



The Consumer Voice in Europe

Are Patent Settlements Anti-Competitive ?

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18 October 2013

About BEUC

- ❑ Representing consumer interests towards the EU institutions since 1962
- ❑ 41 members from 31 countries
- ❑ Funded by members and by the European Union
- ❑ **Pharmaceuticals**
 - EMA patients and consumers working party
 - Intervener in the ECJ cases AbbVie & Intermune vs EMA
 - Member of the Steering group EU initiative on access to medicines in Europe
 - Member of the EUnetHTA stakeholder advisory group
 - EU legislation on clinical trials, counterfeit medicines, pharmacovigilance, info to patients
 - European Commission pharmaceutical sector inquiry

The consumer perspective

- ❖ Medicines are not cars nor candies
- ❖ Consumers have the right to access safe, affordable and effective medicines
- ❖ Consumers have the right to high quality information about medicines
- ❖ Too many me-too, not me and CCI

Recommendations

- The pharmaceutical sector needs a big dose of ethics and transparency
- Pharmaceutical companies should spend less on lawyers and more on R&D
- Regulators should have more resources to enforce the legislation
- Penalties should be dissuasive and not just a cost of doing business
- Consumers should have appropriate means to seek redress and compensation for the damages they suffered

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Thank you



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