BaltPharm Forum 2018 Tartu

#### Past, present and future of the pharmacy in Lithuania

*Indre Treciokiene Lithuanian Pharmaceutical Association* 

#### Past

- First pharmacy in 1506
- Teaching pharmacy
  - 1785 first pharmacy course at Vilnius University (VU)
  - 1810 department of pharmacy and pharmacology (VU)
  - 1950 pharmacy education moved to Kaunas University
- First pharmaceutical society- 1819
- First pharmaceutical journal 1820
- First manufacturing 1922 "Sanitas"



# Background for present pharmacy

Legislation change throughout the independency:

- ✓Nearly all pharmacies are privately owned, 82% by pharmacy chains
- Market liberalization less restrictions to open a new pharmacy, ownership by pharmacist not required
- ✓ Biggest wholesaler's are vertical integrated within pharmacy chains
- ✓ Only pharmacist can be responsible person
- ✓ Pharmacist responsible for pharmacy technician consultation and validation of deliveries of prescriptions



#### Present situation

- 1299 community pharmacies at the end of 2017
  - 49 compounding medicines
- About 700 drugs delivery places in primary health care centers in rural areas
- 44 hospital pharmacies
  - 24 compounding medicines
- 124 wholesalers
- 23 manufactures
- Specialists
  - 3397 pharmacists
  - 1349 pharmacy technicians



# Density of pharmacies



Number of pharmacies per 100000 inhabitants

Data from GERMAN PHARMACIES – FIGURES, DATA, FACTS 2017

#### Pharmacy schools in Lithuania

- Pharmacists
  - Lithuanian health science university around 100 pharmacists a year
  - Vilnius University established in 2015, no graduates yet
- Pharmacy technicians
  - Kaunas College around 50 graduates a year

#### **E-prescriptions**

- 2,67 million e-prescriptions till the end of 2017
  - Europharmacy the leader with 811 700 e-prescriptions
- 50% of all prescriptions in March 2018 were e-prescriptions



# Price change

• From 2018 markup price for reimbursement medicines has changed:

#### For wholesalers

	Price range in EU	Mark up in Euro
	0-49.99	0,51
	50-263,29	2,45
	263,30 and more	5,79
For pharmacies		





#### Control purchases

Control purchase - unplanned inspection and purchase of goods and (or) services in purpose to determine whether an entity sells goods and /or pharmaceutical services in compliance with legal requirements

- Valid from 2017.11.01
- Aligned with the Criminal Code
- Checks and penalties postponed for 6 month



#### Pharmaceutical services

- Pharmacy services for patients using inhalers
  - Identify problems associated with inappropriate use of inhaled medication
  - Provide patient with clear and understandable information about asthma or COPD
  - Educate patients in proper use of inhaled medicines
- Requirements
  - The pharmacist that has gained special competences
  - Place for service
  - Documentation
  - Teaching devices



### Prescription drugs without a prescription

For 30 days if:

- 1. Patient is out of medicine, has to use it continuously and cannot visit the physician in time
- The drug was prescribed to chronic disease, birth control or migraine attack
- 3. The drug was used for past three months
- 4. Pharmacist can check if the drug was prescribed before

✓Only medicines of the same generic name, pharmaceutical strength as specified in the prescription may be sold.



form and



# What is on the table?

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# OTC drugs outside the pharmacy

Project in the parliament

 $\checkmark$  Other places to sell drugs, that do not require prescription

✓ List of drugs, that could be sold outside the pharmacies

 $\checkmark$  No pharmaceutical service in other sale places

✓ The same margin as in pharmacies

# **E-prescriptions through E-pharmacy**

Project in the parliament

- ✓ Prescribed drugs could be delivered threw e-pharmacy
- ✓ Pharmaceutical services would be delivered threw phone or internet



#### Pharmacies in healthcare units

Project in the parliament

- ✓ Healthcare units, like primary care units will be able to establish their own pharmacy
- ✓ Health care pharmacy units will be able to deliver drugs for outpatients.

### First prescription – only generic

Project in Health ministry

✓ Contest for the e-health software update

✓ Only lowest price drug would be reimbursed

 $\checkmark$  For the first prescription

✓ For repetitive prescription after no use interval

 $\checkmark$  No changes for present users

✓ Some exceptions apply

# Tenders

Government resolution

- ✓ From 1<sup>st</sup> of July 2018
- ✓ Brand-name drugs
  - No specific reference countries
  - Average of three cheapest prices in EU if available
  - Grouped on therapeutic effect
- ✓ Generic's
  - No reference countries
  - Price contest
  - Surcharge not exceeding 20% of the base price of the lowest price analog in the group
  - Grouped by active substance

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#### Unified price for all reimburse drugs

Project at the Health Ministry

✓ Unified surcharge for the patient for reimbursed medicines

• Not more than 20 % for medicines that cost under 20  ${\bf \in}$ 

- Not more than  $4 \in$  for medicines that cost  $20 \in$  and more

 $\checkmark$  Not reimbursed if does not comply with the requirement

# Falsified Medicines Directive (FMD)

✓ From 2019 Feb 9<sup>th</sup>

✓ Valid for all prescription medicines:

- White list some exclusions
- Black list omeprazole (OTC as well)

✓ Pharmacies would need to set up validation environment to comply with the requirements



### Clinical pharmacist

Government plan:

- 2020 establishment of concept framework and competencies framework
- 2021 establishment of the curriculum

Pending challenges:

- ✓ Differences and similarities between clinical pharmacist and clinical pharmacologist
- $\checkmark$  Demand of the service



# What will the future bring?

Tendencies worldwide

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# Will there be a place for the pharmacist?

What we need to keep up with the digital age?

- Recognition of the pharmacist as a health car professional?
- Cooperation between health care professionals?
- Patient centered services?
- Quality improvement and control?

#### Who will face the pharmacy in 21th century?







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Embrace the sometimes painful truth of reality. Remain in the blissful ignorance of illusion.



#### Thank you

Indre Treciokiene indre@treciokas.name

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