# History and Commitment from industry in the field of rare diseases and orphan drugs

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### The Impact of the US Orphan Drug Act

- 10 products approved before the ODA (1983).
- Now > 2000 orphan drug designations, > 350 orphan drugs approvals
- The most successful piece of US healthcare legislation so far
- Long term influence on other public health policies in other regions of the world.

### N. M. W.

#### Orphan drug policies

USA (1983)

Japan (1993)

EU (2000)\*

ICH

Countries

Australia (1998)

Korea Taiwan

<sup>\*</sup> Unanimous approval in December 1999 by European Parliament

#### The Definition of Rare in the world

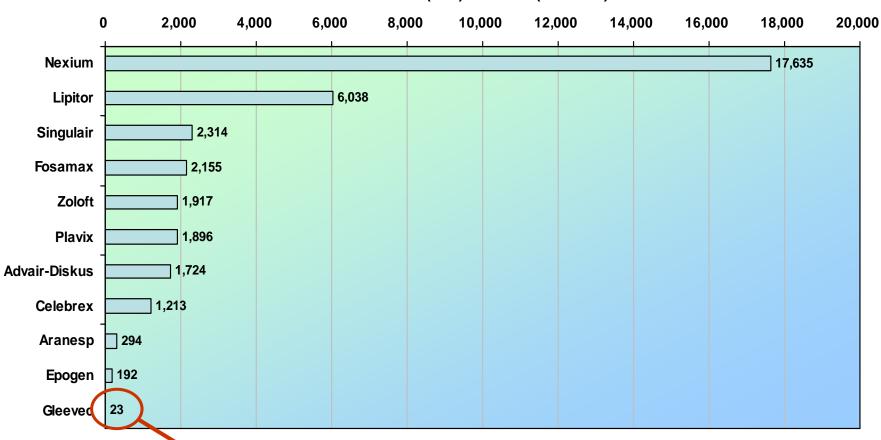
- Rare (orphan) as defined in orphan drug regulations:
  - US: prevalence <200,000 (300 million people)
  - Japan : prevalence <50,000
  - European Union (EU-27): prevalence
     <5/10,000, i.e. < 250,000 patients (500 million)</li>
  - Australia : prevalence <2000 people</li>

Note: ultra-rare (ultra-orphan) is defined by NICE as 1000 patients in UK population

The reality is a continuum with research & treatment complexity increasing with disease rarity

#### **Understanding Rarity**



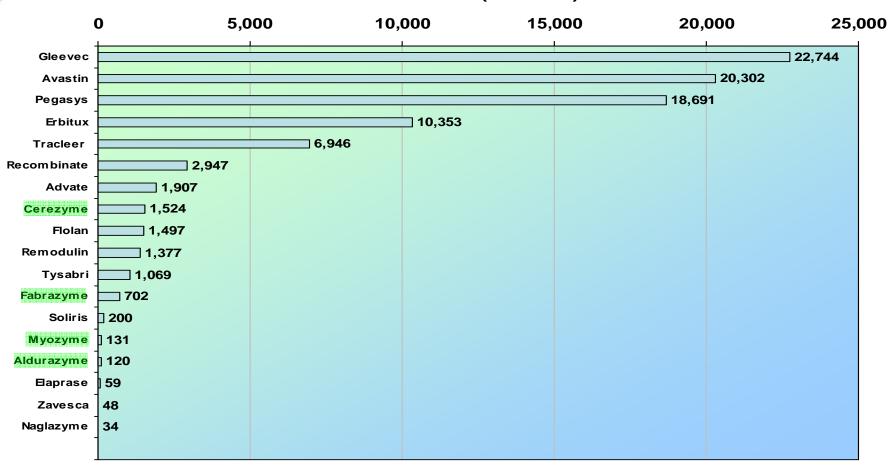


Orphan Drug (<200,000 prevalence in US)

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#### **Understanding Rarity**

#### **Patients Treated (US 2006)**

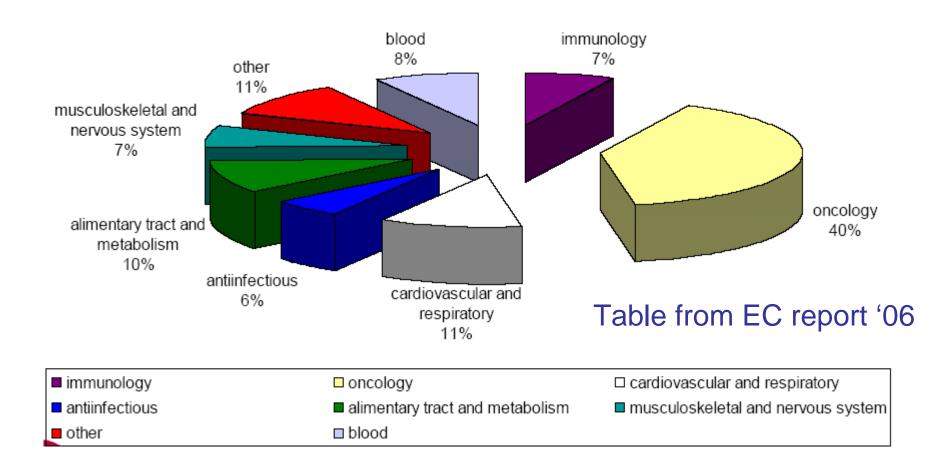


#### Industry was and is involved - 1

- Industry took a very active part in the discussions on the draft European Union Orphan Drugs Regulation
- Industry from the start supported patients representation on the COMP
- Industry collaborates with and supports rare diseases patient groups
- R&D and investments by industry in rare diseases in Europe grew tremendously

#### Impact in the EU

- Before 2000: 8 orphan drugs (OD) avant la lettre
- After 2000 :> 1000 OD designations filed, > 720 granted by EC



### Industry was and is involved - 2

- In the beginning, mostly small companies were developing Orphan Drugs
- Gradually more interest from large companies
- The development of Orphan Drugs is not only for the most frequent rare diseases...
- Compassionate and expanded use programs
- Helping patients in emerging nations

#### 10 years after... a success story!

- From only 8 before the regulation to now + 60 approved orphan drugs
- 2001-08, average 21% per year increase in approved OMPs
- 2008: > 15,000 private or public RDresear ch projects\* and about 2,530 clinical trials on OMPs\*\*
- Growing number of new rare disease indications explored in other areas (e.g. due to the pediatric regulation, advanced therapies regulation and to pathway-driven R&D efforts)



<sup>\*</sup> Source Unpublished data Office of Health Economics study for the industry task force

<sup>\*\*</sup> Source: OHE/Orphanet data

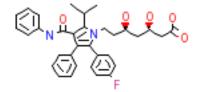
#### Challenges in development

- Challenge of rarity: a disease affecting 500 citizens is much more challenging than one affecting 200.000
- Issues are becoming more obstructive with rarity
  - Disease awareness: low
  - Patients diagnosed: heterogeneous and low number
  - Availability of reliable testing: low
  - Number of experts: low
  - Availability of natural history data: low
  - Prior clinical trial experience
  - Regulator experience: low
  - Priority in health care system: depending on the region

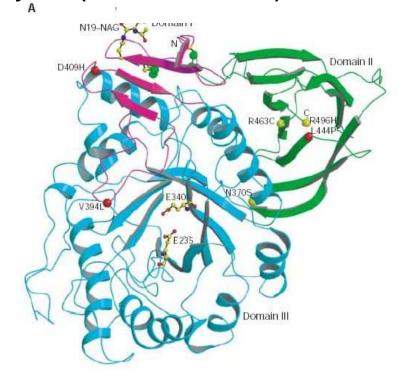
#### Challenges in Manufacturing

 Production of biopharmaceuticals is complex, resourceintensive and timeconsuming

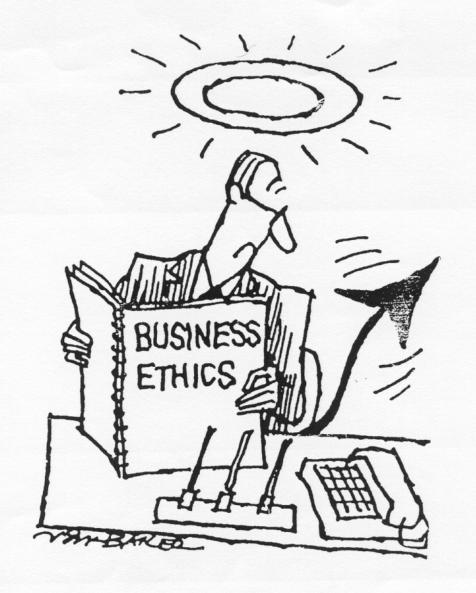
 Production capacity for biologicals costs hundred of millions of euro's, even for rare diseases **Lipitor® (Atorvastatin)** 



Cerezyme® (Gaucher's disease)



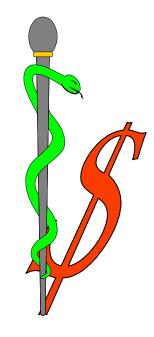
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The Economist

### **Challenges in Pricing**

- Degree of innovation?
- Therapeutic value?
- Rarity of the disease treated?
- Uniqueness of the products?
- Degree of competition?



- Pricing is very important to ensure that a profit is made, and profit is very important to have a sustainable company, also for the treated patients
- Key to sustainability is a Market

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#### The Wheel of sustainability

**Life-Saving Treatment(s)** 

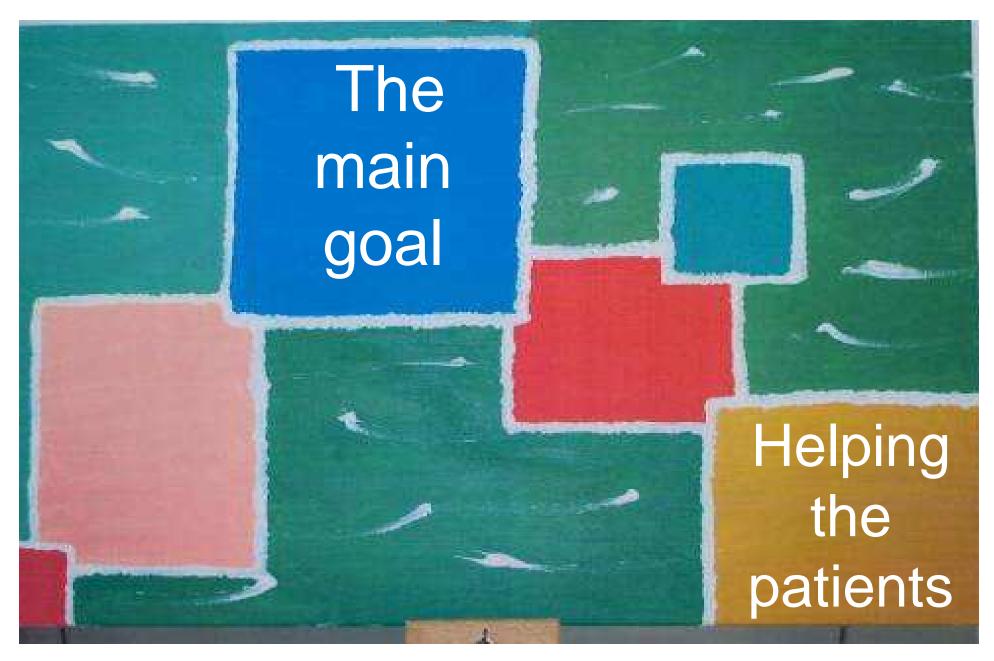
Strong and innovative healthcare biotech industry

Improved patient outcome

More risk-taking and investments

Therapy reimbursed

Investors/Company rewarded



Yolanda Santos, Pompe disease, Expression of Hope



Dankon al vi

Hvala lijepa

Efharisto poli

Grazie!

спасибо

azie!

Thank YOU Merci beaucoup

Dziekuje

Tack så mycket

Tusen takk

Gracias

Obrigado

Xie Xie

Mange tak

Dank u

Danke vielmahls

Çok tesekkür ederim

