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Subject: Comment in Support of Blinatumomab for Inclusion in the WHO Model List of Essential Medicines for Children

Dear WHO Expert Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for the inclusion of blinatumomab on the WHO Model List of Essential Medicines for Children (EMLc). This inclusion would be a critical step toward improving access to this innovative therapy in low- and middle-income countries with limited treatment options. Including blinatumomab in the EMLc would align with the goals of the WHO Global Initiative for Childhood Cancer (GICC), and help reduce survival disparities by ensuring that essential, high-impact cancer medicines are made more widely available. Blinatumomab may not only provide a significant increase in cure rates globally, but also allow less toxic chemotherapy to be provided to these children in need. Not least the toxicities associated with conventional intensive chemotherapy is a major burden in low- and middle-income countries, both due to the acute life-threatening and costly toxicities such as severe infections, but also the burden of permanent sequelae. Thus, provision of access to Blinatumomab can not only improve cure rates but may even be cost-effective.

Sincerely



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