



Glasgow Declaration: Increasing Access to Drug Utilization Data

Initiated by

the participants of the 2017 EuroDURG (European Drug Utilization Research Group) Conference in Glasgow, UK, the participants of the workshop on Access to DU data during the ISPE (International Society for Pharmacoepidemiology) conference in Prague 2018 and the participants of the 2020 EuroDURG Conference in Szeged, Hungary.

Endorsement

The International Society for Pharmacoepidemiology (ISPE) endorsed this statement on 23 February 2022.

We, the professionals in the field of drug utilization and advocates and clients of drug utilization research,

-agreeing with the general principle for health measurement and accountability stated by the World Health Organization and the World Bank;

-recognizing that medicines are part of the core elements of a functioning health system and information on access, quality and use are essential for its governance;

*-observing that **availability** of drug utilization data varies considerably between countries ranging from limited aggregated data collected for economic reasons (i.e. wholesaler data) to individual patient level data with linkage to other demographic and medical databases;*

*-observing that **accessibility** to this data also varies considerably between countries ranging from payment for data collected for commercial reasons to free access to complete health care data by authorities as well as researchers;*

-convinced that it is the duty of governments to establish valid and reliable data collection, analysis and dissemination of results on the use of medication within their country with the goal to ensure appropriate use of and equitable access to quality-assured, affordable essential medicines for all people in need;

-also convinced, under the principles of transparency and accountability, that availability of utilization data is not solely a government responsibility, and that data collected for commercial reasons should be made freely available for analysis and dissemination of results on the use of medication within their country.

Call for the following priority actions and targets:

1. Health policy with regard to effective and safe pharmacotherapy should be equitable, evidence-based, and data-driven.
2. It is the duty of all nations of the world to establish valid and reliable data collection on the inpatient and outpatient use of medication in the public and private sector within their country.
3. The subscribers to this declaration consider it as a right of all nations to have free access to existing drug utilization data gathered on the base of consumption of medication of their population, in accordance with GDPR guidance. More concretely, they insist that all medication data collected for commercial and non-commercial reasons should be made publicly available, at least at the national level and aggregated at the level of the active ingredient.
4. Data on drug utilization should be regularly, timely, and publicly available to the researchers in drug utilization research. Researchers using this data should do so independently, based on peer reviewed protocols and respecting patient's privacy. Drug utilization research will support health authorities in the development of a well-established pharmaco-therapeutic national policy, with the interest of the patient at the center.