

Medicine overviews

Feedback from patient and healthcare professional survey


Catriona Ester on behalf of Helena Pires (EMA
trainee)




Medicine overviews

- Lay-language summary
- Reviewed by a patient representative
- First part of a medicine's webpage on EMA website
- Available as PDFs in all EU languages

Other information about Welireg ▾

 **Welireg : EPAR - Medicine overview**
Reference Number: EMA/4229/2025

English (EN) (127.15 KB - PDF) [View](#) 

First published: 27/02/2025

[Other languages \(22\)](#) ▾

Medicines ▾ Human regulatory ▾ Veterinary regulatory ▾ Committees ▾ News & events ▾ Partners & networks ▾ About us ▾

Home > Medicines > Welireg

Welireg
belzutifan
Medicine **Human**

[Share](#) [RSS](#)

Authorised
This medicine is authorised for use in the European Union

Page contents

- Overview
- Product information
- Product details
- Authorisation details
- Assessment history
- News on Welireg

Application under evaluation CHMP opinion **European Commission decision**

Overview

Welireg is a cancer medicine used to treat:

- adults with advanced clear cell renal cell carcinoma (a type of kidney cancer) that has worsened despite two or more previous treatments, including a PD-(L)1 inhibitor and at least two types of VEGF-targeted medicines. 'Advanced' means that the cancer has started to spread;
- adults with von Hippel-Lindau (VHL) disease who need treatment for associated, localised (confined to one area of the body) renal cell carcinoma, central nervous system haemangioblastomas (a type of brain cancer) or pancreatic neuroendocrine tumours (a type of pancreatic cancer), and who cannot have surgery or other local treatments. VHL disease is a genetic condition that causes tumours and cysts to grow in certain parts of the body.

Welireg contains the active substance belzutifan.

[Expand section](#) [Collapse section](#)

How is Welireg used? ▾

How does Welireg work? ▾

What benefits of Welireg have been shown in studies? ▾

What are the risks associated with Welireg? ▾

Why is Welireg authorised in the EU? ▾

What measures are being taken to ensure the safe and effective use of Welireg? ▾

Other information about Welireg ▾

Do our medicine overviews meet users' needs?



Surveys



Focus group discussions

- Patients, members of the public, patient organisation representatives ('patients')
- Healthcare professionals, healthcare professional organisation representatives ('HCPs')

Patients and healthcare professionals surveys

Where do patients look online for medicine information?

Which elements of a medicine overview do they find most helpful?

Are patients and HCPs aware of EMA's medicine overview?



What do they use the medicine overviews for?

Do they know the medicine overview is available in all EU languages?

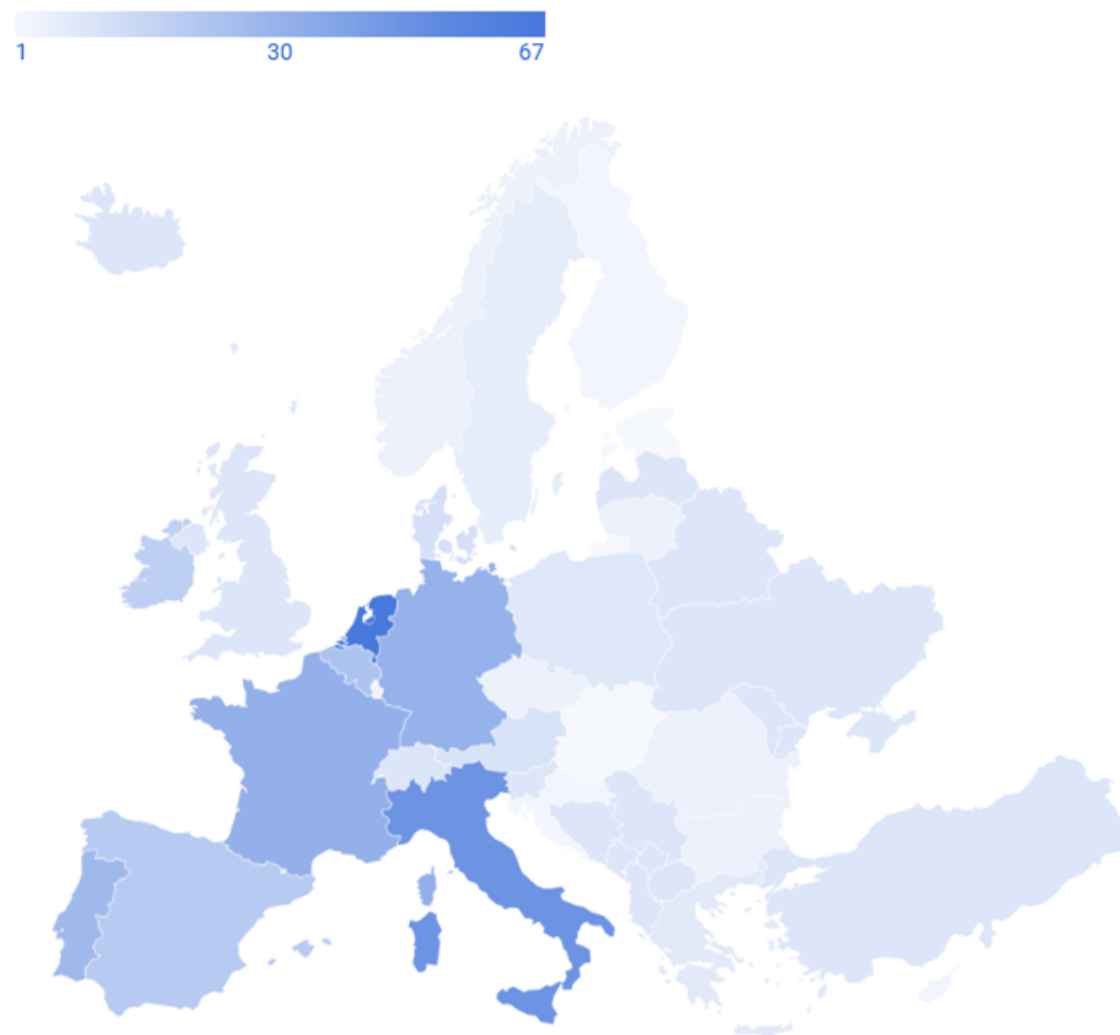
Responses by role and geographical distribution

411 responses

276 patients

135 healthcare professionals

- 392 Europe
- 11 Asia
- 6 North America
- 2 Oceania



Use of online resources for medicine info (patients)

Most patients consult national or local authority websites, closely followed by EMA's website

➤ They are mainly looking for information about:

- potential side effects
- treatment options
- disease-related details
- instructions on how to use a medicine

Awareness of medicine overviews & translations

Did you know that EMA publishes plain-language summaries of medicines?

➤ **Yes: 44%** of patients; **67%** of HCPs

Did you know that these are available in all EU languages?

➤ **Yes: 36%** of patients; **48%** of HCPs



Reasons for not using medicine overview

Patients

Did not know EMA provided this information (76%)

Use other websites

Use package leaflet

Prefer asking doctor or pharmacist

Healthcare professionals

Did not know EMA provided this information (62%)

Use package leaflet or SmPC

Use other websites

Reasons for using medicine overview

Patients

Reliable information

Quick access to key information

Informed treatment decisions

Most helpful elements of medicine overview:

- Possible side effects and risks
- How the medicine works
- Benefits of the medicine

Healthcare professionals

Reliable information

Quick access to key information

Latest regulatory updates

Clear information for patients

- 93% of all HCP respondents believe the medicine overview would help patients understand their treatment
- 62% frequently share them with patients

Do medicine overviews meet users' needs?

- EMA's initiative sets a **global benchmark** for **transparent** drug **communication**.
- EMA's medicines information gives a **quick and complete overview** of the product.
- I am **really satisfied** with all the information that I find in EMA's medicine overview
- Very satisfied, **very useful** information
- They are **really useful summaries**, which I wasn't aware of despite being a member of an EMA group and providing feedback to the EMA on medication error prevention. They are particularly useful to healthcare professionals - the summary of clinical studies is enormously helpful.
- a **very good initiative** that deserves being more widely known.
- the medicines overview summarises the **key information** about a medicine's approval.

Focus group & interview findings



- EMA is seen as a reliable and independent authority
- Medicine overviews are recognised as an important resource:
 - to find reliable and clear information about medicines
 - to inform colleagues, caregivers and patients about new medicines
 - to support patient education and informed decision-making
 - to reassure patients about safety and efficacy of medicines
- Barriers to use include:
 - Lack of awareness
 - Language
 - Website navigation

“Patients often trust the information more when they see that it comes from a European regulatory agency. It reassures them about safety.”

Conclusions

- Users are generally satisfied with the content and language of medicine overviews
- The main reason for not using medicine overviews is lack of awareness and difficulty finding them

“Many healthcare professionals are unaware these pages exist. Education campaigns are needed.”

Next steps

- To increase reach and use, there is a need to:
 - increase **general awareness** of medicine overviews
 - clarify where patients can find **relevant information** on the medicine page
 - make **translations** easier to find
 - consider incorporating **visual elements** in medicine overviews
 - provide **website navigation guide** to patients.

“I believe that it is helpful to develop patients dedicated content and to disseminate the information about this reliable information”

“Better ‘advertising’ should be done for the package inserts”



EUROPEAN MEDICINES AGENCY
SCIENCE MEDICINES HEALTH

Thank you

Follow us

