Medicines shortages in Europe:
A picture of the problem from the hospital pharmacy perspective
EAHP surveys on medicines shortages

• Over 300 individual responses from hospital pharmacists across Europe
• Responses from 27 countries
• 99% of respondents say they have experienced problems with medicines shortages in the past year
• 63% say the problem is a weekly, sometimes daily occurrence
• 77% say the problem has got worse in the last year
• 57% say shortages in generics > patent medicines
• 71% of respondents identified oncology medicines as an area commonly experiencing shortages
• Emergency medicine was identified as a common shortage area by 44%, and cardiovascular medicine by 35% of respondents
Solutions / the role of EMA

• **European wide coordination** of alerts to medicines shortages such as a single European information portal (e.g. FDA portal in the USA)

• **Stronger requirements** for manufacturers to give due notice of likely supply interruptions

• **Stronger requirements** for authorisation holders to ensure the reliable supply of products for which they hold the licence

• **Sharing best practice** of national authorities