

Sandoz launches oncology generic gefitinib in 13 EU countries

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Sandoz gefitinib indicated for adult patients with locally advanced or metastatic non-small cell lung cancer with activating mutations of EGFR-TK



Sandoz has announced the launch of the generic oncology medicine gefitinib indicated for adult patients with locally advanced or metastatic non-small cell lung cancer with activating mutations of EGFR-TK, which is recommended by ESMO as first-line treatment.

The medicine will become available immediately in 13 countries across Europe on the day the reference medicine loses market exclusivity. Sandoz will continue to expand to other countries through a phased rollout.

"Generics help expand access to medicine, sometimes as much as doubling the amount of patients treated without any increase in cost," said Francesco Balestrieri, ad interim CEO, Sandoz. "At Sandoz, we recognize that oncology still lags behind seven other therapeutic areas that already benefit from considerable generic competition. The day one launch of generic gefitinib, seen by oncology experts as an essential treatment, is part of a wider Sandoz effort to change that equation."

Sandoz is the #1 provider of generic oncology medicines worldwide with a broad portfolio of more than 50 products, ranging from chemotherapy, hormones and supportive care to biologics. Its growing oncology portfolio covers an industry-leading 75% of molecules on the WHO's global Oncology Essential Medicines List. It invests in research and development to improve the lives of cancer patients and liberate healthcare resources through increased access to high-quality, affordable medicines.