategies to improve their competitiveness in the pharma arena, the Swiss government has not yet taken the opportunity to work together with all stakeholders to develop a comprehensive strategy to strengthen the country as a pharma and research hub. We at Interpharma are confident that a dynamic research and production hub is an indispensable guarantor both of an innovative, high-quality healthcare system and of prosperity in Switzerland. We look forward to a dialog and cooperation with all stakeholders in order to make the healthcare system fit for the future together.

Principles for a sustainable Swiss healthcare system



Holistic, sustainable health policy

- Holistic health policy with coherent objectives, strategy and mandate
- Robust concept for a sustainably financed healthcare system in changing demographic conditions
- Effective management and cooperation between all players to reduce silo mentalities

Patient-centred, high-quality healthcare system

- Patient benefit and quality of delivery at the centre of the healthcare system (value-based healthcare)
- Better quality of treatment resulting from all professionals involved in treatment recording and having access to patients' health data (treatments and outcomes)

Data-based healthcare system

- Nationwide digital healthcare system infrastructure for improved communication and cooperation between all players, greater efficiency and cost control
- A national data ecosystem and access to health data as a basis for researching and developing innovations

A research-driven, innovative healthcare system

- Strong basic research, advantageous environment for start-ups and attractive framework conditions for clinical trials as the foundation of a state-of-the-art healthcare system
- Internationally networked research and effective protection of intellectual property
- Guarantee of an innovation-friendly environment in the healthcare system

Fast and equitable access

- Equitable access to high-quality basic care for all insured patients in Switzerland
- Fast patient access to treatments once the prescribed official approvals have been issued
- Strong Swissmedic with efficient approval procedures and attractive reimbursement process at the FOPH

Reliable healthcare provision

- Safeguarding reliable healthcare provision in the face of growing protectionism and demographic trends
- Stable prerequisites for reliable medicine supply, availability of skilled staff and strong international networking and stable relations with the EU

Empowerment and prevention

- Strengthening empowerment by improving health literacy
- Promoting health by targeted measures, focusing particularly on risk groups
- Prevention as a tool for improving public health and reducing the burden on the healthcare system

Holistic, sustainable health policy

Government and society must develop a holistic, sustainable health policy for our country. Given demographic trends, constantly growing medical options and the associated rise in demands, new approaches are needed to safeguard the quality of the Swiss healthcare system, as well as access and funding.

The process of defining this strategy must focus on the benefits to patients. A coherent strategy with tangible goals and measures will only come together if all healthcare players are on board, seek dialogue and work together constructively. The players in question include the Confederation, cantons, health insurers, service providers such as hospitals, doctors, nursing homes and pharmacies, patients and the pharmaceutical industry. It is incumbent on all players to detach themselves from silo mentalities and develop a holistic perspective with the overarching goal of developing a high-quality, sustainable healthcare system for the future. ph

Patient-centred, high-quality healthcare system

Patient benefit and service quality must be at the centre of the healthcare system. This conviction is expressed in the patient-centred approach that has become known internationally as value-based healthcare. To ensure optimal, result-driven treatment, the result of the treatment pathway must be centre-stage. This requires effective coordination beyond individual specialist areas; integrated delivery where patient benefit is at the centre and not the result of the individual disciplines.

The various specialists and specialist disciplines must work together on this goal. This means that all treatment providers have to have the same digital access to medical records. It also means results having to be measured and treatment teams discussing ways of improving outcomes. This will yield greater quality, less duplication, and fewer errors and complications, which will ultimately help reduce costs. However, it will only be possible to compete on quality if high-quality health data are available. Interpharma's goal is to drive forward implementation of the value-based healthcare approach in partnership with other players in Switzerland. One thing we and other partners in the healthcare sector agree on is that cooperation between players and financing issues in healthcare should be increasingly geared to focusing on patient benefits and on making the associated outcome data usable. ph

Data-based healthcare system

One key element in the ongoing development of the Swiss healthcare system is the construction of nationwide digital infrastructure. Infrastructure of this type permits seamless communication and cooperation between medical professionals and institutions, authorities, health insurers, manufacturers and patients. It helps reduce bureaucracy, enhance efficiency and sustainably contain costs. In addition, higher levels of connectedness make it easier for players to plan and adapt, particularly in crisis situations, such as during a pandemic. This in turn benefits the population and all players in the healthcare system. A digitalised healthcare system also promotes transparency concerning the quality of the healthcare service providers, which in turn has a large positive impact on quality of care.

Digitalisation of the healthcare system is also paving the way for innovation in research by providing the foundation on which to build a national data ecosystem. Once health data have been recorded in a standardised digital format, they can be made available to researchers through a national data ecosystem – a starting point for the development of new therapies and innovative medicines that is as yet untried in Switzerland. This will require uniform standards, as well as efficient and secure interfaces for the data recorded and a clearly defined legal framework governing the use of the data (for research, for example).

While many countries have recognised the opportunities presented by digitalisation in the healthcare system, Switzerland is still lagging far behind internationally. If Switzerland is to make up ground, it must quickly drive forward the digital transformation of its healthcare system and invest in the establishment of a joined-up health data ecosystem. The time has come to break down silo mentalities and provide the necessary start-up funding and clear political leadership that are needed to get the Swiss healthcare system fit for the future.

A research-driven, innovative healthcare system

Given its limited natural resources, education, research and innovation are essential to safeguard Switzerland's ability to compete internationally going forward. The pharmaceutical companies are a driving force of Switzerland's research hub, investing around 9.6 billion Swiss francs in research and development in the country, and play a key role in the development of an innovative healthcare system. But investment is not enough on its own.

If Switzerland is to maintain its position as the world's most innovative country (according to the Global Innovation Index), it requires competitive framework conditions for researchers, optimal levels of networking, and cooperation between academia, spin-offs, start-ups and industry. Nowadays, top-flight research is impossible without national and international networking between researchers, since research has not been limited by institutional or national boundaries for a long time now. A research-friendly environment and attractive framework conditions are thus crucial for basic research to come up with innovations that can be developed to clinical trial stage in Switzerland. Society, government and the healthcare system need to be fundamentally open to innovation and new technologies. This applies particularly to the use of artificial intelligence. To ensure research and innovation remain key drivers of the Swiss economy and the country's prosperity, protecting intellectual property is also highly significant as the key incentive for private investors to put money into research. ph

Fast and equitable access

Fast and equitable access to medical services is the top priority for patients and Interpharma alike. Access to the healthcare system through compulsory basic insurance is the springboard for doing so. The Swiss population has a justifiable entitlement to rapid access to high-quality healthcare provision, and everyone must have equal access through their basic insurance. Efficient approval procedures for new medicines and treatments are of major importance, as is bolstering the competent authorities. The technical and legal framework for innovative reimbursement models should be defined to permit rapid access to novel therapies.

As an association, we support Swissmedic's efforts to rank as one of the world's leading regulatory authorities. We are in a constructive dialogue on continuously improving processes, promoting international cooperation and anticipating the framework conditions that will be required for new developments and technologies. From our perspective, the FOPH reimbursement process needs major improvement. It is unacceptable that patients in Switzerland have to wait months or even years in some cases until innovative medicines are added to the list of reimbursable products. That is why we are committed to comprehensive process modernisation that will give the people affected faster access to urgently needed treatments.

Reliable healthcare provision

Alongside strong framework conditions for the research and development hub, a pragmatic dialogue between the authorities, industry and science is needed to guarantee efficient and reliable healthcare provision. In doing so, it is important to take a broader perspective. Open borders and international connections and cooperation are hugely important – particularly in small national economies – not only in safeguarding the mobility of skilled workers, but also in ensuring a reliable supply of health products. Stable relations between Switzerland and the EU, our biggest sales and procurement market, play a key role here. Given the growing tendency towards protectionism, a broad range of measures is needed to safeguard healthcare delivery. However, these measures do not include nationalism and isolationism. Instead, Switzerland should resist these tendencies at international level. Furthermore, the availability of skilled workers in the healthcare system is essential in ensuring reliable healthcare provision. This will require attractive and competitive working conditions, first-class training opportunities and a liberal labour market. Given the foreseeable long-term shortage of skilled workers, innovation will be key to enhancing efficiency and to guaranteeing both the availability and quality of services nationwide. ph

Empowerment and prevention

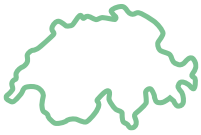
Targeted prevention and effective empowerment have an essential role in the process of creating a sustainable, efficient healthcare system. Public empowerment and health literacy should be promoted so that people can use clear information to make decisions and initiate their own health promotion and prevention measures without the need for state intervention.

Prevention is the key to a healthier population and an important component of a holistic health strategy. It is essential here that this strategy takes account of demographic trends and the associated increase in chronic disease. It is not enough to encourage the public to adopt healthier habits. Health risks need to be systematically identified – and, if necessary, addressed – at an early stage.

This reduces the frequency and severity of diseases, improves people's quality of life and decreases the cost to the healthcare system. Prevention activities should pay particular attention to the needs of risk groups, focusing especially on the early identification of disease, education and health literacy, promoting exercise and vaccination programmes as well as targeted health programmes for specific population groups. ph

Vision for Switzerland as a pharma hub in 2030

Switzerland is still Europe's leading pharma hub in 2030. It benefits from high-quality medical innovation and is able to fund this innovation in the long run and sustainably. The pharmaceutical industry is a key contributor to the prosperity and quality of life of people in Switzerland.



A strong economic-policy framework means in 2030:

Switzerland has a highly skilled labour force at all levels.

An attractive investment environment safeguards employment in the pharmaceutical industry and the industry's contribution to national prosperity.

The Swiss economy benefits from the industry's high export volumes.

The pharmaceutical industry is a driving force of the sustainable economy.

Putting patients at the centre means in 2030:

Patients in Switzerland have fast access to innovative medicines.

All patients receive reimbursement for innovative medicines right from the day the medicines are authorized.

Medicine costs are proportionate to the benefits to patients and the healthcare system, and also to the industry's investment in those medicines.

Being leader in research and development means in 2030:

Effective and modern patent protection enables the pharmaceutical industry to invest in research and development of innovative medicines.

Clinical trials in Switzerland give patients early access to lifesaving treatments.

A digital health data ecosystem enhances treatment quality and accelerate medical progress.

The year along our focus goals

The pharmaceutical industry contributes greatly to the quality of life and prosperity of the Swiss population. At the same time, Switzerland traditionally offers innovative pharmaceutical companies attractive framework conditions. However, Switzerland is increasingly losing ground in the international competition. In order to master these challenges, a joint strategy is required from all stakeholders. In the strategy report "Pharma Hub Switzerland 2030", which has been presented in 2019, Interpharma outlined a path for Switzerland to remain Europe's leading pharmaceutical location in 2030 along the three focal points "Putting patients at the centre", "Leader in research and development" and "Strong economic-policy framework".


Putting patients at the centre
Strong economic-policy framework
Leader in research and development

Putting patients at the centre

Ensuring the health of the Swiss population will remain our overriding goal. The aim is to give patients rapid and equitable access to innovations on a broad front.

Biopharmaceutical research and development have made groundbreaking progress in recent years by delivering novel treatments. Diseases that used to be fatal or were associated with severe lifelong limitations can now be treated effectively or even cured. The rapid rate of progress in oncology, gene therapy and personalised healthcare raises hopes of further scientific breakthroughs in the near future.

As promising as the prospects for patients are, the novel treatments also bring new challenges for all stakeholders and particularly for social insurance agencies. Modern-day treatments are used in a variety of indications or in combination with other medicinal products; some work after a single administration, while others are specific to a particular patient group. The current medicines reimbursement system is now reaching its limits with the new forms of treatment and possible applications. It is taking ever longer for basic medical insurance to reimburse the price of innovative treatments following marketing authorisation by Swissmedic.

Interpharma is committed to accelerating equitable access to new and innovative treatment options. Our overriding goal is to guarantee patients access to vital medicines right from the day they are authorised in Switzerland. The "reimbursed access to innovation" (RAI) proposed by Interpharma takes account of this goal.

At the same time, we regard the revision of the Health Insurance Ordinance (HIO) and Health Insurance Benefits Ordinance (HIBO), which the Federal Council has now approved, as a threat to the rapid and equitable availability of new, innovative medicines, as well as to supply reliability. The association supports the Confederation's efforts to contain cost trends in healthcare. We will even support the proposed price models provided patient access to innovations is improved at the same time.

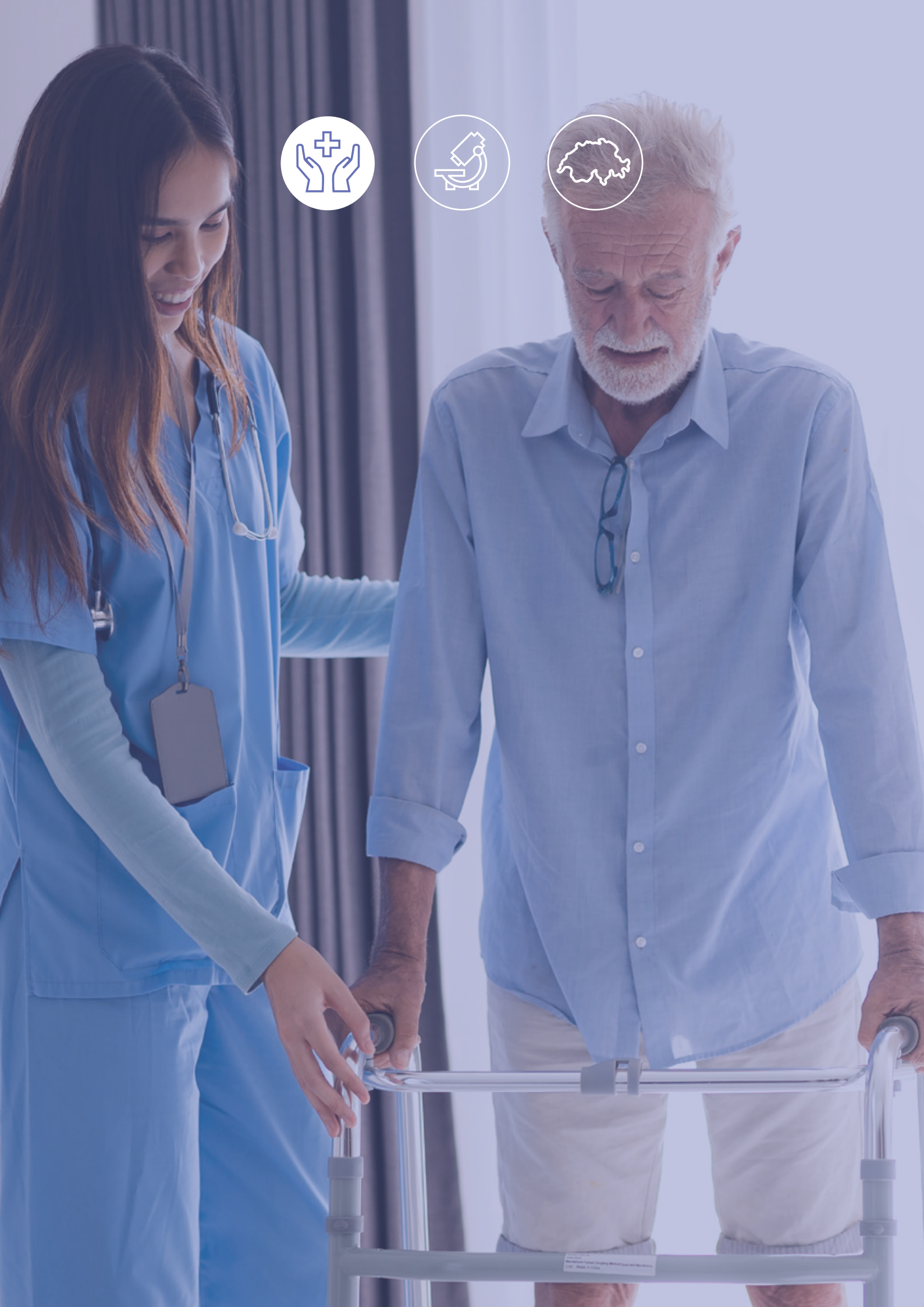
As a neutral, innovative medicinal products regulatory authority, Swissmedic is a key partner in ensuring patient safety and safeguarding the Swiss pharma hub. Interpharma maintains an active and open dialogue with Swissmedic and

Executive Committee (ExComm)

Many challenges of the Swiss market, such as securing rapid approval and reimbursement of innovative medicines or dealing with the pressure to save money in the healthcare system, affect all member companies equally. The managing directors therefore meet in the Executive Committee to jointly develop strategies for representing the industry vis-à-vis political decision-makers. Due to a career change of Katrien De Vos, the ExComm had to appoint a new chair. Since June 2023, Sabine Bruckner, Managing Director of Pfizer Switzerland, has been the Chair of ExComm. Max Pahlow, Managing Director of Johnson & Johnson Switzerland, replaced Silvia Schweickart as Vice Chair in November.

In the past year, the ExComm worked intensively on positions on cost containment package 2. Work on the reimbursed access to innovation (RAI) model for the purpose of giving patients access to new innovative medicines in Switzerland from the day they are approved was also of great importance. In the area of market authorisation, ExComm focused on Swissmedic's first-wave agency strategy and communication with the authority.

Chair:
Sabine Bruckner
Country Manager
Pfizer



Market Access Working Group (MAWG)

The main focus of the MAWG's activities was on accelerating patient access and determining the benefits of therapies. Once again, the working group concentrated on the revision of HIO and HIBO, working intensively, and in consultation with the Executive Committee and the Board, on solutions for improved patient access to one-off cost approvals and reimbursement via the list of pharmaceutical specialities. Continuity in cooperation with external partners and the willingness of all parties to engage in open dialogue were central here.

Furthermore, the MAWG welcomed the decision made by the National Council in September to adopt a proposal very similar to RAI. This step marks a milestone for patients. In addition to improving access processes, we also worked on modernisation of the pricing system. This work aims to include new approaches to pricing and to take account of sustainability considerations. A new Chair of the Working Group was also appointed during the year, as Jan Depta took over from Tanja Ulle. Tanja Ulle had chaired the Working Group for three years, and the new Chair took the opportunity to thank her on behalf of the MAWG for her tremendous dedication and extremely valuable contributions in the role.

Chair:
Jan Depta
Market Access & Health Policy Leader
Novartis

Regulatory Affairs Working Group (RAWG)

During 2023, Interpharma's Regulatory Affairs Working Group (RAWG) worked closely with Swissmedic to take further steps to optimise authorisation processes and interaction with the authorities. Our shared goal of positioning Swissmedic as a leading regulatory agency remained and remains our focus. One particular area of focus was improving the interaction between the authority and authorisation holders around and during the approval process. International cooperation between health authorities, as in Orbis or Access, remains a key element. Access in particular shows the potential to extend beyond simple regulatory work sharing. At our Working Group's suggestion, work on a fast-track Access review process was driven forwards via Swissmedic and this process is now ready for use (Access Promise Pathway Pilot). Work continued with Swissmedic on bigger, longer-term and more complex issues such as digitalisation and real-world evidence and data. The RAWG's standing subgroup on pharmacovigilance was restructured and established regular dialogue with Swissmedic. This resulted in initial process optimisations, and a discussion and evaluation on labelling DHPCs and training material was started.

Chair:
Dr Lukas Brand
Head of Drug Regulatory Affairs
Novartis

supports its efforts to position itself as a first-wave agency, optimise processes and consolidate and expand international cooperation.

Revision of HIO and HIBO

The Federal Council approved the revision of the Health Insurance Ordinance (HIO) and Health Insurance Benefits Ordinance (HIBO) on 22 September 2023. Interpharma, along with a large majority of affected organisations, resolutely rejected the draft revision while it was still at the consultation phase. Various issues in the draft revision were improved during the parliamentary consultation and round table discussions. Nevertheless, the draft still contains problematic elements. One of the major goals of overhauling the provisions governing one-off cost approvals (Art. 71a-d HIO) was to ensure patients were treated more equitably. However, the Federal Council is making cutbacks in this highly sensitive area of medical exceptions by adopting heavy discounts based on net prices for one-off cost approvals (Art. 71a-d HIO). The discounts are so high that in some cases, companies will no longer be able to supply medicines and cover their costs, thus potentially depriving patients in the future. Interpharma had expressed misgivings on several occasions in the lead-up to the Federal Council decision and warned the entire Federal Council in writing of the potential consequences for patients were the revised Art. 71a-d HIO to be implemented as planned.

The existing, already significant issues surrounding patient access in Switzerland would only be further exacerbated and it is clear even now that the measures adopted by the Federal Council in the revision of HIO and HIBO will not be sufficient to combat them. Root-and-branch reform of the normal reimbursement process, of the type proposed by Interpharma in its reimbursed access to innovation (RAI) model, is therefore urgently required.

The pharmaceutical industry is currently the only healthcare player to generate consistent annual savings of around 1.5 billion Swiss francs from regular price reviews. Thanks to the measures adopted as part of the revision of HIO and the amendment to the way the trade margin is calculated approved by the Federal Council on 8 December 2023, the pharmaceutical industry is shouldering savings of well over 300 million Swiss francs. Because the new rules on margins will further increase the share of generics at the expense of original medicines, further savings of several hundred million Swiss francs are likely to result for the healthcare system. The pharmaceutical industry is willing to support these changes and, in so doing, is making a further significant contribution to reducing costs.

Reimbursed access to innovation for patients in Switzerland

At present, access to new innovative medicines is only available after a median time of over 300 days. This underscores the urgent need for action, since patients often do not have so much time. The reimbursed access to innovation (RAI) model developed by Interpharma represents a tangible solution capable of optimising the regular medicines reimbursement process in Switzerland while giving patients immediate access to new and innovative medicinal products. The core element of the model is that at the same time as Swissmedic grants approval, the Federal Office of Public Health (FOPH) sets a provisional price for new medicines which fulfil a high medical need and adds them to the list of pharmaceutical specialities. The FOPH will then have one year to set a final price.

The National Council decision of 28 September 2023 marks an important step in the right direction, since it included and adopted a proposal very similar to RAI. This is a milestone for patients in Switzerland.

Health Care Systems Working Group (HCSWG)

Swiss health policy was again dominated by the issue of cost containment measures during 2023. In this context, the HCSWG's activities focused primarily on two items of political business – the revision of HIO/HIBO and cost containment package 2. Regarding the revision of HIO and HIBO, the industry's efforts to combat measures to save money on patented medicines (low-cost principle) and plans to reduce access via one-off cost approvals resulted in positive amendments. Following pressure from different stakeholders and parliament, the FOPH was obliged to withdraw the most drastic measures. More difficult for the industry to accept are the fixed discounts adopted as part of the revision, which could jeopardise access to innovative treatments for the patients who need them. Two National Council decisions were more positive. In the first, the National Council approved the Federal Council's proposal to enshrine price models in law and to exclude reimbursements from the FoIA. In the second, it endorsed the goal of putting the target of providing reimbursement from the day of approval (day 0) into law. This enables Interpharma to make a positive contribution to the health policy debate in the form of its reimbursed access to innovation (RAI) model.

Looking ahead to 2024 and the new legislation, the HCSWG is once again setting itself ambitious goals for the year. These will focus on daily business, proposals to be submitted to the People, and longer-term commitments to improve framework conditions so as to give patients in Switzerland even faster access to our innovative treatments. In pursuit of these goals, we will systematically intensify interaction with all relevant stakeholder groups, particularly those in the cantons, and with patient organisations.

Chair:
Luc Bastian
Head of Market Access & Public Affairs
Sanofi

Cost containment packages 1 and 2

Interpharma is committed to a high-quality, sustainably funded healthcare system for everyone. Pharmaceutical companies are contributing to cost control in the healthcare system through the FOPH's annual price reductions for medicines. However, cost control measures must not be to the detriment of quality or supply in the healthcare system.

Once parliament had approved cost containment package 1b in 2022, the second package of measures followed straight away. From the pharmaceutical industry's perspective, the key elements comprise the introduction of a legal foundation for confidential price models and a more differentiated efficacy, usefulness and cost-effectiveness review. The National Council was the first Council to consider the draft. The confidentiality of the price models was a controversial issue both in public debate and in the Council's deliberations. The National Council supported confidentiality, but recommended that an independent body regularly publish a report on the implementation of the price models.

The two popular initiatives by the Social Democratic Party and the Centre are closely associated with the cost containment packages. Parliament recommends rejecting both the cost-cutting initiative and the premium relief initia-

tive and has drawn up an indirect counterproposal to each. Interpharma has closely followed both items of business through the parliamentary process and can support the counterproposals since they represent a compromise. The referendum will take place on 9 June 2024.

EFAS, the uniform financing of outpatient and inpatient services provided under compulsory health insurance, cleared its final parliamentary hurdle after 14 years. Interpharma supported this comprehensive reform as part of a broad alliance of 22 players. Coupled with constant improvements to the outpatient and inpatient tariff systems, EFAS will bring about a lot of positive change, from promoting the shift to lower-cost outpatient treatment and breaking down silo mentalities to strengthening integrated delivery.

Swissmedic – positive dialogue continued

Interpharma continued its open, constructive dialogue with Swissmedic during 2023. Efforts focused particularly on positioning Swissmedic as a first-wave agency, with the aim of ensuring that Swissmedic continues to be perceived as an independent and innovative medicinal products regulatory authority going forward. This helps to ensure that new medicines are approved quickly and as a top priority in Switzerland. However, it also promotes patient safety and secures the competitiveness of the Swiss pharma hub. Ways of optimising medicine authorisation processes were discussed during the regulatory round table meetings that take place several times a year. Authorisation procedures offer various opportunities for dialogue between companies and Swissmedic. The industry contributed various suggestions for optimising these company meetings, as they are known. The aim of these suggestions is to facilitate greater dialogue between companies and Swissmedic during the approval process.

Good Distribution Practice – Quality Working Group (GDPWG)

The GDP Working Group holds regular professional dialogue with Swissmedic and advocates real world-centred strategies for the safe distribution and quality management of medicinal products in line with the applicable international and domestic standards.

Given progressing digitalisation and the need to guarantee more efficient data exchange via the platforms that Swissmedic is currently setting up, Working Group representatives are contributing their expertise and experience to the process of defining the necessary user requirements. This work will continue over the next year. The Working Group also prepared proposed revisions to Swissmedic guidelines, such as remote batch release, which is based on EU interpretations and is intended to guarantee uniform inspection practice. The GDPWG's standing subgroup on GMP was newly established and will address important issues via the Swissmedic GMP/GDP round table meetings.

Chair:
Michaela Wellmann
Senior QA Manager
Amgen Schweiz AG

Task Force Prevention

In Switzerland, where the federal structure entails a variety of healthcare systems, prevention and early detection of diseases are particularly challenging, but essential for a sustainable healthcare system. In 2023, the newly formed Prevention Task Force took up this challenge. The task force has split into two workstreams, each focusing on the areas of early detection and prevention. An important step was the development of a mandate letter that sets the agenda for 2024. This document defines the priorities and strategic direction for the coming year and provides guidance for the development of a white paper. This white paper is intended to serve as a basis for future political decisions in the area of prevention and early detection. The mandate letter also includes the planning of a detailed analysis of the current situation and the players involved in the healthcare system. This analysis is crucial in order to understand the existing challenges and deficits and to develop effective solutions.

Sponsor:
Dimitri Gitas
Managing Director
MSD Switzerland

Last year also saw the tenth joint benchmarking study with Swissmedic on approval times. One of the key findings was that the submission gap for new applications for new active substances (NA NAS) was smaller versus EMA and FDA compared to last year. This is primarily due to international procedures of the ACCESS Consortium and Project ORBIS, as well as to the increase in temporary authorisations. It can be assumed that the international procedures will

continue to help reduce the submission gap in the future. The new fast-track ACCESS PROMISE Pathway suggested by the industry and advocated by Swissmedic at the end of 2023 provides another ACCESS Consortium process that is now being evaluated in a pilot phase.

Dialogue with Swissmedic on digitalisation was also actively continued. Swissmedic published its new "Mobile technologies" guidance document, which sets out the options for using QR codes. In the course of the year, a number of unclear points in the guidance document were resolved at the instigation of Interpharma and partner associations. Digitalisation is also an important topic in the pharmacovigilance dialogue that is continuing outside the regulatory round table meetings. This involved discussions on ways of communicating digitally with healthcare professionals, and evaluation will continue in 2024.

Leader in research and development

Rapidly advancing digitalization and ongoing technological progress will enable even more new research approaches in the future. These create additional and great potential for medical progress and patient benefits. However, in order to realize all of this, joint efforts by all stakeholders are needed.

Developing a new medicine is a protracted process for researchers. Bringing just one medicine to market involves investigating 10,000 substances. Of these, only around ten undergo further clinical analysis until – finally – one molecule is ready for development into an effective medicine. Getting this far takes an average of twelve years of research and development. The ultimate goal of all research work is to improve human health. Apart from an effective, modern system of protecting intellectual property, the research hub needs innovative research and the best possible framework conditions to thrive.

Intellectual property (IP)

Interpharma is committed to effective IP protection that safeguards the research and development of innovative medical devices and treatment methods. In the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic, this legal certainty enabled companies to rapidly share their knowledge with researchers and use it to develop novel forms of treatment. The vaccines, diagnostics and therapeutic agents that are now available are based on technologies that have been refined over the course of years because they are protected by IP rights. IP rights are thus an incentive to continue researching successfully and undertake risky investments.

Interpharma is committed to maintaining IP protection that conforms to international standards. It is our view that the WTO's decision to make it easier for countries to revoke certain provisions of the international TRIPS Agreement relating to compulsory licensing in the context of COVID-19 vaccines sends out the wrong message to innovative companies. Interpharma rejects the extension of the TRIPS decision to COVID-19 therapeutic agents and diagnostics even more resolutely. Instead we see voluntary licensing as a valuable tool in the fight not only against current and future pandemics, but also against neglected tropical diseases and global antibiotic resistance. Many cooperations are built on decades of private-sector investment

Intellectual Property Expert Group (IPEG)

Intellectual property rights are coming under pressure from many sides. The WTO would like to remove rights to COVID-19 therapeutics and diagnostics, while the WHO's pandemic treaty is set to further undermine the protection of intellectual property. This would revoke the clear game rules that have made voluntary industry cooperation, technology transfer and new product partnerships possible in the first place. This is not just bad news for innovative companies, but above all for patients, because eroding intellectual property rights will not improve the global population's access to vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics, but rather make it harder to overcome future health risks. We are therefore committed nationally and internationally to effective protection of intellectual property so that our members can continue to play their part in overcoming health risks in the future.

Chair:
Dr Andreas Poredda
Chief Patent Officer
Roche

Clinical Research Working Group (CRWG)

During 2023, the CRWG was primarily occupied with the consultation process for the ordinances for the Human Research Act (HRA). We welcome the introduction of eConsent with electronic signatures; our efforts in this area have been successful. Working in partnership with the Task Force Health Data Ecosystem, specific proposals were submitted for compliance with the requirements on secondary use of health data. The consultation process underlined the necessity of revising the HRA.

The position paper on decentralised trials prepared by Swissmedic and Swissethics was revised in response to our suggestions. We await the first decentralised trial in Switzerland with keen anticipation.

As yet, the introduction of the EU CTR and CTIS portal for trial submission in Europe has not impacted Switzerland. A position paper on fast-track processes for trial approvals was prepared.

We continued to maintain contact with relevant stakeholders (SAKK, SCTO, SwissPedNet, FOPH). Meetings with Swissmedic and Swissethics are planned for 2024 to discuss the issues in combined clinical trials.

Chair:
Dr Simon Rotzler
Head of Clinical Operations / Country Head of Site Management
Bayer AG

made possible by effective protection of intellectual property. Simplifying compulsory licensing would undermine the use of this widely accepted tool.
The proposal in the current negotiating draft of the WHO's potential pandemic treaty only reinforces this general concern about IP protection. Instead of retaining the mechanisms that contributed to the speedy, successful combating of the COVID-19 pandemic, the WHO is suggesting measures that undermine intellectual property rights and impede investment in medical progress, thus jeopardising supply to the global population during future health crises. From our perspective, the WHO's proposal for a pandemic treaty is not sustainable. Interpharma is committed to ensuring that the WHO does not jeopardise companies' innovativeness and people's health by imposing problematic terms.

Research involving humans and animals

Constant investment in the research and development of new medicines is required to ensure that new treatment options for difficult-to-treat or even untreatable diseases are available in the future. When basic research has identified a highly promising active substance, it first needs to be tested in animals, particularly for any toxic reactions. However, it is still important to further improve animal welfare. Interpharma and its members are constantly working to develop new alternative methods as replacements for animal testing, to minimise the number of animals used in experiments and to constantly improve the methods they use so that animals are exposed to as little stress as possible. Digitalisation and new technologies such as artificial intelligence could bring fresh impetus to the 3Rs in preclinical research, since the 3Rs principles of replace, reduce and refine are the undisputed basis for animal experiments in Switzerland today.

As soon as animal testing has shown that an active substance is safe and effective, it can be tested in humans. Here, clinical research is the foundation of an innovative healthcare system where top-flight research produces effective treatment options. Good framework conditions for clinical research are therefore crucial for Switzerland. Interpharma is committed to advocating for attractive framework conditions for clinical research in Switzerland and maintains a dialogue with the authorities and other stakeholders. The aim is to enable Switzerland to operate competitively in the multinational environment with patient-centred clinical trials and to offer the most efficient approval processes for clinical trials.

Health Data Ecosystem

Interpharma has been an advocate of digital transformation in the healthcare system for many years. A data-based health system makes it possible to better identify patient needs and to employ resources more specifically for patient benefits. That has a positive effect on disease prevention and cure since it creates greater scope and broader options for progress and innovation. However, it also has a positive effect on costs, since patient data always only has to be entered once, which reduces administrative expense. Moreover, it improves measurement of treatment outcomes and reduces oversupply, for example as a result of duplicate treatment. Once the Confederation finally took steps in the right direction in 2022 and recognised the urgent need, three core, multi-year programmes were set in motion in 2023: Revision of the Act on the Electronic Patient Record (EPRA), the framework legislation for secondary use of data, and DigiSanté, the programme for promoting digital transformation in the healthcare system. Interpharma made an active and constructive contribution to all areas. The association contributed to the consultation procedure for the EPRA, demanding rapid advancement focusing on the benefits for patients and service providers and enabling secondary use of data for research. In November, an input paper produced with the Swiss Data Alliance and FORS was published on the

framework legislation for secondary use of data, which highlights requirements for legislation of this type from a research perspective. Also in November, at the end of the month, the Federal Council adopted the dispatch on DigiSanté and referred the associated guarantee credit. Prior to this, Interpharma contributed to the FOPH's expert group on data management in the healthcare system and will support the continuing process in 2024. Provided targeted and efficient use is made of resources, and the programme receives strong political backing and leadership, DigiSanté offers an opportunity to make up lost ground in the digitalisation of the Swiss healthcare system. Both DigiSanté and the revision of EPRA will give parliament an opportunity to make groundbreaking decisions in 2024, for which Interpharma will provide support.

Animal Welfare Working Group (AWWG)

A large number of patients rely on effective treatments that not only crucially improve the quality of their lives, but very often save them. Animal experiments are still a necessary part of developing treatments and have to take place before new products can be administered to humans. It is therefore important that pharmaceutical companies give maximum priority to responsible animal use and actively implement the 10-point Animal Welfare Charter adopted by member companies of Interpharma in 2010. The Animal Welfare Working Group works tirelessly to make sure this is the case – as part of cooperation with the 3RCC, by conducting joint audits of breeders and research institutions, but also by engaging in regular dialogue with Swiss Animal Protection SAP. For the second time, this dialogue was successfully held within the framework of a colloquium in Bern with representatives of industry, Swiss Animal Protection, academia and government. This discourse, and the different perspectives it brings, are important because animal experiments are still necessary to ensuring the wellbeing of the research hub and of patients.

Chair:
Dr Joachim Coenen
Chief Animal Welfare Officer
Merck KGaA

A strong economic-policy framework

Switzerland and its research-based pharmaceutical companies are a success story. The attractive Swiss environment and the innovative strength of the pharmaceutical industry have improved the Quality of life and prosperity of the population for decades.

An optimal operating environment is essential for a successful and internationally competitive pharma hub. However, the country's attractiveness is under pressure from many sides. Anti-business initiatives, erosion of the bilateral agreements with the EU, regulatory barriers to research and growing bureaucratic and regulatory costs are jeopardising Switzerland's leading positions in innovation, productivity and exports. As a result of technological progress and advancing digitalisation, an increasing number of companies from outside the industry are entering the market. Furthermore, no time can be wasted in setting Switzerland's course in artificial intelligence and quantum computing. Anti-technology regulations or prohibitionist policies would lead to Switzerland trailing behind international competitors in several years' time, as it is already doing in the area of healthcare digitalisation.

The importance of stable relations between Switzerland and the EU is highlighted by the erosion of and active threat to the liberal international order posed by developments such as Russia's military invasion of Ukraine. The dynamic pace of movement in Asia and the USA shows the importance of maintaining unity in the face of growing multipolarity and bloc formation. Switzerland is an important partner with a unique geographical location and a strong economy driven by the pharmaceutical industry. Cooperation is the key to guaranteeing Europe's competitiveness against other markets in business, research, production and supply reliability. However, the war in Ukraine and the global pandemic have shown that geographical location has to be considered carefully when choosing procurement partners. Switzerland's proximity to the EU also makes it an important country of origin and transit state.

Task Force Reimbursement of Transplant Products

The protection of intellectual property is under increasing pressure from many sides: the WTO wants to abolish intellectual property rights on COVID-19 therapeutics and diagnostics; the WHO is planning to undermine the protection of intellectual property worldwide with its pandemic pact; in free trade agreements, minimum IP standards under TRIPS have a difficult time. This calls into question the clear rules of the game that make voluntary industry cooperation, technology transfers and new product partnerships possible in the first place. This is not only bad news for innovative companies, but above all for patients. After all, weakening the protection of intellectual property will not improve the global population's access to vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics, but will make it more difficult to overcome future health crises. For Switzerland as an export country, free trade agreements with strong intellectual property protection are crucial to ensure that innovative companies can continue to operate successfully from Switzerland. We therefore advocate strong protection of intellectual property at national and international level so that our members can continue to make their contribution to overcoming health crises in the future and contribute to Switzerland's prosperity.

Sponsor:
Michaël Lugez
Vice President & General Manager Switzerland – Austria
BMS

Pharma and production hub of the future

2023 started with bad news for the Swiss pharma and production hub. Since the Federal Council did not recognise any need for action to strengthen the hub, it rejected demands from postulate 20.3752 Schmid to "strengthen the Swiss pharma and biotechnology hub". Instead of shaping events from a position of strength, the Federal Council only wants to manage them. The dangers of this kind of passive attitude are illustrated by Switzerland's decline as a financial centre, where the opportunity to realign the framework conditions for the challenges of the future was missed. As a consequence, tax revenues are falling and a large number of jobs are being lost. From the pharmaceutical industry's perspective, there is only one clear verdict: the mandate of the Schmid postulate is not fulfilled. We remain convinced that an overarching strategy to strengthen the framework conditions for the Swiss research and innovation hub is necessary for the benefit of the Swiss population. Without a holistic view of all initiatives and procedural requests, a vision and clear ambitions, it might become difficult to adapt the framework conditions to the major challenges of the future in good time, and this will be to the detriment of the Swiss research and innovation hub and the country's population. Interpharma will play its role as a constructive, forward-looking association and continue to work towards strong framework conditions for research and production. This will ultimately benefit Switzerland as well. Almost 10 percent of the country's economic output and over 250,000 jobs are directly or indirectly dependent on the pharmaceutical industry's success.

Relations with the European Union

After years of uncertainty in the relationship between Switzerland and the EU, the key figures for 2023 of the Federal Council and the negotiating mandate have brought momentum to the dossier. It is important that the pragmatic approach is now pursued and that the negotiating mandate can be adopted quickly. In 2023, the association closely examined the Federal Council's European policy and the EU Commission's policy towards Switzerland. While a holistic view of this kind is necessary, the further development of relations will have to take account of the industry's networked research, production and supply processes. This includes free movement and Swiss participation in EU research programmes just as much as a functioning MRA between Switzerland and the EU. Trade flows reflect the close relations between the EU and Switzerland. Switzerland is the European Union's fourth most important trading partner after China, the USA and the United Kingdom. The key factors that set Switzerland apart from other trading partners and make it particularly valuable in terms of supply reliability are its proximity, political stability and shared values.

Consensus, and with it a new phase in bilateral relations, now seems likely. After extensive exploration and the definition of common starting points, in November the Federal Council asked the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs to draw up a mandate for negotiations with the European Union. The EU Commission is also making preparations for negotiations. Thus a course has been set for 2024, and Interpharma supports the approach that has been adopted to ensure the viable future development of the bilateral route. These topics were discussed at Interpharma's second workshop with representatives in Brussels. The group decided to draw up a working paper that can also be used for the attention of the EU institutions.

Access to export and import markets

The Swiss-US MRA on GMP took effect in July 2023. The agreement means that Switzerland and the USA – two countries with high safety and quality standards – no longer have to carry out cost-intensive GMP inspections of production facilities in each other's countries. The agreement does not affect the authorisation of medicinal products for

Innovation Hub Committee (IHC)

In 2023, the focus areas addressed by the Innovation Hub Committee chaired by Leila Schwery (J&J) were digitalisation and Switzerland's links with the world. In terms of digitalisation, work focused on the legal framework conditions for the secondary use of data. Regarding Switzerland's links with the world, work was split between constructive cooperation with the EU and horizon scanning to identify new issues or regions in or with which sectoral agreements could be concluded, for example. A temporary subgroup was set up for this latter task. In 2024 the IHC will focus on clinical research in Switzerland and advanced manufacturing alongside digitalisation and Switzerland's links with the EU and other partners. This will involve strengthening Interpharma's cooperation with research institutions on the one hand and external manufacturers on the other.

Chair:
Leila Schwery
VP Manufacturing
& Technical Operations
Janssen,
Johnson & Johnson

Switzerland, which will remain the responsibility of Swissmedic. The agreement reinforces supply reliability in Switzerland by helping to increase the resilience of global supply chains. In addition, the agreement puts Switzerland on an equal footing with the EU and the United Kingdom in terms of GMP, since both already have comparable agreements with the USA.

Even if the EU and the USA remain Switzerland's two most important trading markets, Switzerland will still have to make efforts to strengthen international relations with other countries. The lack of resolution on the issue of relations with the EU and the geopolitical tensions between the two superpowers – the USA and China – illustrate just how important it is to diversify Switzerland's export economy. Countries with a rapidly growing middle class are particularly important future sales markets for Switzerland's export industry. To continue to operate successfully from Switzerland, the pharmaceutical industry therefore requires free trade agreements with comprehensive market access, modern rules of origin and associated provisions as well as strong legislation to protect intellectual property rights.

Task Force Health Data Ecosystem (TF HDE)

In 2023, the Chair of the Task Force Health Data Ecosystems passed from Mads Stoustrup (Novo Nordisk), who has led the group since its initiation, to Katharina Gasser (Roche Pharma Switzerland). The Task Force worked particularly on the infrastructure requirements for a health data ecosystem for secondary use of data and stepped up its dialogue with the FOPH on this front. Furthermore, the group took the lead role on two responses to the consultation process for Act on the Electronic Patient Record (EPRA).

At the end of 2023, the Federal Council adopted the dispatch on the guarantee credit for DigiSanté and referred it to parliament. In 2024, the Task Force Health Data Ecosystems will continue to work towards the secondary use of health data by the pharmaceutical industry's research units within the context of DigiSanté, using specific application instances to demonstrate the opportunities that using health data offers for patients, research and the health system.

Sponsor:
Dr med.
Katharina Gasser
General Manager
Roche Pharma Schweiz

Interpharma – the association

Interpharma was founded in 1933 and is the association of the research-based pharmaceutical industry in Switzerland. Its member companies together account for more than 90 percent of the market share for patented medicines in Switzerland and invest seven billion Swiss francs annually in research and development in Switzerland. Interpharma is a driving force for an efficient and high-quality healthcare system that offers patients rapid access to innovative therapies and the best possible care. At home and abroad, we are committed to ensuring that patients receive first-class healthcare, that innovations are rewarded and that our industry can make a significant contribution to prosperity, growth and competitiveness in Switzerland.

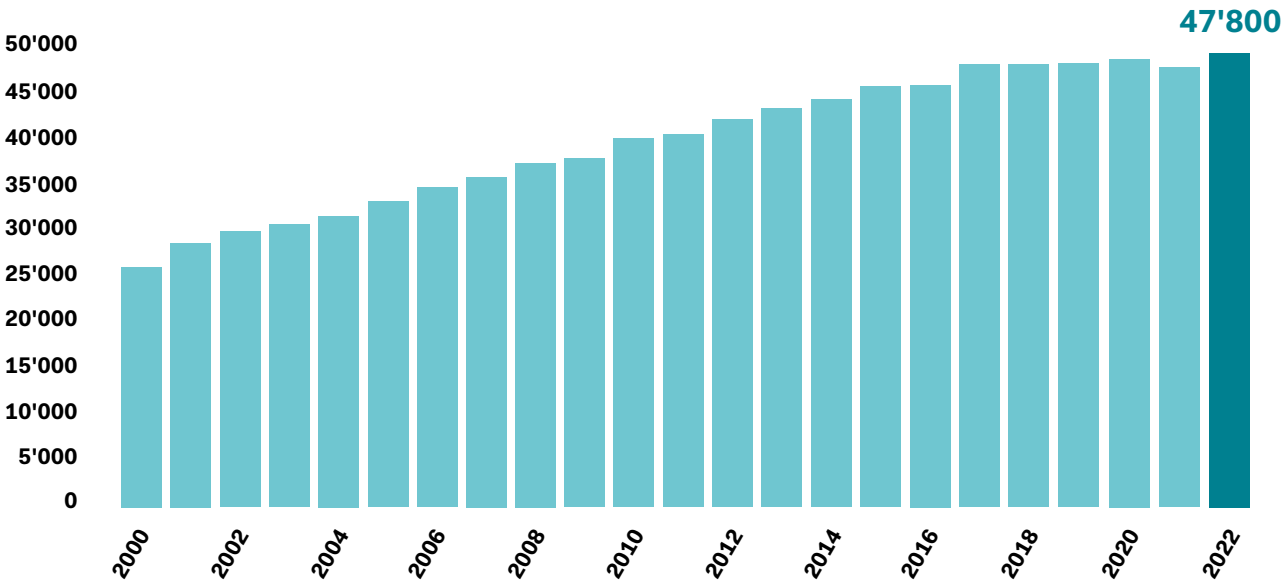
Facts and figures

The pharmaceutical industry in Switzerland enjoyed unparalleled success during Interpharma's anniversary year. In the last 25 years, the pharmaceutical industry has created 30'000 new jobs and today employs more than 50'000 people. With exports worth over 100 billion Swiss francs and a share of just under 40 percent of total exports, the pharmaceutical industry is Switzerland's biggest exporter and driver of the economy.

Number of employees in the pharmaceutical industry

in persons

In 2022, the companies in the Swiss pharmaceutical industry employed around 50'600 people (47'800 FTEs). Since the industry began its ascent in the mid-1990s, the number of people it employs has risen by more than 30'000. During the same period, employment in the rest of industry fell by 13'700.

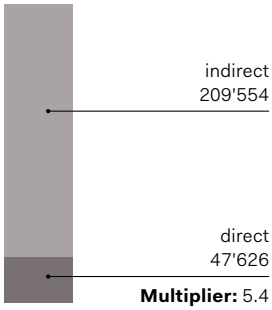


Source: *Federal Statistical Office (2022)*

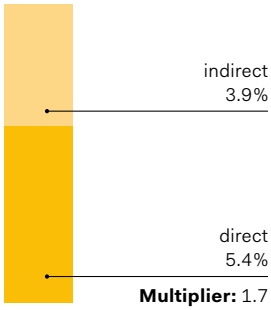
The recipe for success: innovativeness and productivity growth

Increasing employment was mirrored by a rise in research and development expenditure, which exceeded 9.6 billion Swiss francs in 2022. As a result, research performance increased alongside research intensity. The Swiss pharmaceutical industry is among the absolute world leaders. The innovativeness associated with it provides the basis for the industry's excellent international competitiveness. This is expressed in exports with a value of 109 billion Swiss francs in 2022, equivalent to around 40 percent of Switzerland's total goods exports.

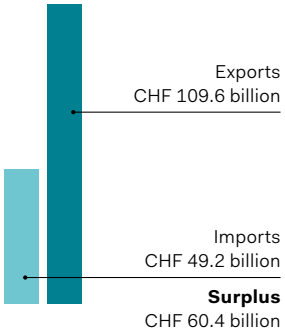
257'180
employees
(2022)



8.9% of GDP
gross value added
(CHF 61.4 billion, 2020)

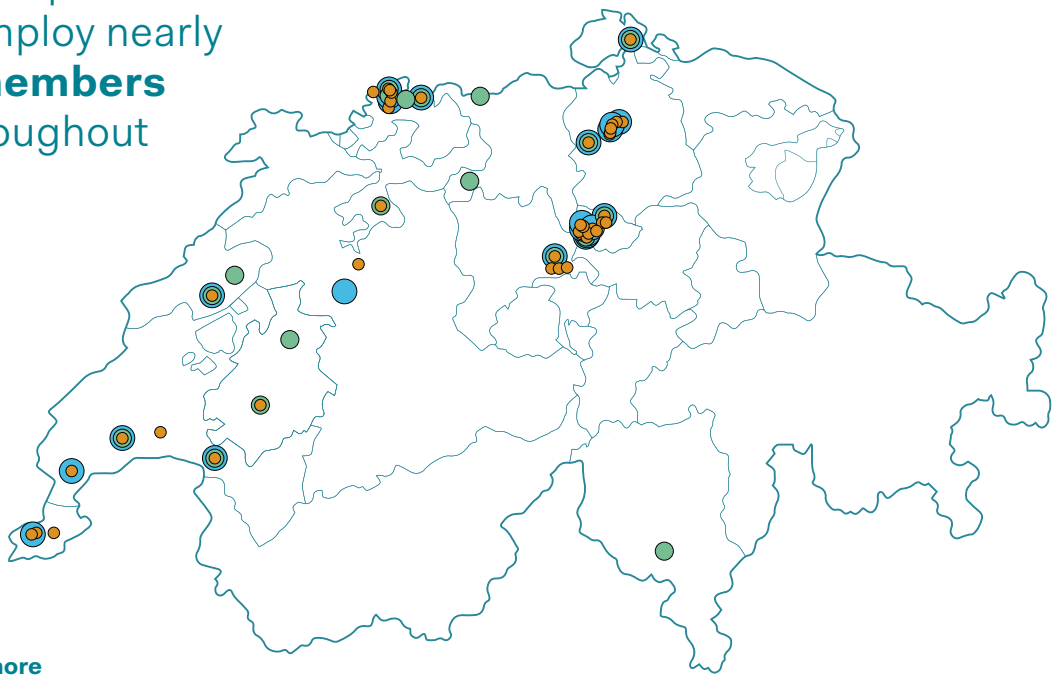


39%
share of total exports
(2022)



Source: *BAK Economics (2021), The Importance of the Pharmaceutical Industry for Switzerland; Federal Statistical Office (2022): BAZG (2023)*

The member companies of Interpharma employ nearly **40'000 staff members at 51 sites** throughout Switzerland.



Learn more

Source: *www.interpharma.ch/interaktive-karte/*

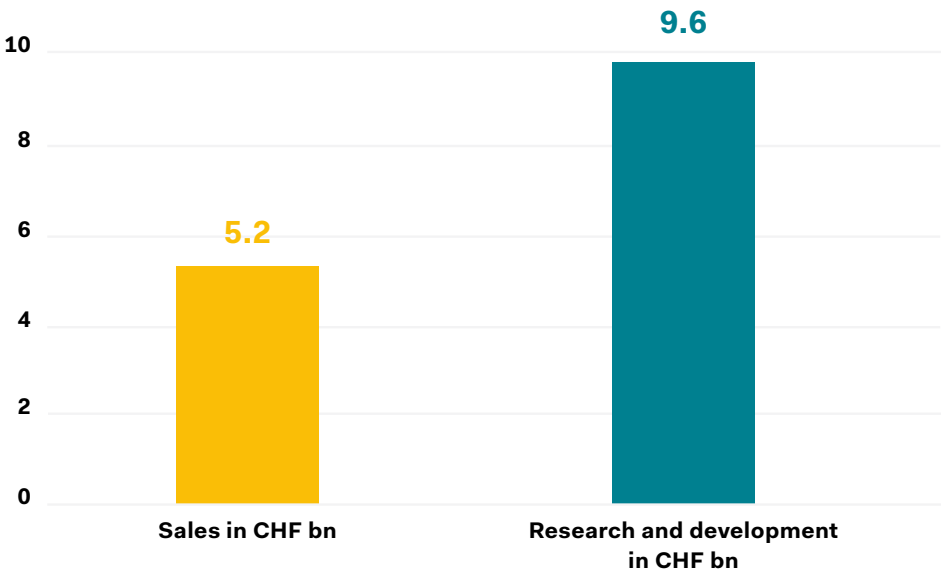
The pharmaceutical industry's value added contribution

The pharmaceutical industry is Switzerland's biggest industrial sector, generating nominal added value of 44.1 billion Swiss francs. The dynamic nature of the sector makes it an important driver of the Swiss economy. Internationally, Switzerland is one of the world's leading pharma hubs. The pharmaceutical companies' success also has a positive impact on other sectors: in 2022, the pharmaceutical industry's activities resulted in added value of 30.4 billion Swiss francs in other sectors. The total value-added effect thus amounted to 74.5 billion Swiss francs, with almost one in every ten francs of added value in Switzerland being created along the value-creation chains of the pharmaceutical companies' research, development and production activities.

Interpharma companies in Switzerland: Turnover and research

in CHF billion

In 2022, the member companies of Interpharma achieved a turnover of CHF 5.2 billion throughout Switzerland and at the same time invested CHF 9.6 billion in research and development in Switzerland. For every franc generated in sales in Switzerland, almost two francs are reinvested in Switzerland as a research hub.

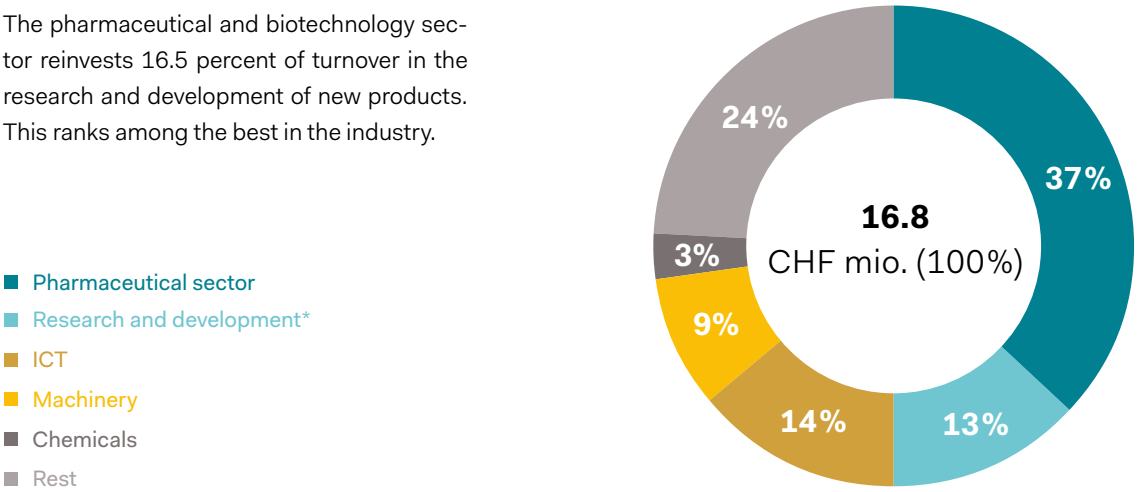


Source: *Interpharma (2022)*

Learn more

The pharmaceutical industry invests more than average in research and development

The pharmaceutical and biotechnology sector reinvests 16.5 percent of turnover in the research and development of new products. This ranks among the best in the industry.

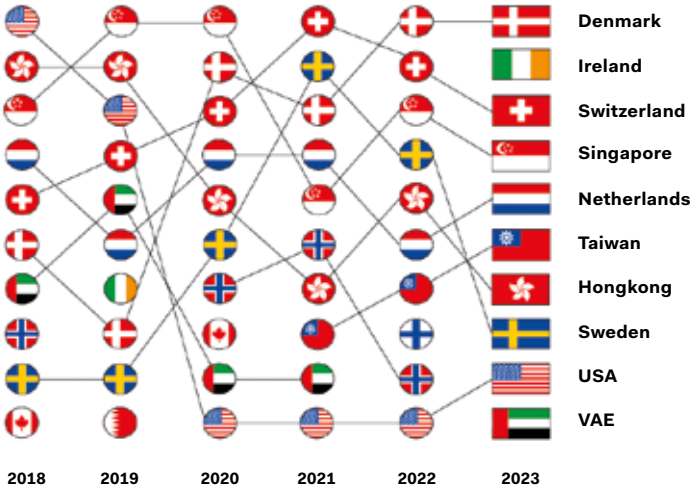


** Refers to private labs for research and development (contractors).*

Source: *Federal Statistical Office (2022), Research and Development (R&D) 2021 and Research and Development (R&D) in the Private Sector 2021.*

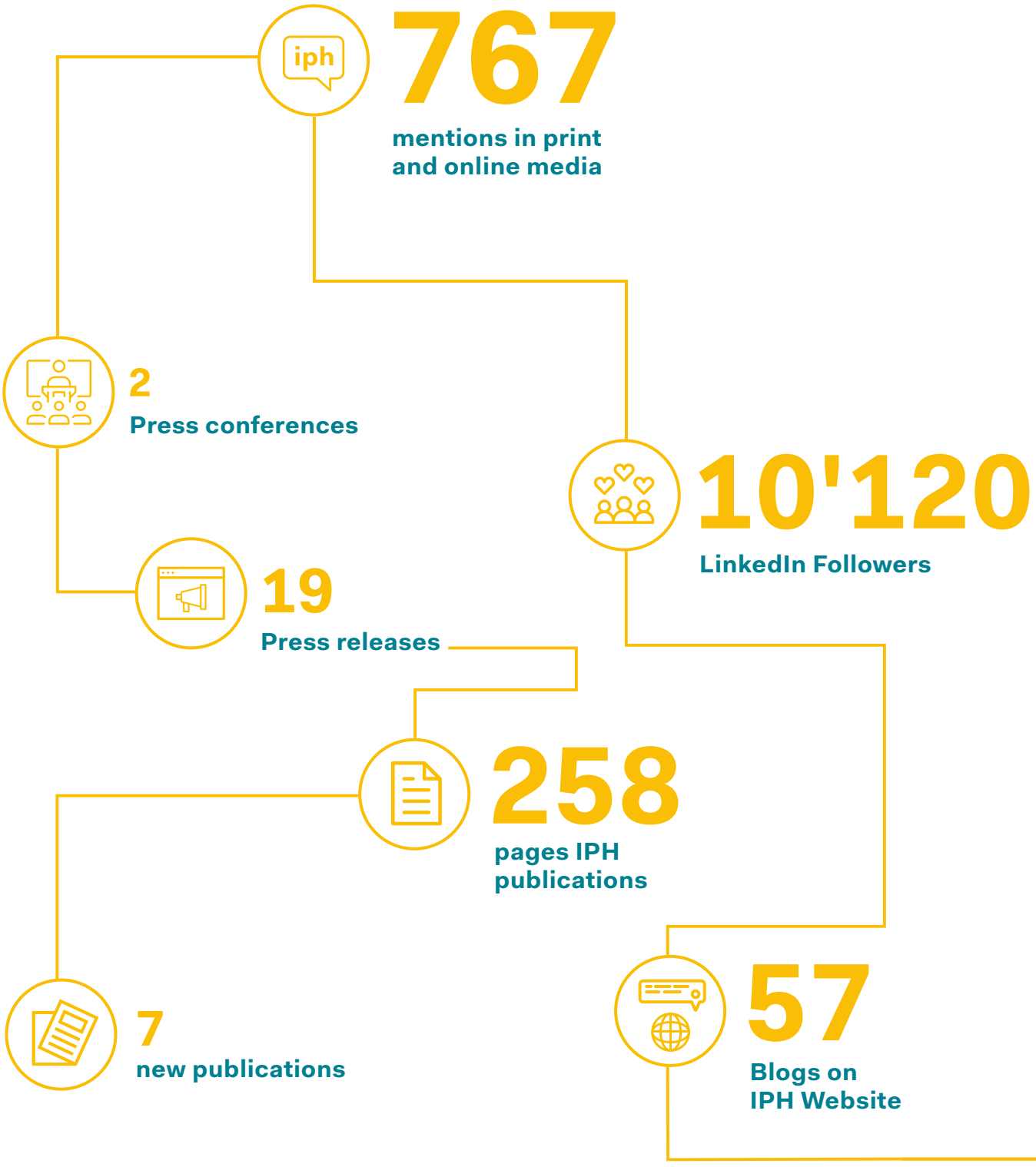
Global Innovation Index

Although Switzerland was still number one in the IMD World Competitiveness Ranking in 2021, its position has worsened continuously since then, with the country dropping to third place behind Denmark and Ireland in 2023. Optimal framework conditions are essential if the country is to remain a successful and internationally competitive business hub.



Source: *IMD (2023). IMD World Competitiveness Ranking*

Interpharma 2023
in numbers



23
Members

223
Experts in our working groups

6
Meetings with the "IG Biomedizinische Forschung" & Parliamentary events

34
Working Group Meetings
of it:

4
Board Meetings

4
ExComm Meetings

3
IHC Meetings

3102
X-Follower

About us

Interpharma, the association of the research-based pharmaceutical industry in Switzerland, represents the country's strongest export sector. The value of pharmaceutical products sold abroad each year amounts to around 105 billion Swiss francs. Our member companies have more than 90 percent of the market share of patented medicines in Switzerland and invest around CHF 9.6 billion annually in research and development in this country.

Our members

23 research-based pharmaceutical companies

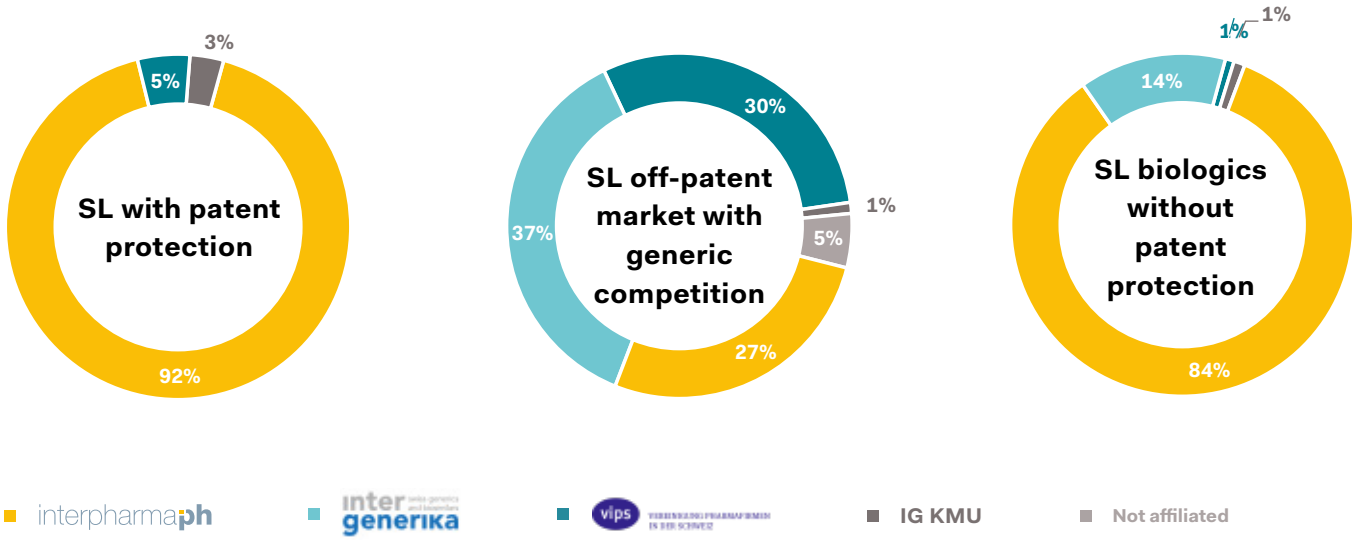
Interpharma has 23 member companies (as at 31 December 2023) which, with their different treatment focuses and therapeutic areas, make a substantial contribution to medical progress in general and to improving the quality of life of individual patients.

Association of Switzerland's research-based pharmaceutical industry

A strong voice for the pharmaceutical industry

Interpharma's broad support throughout Switzerland underpins its position in championing the international competitiveness of Switzerland as a research and pharma hub. Interpharma works closely with all the stakeholders in the Swiss healthcare system and international organisations, specifically those that represent the interests of the research-based pharmaceutical industry in Switzerland and abroad. As a member of EFPIA and IFPMA, we represent the interests of our companies at the international level.

Interpharma represents the majority of the pharmaceutical market in Switzerland



Base
Market eligible for health insurance including hospital at ex factory prices, year 2023

Source: *Calculations by Interpharma based on IQVIA sell-in*

Member status
Mai 2023, eight companies are assigned to more than one association

Our vision

We are a driving force behind an efficient and high-quality healthcare system, providing patients fast access to innovative therapies and the best possible care. In Switzerland and abroad, we promote an environment that delivers best in class healthcare to patients, rewards innovation and allows our industry to significantly contribute to Switzerland's prosperity, growth and competitiveness.

Our mission

We are an advocacy organization promoting innovation-friendly regulatory conditions, in Switzerland and abroad, that foster pharmaceutical research and development.

We are an interlocutor co-operating with all stakeholders in the health care system in a solution-oriented manner, ensuring quality and broad, sustainable access for patients to innovation.

We are an enabler ensuring the promotion of a social, economic and political environment which strengthens Switzerland as a pharmaceutical hub.

What members can expect

A partner who is strongly engaged for pharma interests

- We promote an innovation-friendly regulatory environment for pharmaceutical research and development.
- We are a partner for dialogue in societal, economic and political discourse.
- We are engaged for high quality within the healthcare system and for broad, sustainable access for patients to innovation.

A platform to exchange valuable information with peers

- Interpharma serves as a platform to bring peers from all member firms together.
- Share insights and discuss relevant topics (such as market access and regulatory) with experts in our working groups and taskforces.
- Benefit from each other by sharing experiences and best practices.
- Opportunity to learn from external experts about a specific topic.

A large network to use

- Always be up-to-date in health and economic-policy.
- Events and dialogue platforms in the parliamentary and stakeholder environment.

Parliamentary events

IG Biomedizinische Forschung

Salon Santé

Regional events

Speakers Hub

Board members

As of the 2023 Annual General Meeting

Jörg-Michael	**Rupp**	**Roche** *(President)*
Katrien	**De Vos**	**AstraZeneca** *(Vice President)*
Stefan	**Hendriks**	**Novartis** *(Vice President)*
Leila	**Schwery**	**Johnson & Johnson** *(Vice President)*
Sabine	**Bruckner**	**Pfizer**
René P.	**Buholzer**	**Interpharma** *(Delegate of the Board)*
Graham	**Dorey**	**Biogen**
Thorsten	**Hein**	**Bayer**
Colleen	**Kamrad**	**GSK**
Matthias	**Leuenberger**	**Novartis**
Michael	**Lugez**	**BMS**
Andrea Michael	**Meyer**	**Sanofi**
Pierre	**Morneau**	**Takeda**
Max	**Pahlow**	**Johnson & Johnson**
Dan	**Staner**	**Moderna**
Nathalie	**Stieger**	**Roche**
Mads	**Stoustrup**	**Novo Nordisk**

Executive management

As at December 2023

René Buholzer
Managing director

Susanne Müller
Services

Markus Ziegler
Head of Market

Yves Weidmann
Head of Governmental Affairs

Tanja Colin
Head of Approval
& Technology

Simon Fry
Head of Innovation & IPR

Georg Därendinger
Head of Communication

Interpharma working groups

More than 200 experts contribute their knowledge

All member companies can delegate experts to Interpharma's working groups and contribute their expertise. To ensure the agility of the organisation, Task Forces can be set up at any time under the leadership of an experienced committee member.

The Working Groups and Task Forces implement their priorities as set by the Board and carry out their work plan under the guidance of three Strategic Committees.

The **Executive Committee** deals with patient access, marketing authorisation and health policy issues. It is chaired by Sabine Bruckner (Pfizer) and Max Pahlow (J&J).

The following working groups report to the **Executive Committee:**

- **Market Access Working Group**
  Chair: Jan Depta (Novartis)
  Vice Chair: Gila Stump (MSD)

- **Regulatory Affairs Working Group**
  Chair: Lukas Brand (Novartis)
  Vice Chair: Annette Fichtel Dasen (Abbvie)

- **Good Distribution Practice – Quality Working Group**
  Chair: Michaela Wellmann (Amgen)
  Vice Chair: Christoph Fleischli (Bayer)

- **Health Care Systems Working Group**
  Chair: Luc Bastian (Sanofi)
  Vice Chair: Sven Bisang (Roche)

The **Innovation Hub Committee** deals with all issues relating to Switzerland as a location for research and innovation, as well as for pharmaceuticals and production. In particular, it deals with research policy and general economic-policy. It is chaired by Leila Schwery-Bou-Diab (J&J) and Pierre Morneau (Takeda).

The following working groups report to the **Innovation Hub Committee:**

- **Clinical Research Working Group**
  Chair: Simon Rotzler (Bayer)
  Vice Chair: Martin Winiger (BMS)

- **Animal Welfare Working Group**
  Chair: Joachim Coenen (Merck)
  Vice Chair: Birgit Ledermann (Novartis)

The **Intellectual Property Expert Group** headed by Andreas Poredda (Roche) deals with issues associated with the protection of intellectual property.

In addition, the **Communication Working Group** assists the association office with communication-related matters. It is headed by Philipp Kampf (J&J) and Bettina Vogel-Moore (Takeda).

In addition to these permanent working groups, there are also temporary Task Forces that deal with current issues and needs as required.

The following Task Forces were actively involved in projects in 2023:

- **Task Force on Vaccines**
  Sponsor: Sabine Bruckner (Pfizer)

- **Task Force santeneXt**
  Sponsor: René Buholzer (Interpharma)

- **Task Force Reimbursement of Transplant Products**
  Sponsor: Michaël Lugez (BMS)

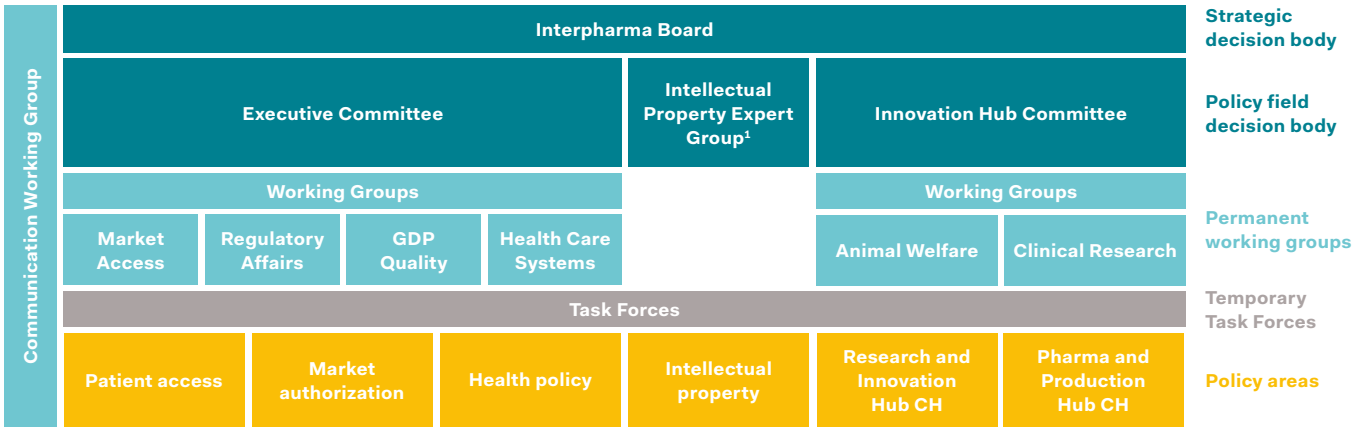
- **Task Force Health Data Ecosystems**
  Sponsor: Katharina Gasser (Roche)

- **Task Force Prevention**
  Sponsor: Dimitri Gitas (MSD)

Our governance

to broadly engage and involve members

The Board of Directors is the formal decision-making body, determines the strategy and decides on important business. At its discretion, the Board of Directors may delegate this responsibility to the General Secretariat or to specialized strategic committees, in particular the Executive Committee, the Market Committee, the Location Committee or the Intellectual Property Committee. It is chaired by Jörg-Michael Rupp (Roche) as President, who is supported by the Vice Presidents Katrien De Vos (AstraZeneca), Leila Schwery (Johnson & Johnson) and Stefan Hendriks (Novartis).



[1] *Together with scienceindustries*

Partnerships

An active partner in the health and research environment through cooperations

The broad exchange on current health and research policy topics and the promotion of public discussion on relevant issues is an important concern of Interpharma. Interpharma therefore cooperates with various players from the health and research environment, contributes expertise and supports organisations and platforms in the planning and implementation of events, the preparation of basic principles and other activities.

Our partnerships based on a Multistakeholder-approach

Our partners within the life sciences industry

scienceINDUSTRIES SWITZERLAND

vips VEREINIGUNG PHARMAFIRMEN IN DER SCHWEIZ

inter swiss generics and biosimilars generika

SWISS BIOTECH

SWISS MEDTECH

Our partners within the healthcare sector – Health Care Insurers

curafutura
Die innovativen Krankenversicherer
Les assureurs-maladie innovants
Gli assicuratori-malattia innovativi

EINKAUFSGEMEINSCHAFT H S K
COMMUNAUTÉ D'ACHAT H S K
COOPERATIVA DI ACQUISTI H S K

santésuisse

tarifsuisse

Our partners within the healthcare sector – Service Providers

FMH

KKA CCM CMC

H+
DIE SPITÄLER DER SCHWEIZ
LES HÔPITAUX DE SUISSE
GLI OSPEDALI SVIZZERI

pharmaSuisse

Our partners within economic associations

economiesuisse

sgv usam

beider basel handelskammer

Publications in 2023

Interpharma's publications are available in several languages and can be downloaded from **www.interpharma.ch** Printed versions can be ordered from **info@interpharma.ch**.

Health Panorama 2023 (D) (E) (F)

"Health Panorama – The most important facts and figures on Switzerland's healthcare system" contains statistics on the Swiss healthcare system, the pharmaceuticals market and pharma hub Switzerland. It also investigates the spending structure of Swiss households, trends in healthcare costs in Switzerland and research and development investment by Switzerland's pharmaceutical industry.

To publications

Animal Welfare Report 2023 (D) (E) (F)

By systematically promoting and applying the 3Rs principles, it has been possible in recent decades to Replace many animal experiments, to Reduce the number of laboratory animals used and to keep stress to a minimum (Refine). Even if these efforts are systematically continued, animal experiments will still be essential for medical progress in the foreseeable future. This year's Animal Welfare Report, which you can now explore on our website for the first time ever, highlights the efforts being made by the pharmaceutical industry to achieve significant progress on the 3Rs.

To publications

Health Monitor 2023 (D) (F)

To publications

In the Health Monitor, Swiss voters are asked questions about the healthcare system in Switzerland. It is essentially based on an annual survey of at least 1'200 representative voters. The majority of questions do not change from year to year to ensure comparability over time. The gfs.bern research institute has been conducting the health monitor survey on Interpharma's behalf since 1996. It is published at regular intervals.

Europe Survey 2023 (D)

To publications

This is the 10th time that Interpharma, the association of Switzerland's research-based pharmaceutical industry, has commissioned the gfs.bern research institute to conduct a representative survey on relations between Switzerland and the EU. For the tenth consecutive year, the Swiss population has expressed its strong sense of connection with the bilateral route. The general assessment of the bilateral agreements has even improved since last year's survey. At present, a significant majority (59 percent) mainly see benefits, while only twelve percent tend to or only see disadvantages. Around a year after the start of the Ukraine war, the significance of the EU to peace in Europe has increased significantly.

Salon Santé – Outsmarting scarcity (D)

To publications

The fifth Salon Santé organised by Interpharma and think tank WIRE revolved around "outsmarting scarcity" – different aspects of reliability of supply in the healthcare system and ways of addressing the associated challenges. Discussions were held with, among others, Anne Lévy, Director-General of the FOPH, and Emeritus Professor Gerd Folkers, Chairman of the Board of the Novartis Research Foundation.

Biotech Learning Centre

Students and teachers will find information and examples from the field of modern biological and medical research. The text content is designed to be used for lectures or as background information for teachers.

www.biotechlerncenter.interpharma.ch

The datacenter: an interactive data tool, divided into different topics

On the Interpharma website, illustrations and figures relating to the Swiss healthcare system and the pharmaceutical landscape are available for download in the datacenter. The datacenter is organised along our strategic focal points "Putting the focus on patients", "Leader in research and development" and "A strong economic framework". The topics "Healthcare system" and "Drug market" are also featured.

www.datacenter.interpharma.ch

We keep researching

Interpharma would like to raise public awareness and highlight the contribution of research-based pharmaceutical companies to patient welfare as well as their importance for Switzerland as a location for business and innovation. After all, a strong and innovative pharmaceutical industry is dependent on good political and economic framework conditions. However, this also requires a broad dialog and social understanding of the achievements of research-based pharmaceutical companies for the benefit of health and the economy in Switzerland.

www.wir-forschen-weiter.ch

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The research-based pharmaceutical companies in Switzerland.

we-keep-researching.ch

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