

Awareness, Knowledge & Perceptions of Biosimilars among Specialty Physicians

Awareness of biosimilars was high but **knowledge about the fundamentals of biosimilars was low** according to the results of a survey of 1,201 U.S. specialty physicians, created by the Biosimilars Forum and conducted by SERMO.

KEY SURVEY FINDINGS



More than **three-quarters (77%) had heard** the term biosimilars in the week or month prior to being surveyed.



A little more than half of physicians surveyed know that in order to be approved, the FDA must find a biosimilar to be **equally effective (62%) and safe (57%)** when compared to the originator biologic.



Eight in ten (82%) believe biosimilars will expand treatment options and provide savings to patients and the healthcare system.



Most physicians surveyed do not clearly understand the concept of extrapolation as applied to biosimilars with **only 12% of survey respondents** stating that they trust extrapolation of the studied biosimilar indication(s) as the basis to obtain approval of other licensed indications of the originator.



A little **more than half (nearly 60%) correctly understood** that to be approved as "interchangeable" a biosimilar must be shown to be safe and effective for back-and-forth switching with no negative impacts to safety or efficacy.



Nine in ten (91%) would consider switching a patient from an originator biologic to a biosimilar as an effective alternative to the originator if it would help the patient have better access to his/her medication, but **53% want more direct data** before switching.

5 MAJOR KNOWLEDGE GAPS IDENTIFIED

- Defining biosimilars & biosimilarity
- Understanding the pathway
- Understanding interchangeability
- Understanding extrapolation
- Appreciating the similar safety of biosimilars and their reference products



About the Survey

19-question survey created by the Biosimilars Forum and conducted by SERMO, a global social network organization for physicians, from Nov. 20, 2015 to Jan. 4, 2016.

Responses were obtained from a total of 1,201 U.S. physicians across specialties that are high prescribers of biologics, including dermatologists, gastroenterologists, hematologist-oncologists, medical oncologists, nephrologists and rheumatologists.

