

Governing drug reimbursement policy in Poland: The role of the state, civil society and the private sector

Web Appendix 1– Purposive sample of organizations comprising the drug reimbursement policy domain

1. State organizations shaping reimbursement policy directly (the Ministry of Health, the National Health Fund, and the Agency for Health Technology Assessment) and indirectly (Health Committees in the Lower and Upper Chambers of Parliament).
2. The pharmaceutical sector: two existing country-wide associations of innovative drug companies, two existing country-wide associations of generic firms, one (out of two) chamber of commerce with a designated committee for pharmaceutical policy, and seven multinational innovative drug companies belonging to one of the associations. All drug companies included in the sample were big corporations, with headquarters based in different Western countries.
3. Intermediaries advising drug companies on reimbursement policy: three law firms, three public relations firms, two lobbying firms and one health technology assessment company. We selected intermediaries with a reputation for effectiveness, based on their media presence and suggestions made by other interviewees.
4. Medical experts advising state organizations on drug reimbursement: national and regional consultants representing three long-term, drug-intensive

therapeutic areas involving large numbers of patients. These were:

diabetology, ADHD (attention deficit hyperactivity disorder) and oncology.

5. Civil society interest groups contributing to the reimbursement process:
patient organisations from the three therapeutic areas – ADHD (two), diabetes (three) and oncology (one). We selected those with the largest number of members, longest histories, and high visibility in the media.
6. Journalists from the media covering reimbursement policy: two high-circulation daily newspapers, one high-circulation weekly magazine and one web-based magazine specialising in health policy. We approached journalists with a high number of articles on pharmaceutical policy, including drug reimbursement.