

GIRP's Corporate Social Responsibility Statement

2012

ABOUT GIRP

GIRP is the umbrella organisation of pharmaceutical full-line wholesalers in Europe. It represents the national associations of over 700 pharmaceutical full-line wholesalers serving 31 European countries, including major pan-European pharmaceutical full-line wholesaling companies. Through their network of operational facilities, they distribute medicines to over 170,000 retail pharmacies, hospitals and other health care professionals entitled to supply to the public. In the performance of their public service role, pharmaceutical full-line wholesalers absolutely guarantee the highest level of quality, integrity and excellence. GIRP members are the trusted supply chain partners in guaranteeing medicines' safety of manufacturers, pharmacists, healthcare professionals and, above all, patients.

Full-line wholesaling is the vital link in the effective delivery of healthcare in Europe. Full-line wholesalers not only deliver all medicines used in their geographical area of activity within a short time span, but also provide customised solutions to all the complex supply chain needs of manufacturers, pharmacist, payers, and patients. These services are of tremendous benefit to all partners in the supply chain and ultimately to the significant benefit to over 500 million of citizens right across Europe. As healthcare service providers, full-line wholesalers are central to the provision of public health. They furthermore play an important role in supporting healthcare budgets by offering a pre-financed supply of medicines to their customers.

The pharmaceutical full-line wholesale distribution sector recognises and acknowledges the need to act responsibly towards society and the communities in which it operates.

Therefore CSR is a fully integrated element of GIRP's strategy and operation.

Most importantly, it should be emphasised that the sectors primary role and major social responsibility is to contribute to their communities in which they operate in and beyond including developing countries and towards the less fortunate in society. The sector has made and continues to expand its efforts to ensure that patients have access to the medicines whenever, wherever needed.

GIRP promotes through its members the establishment, within the limits of the possible actions, long-term programmes to cover the following spectrum of societal activities:



1. Inclusiveness programmes – which are in place to ensure there is no prejudice and discrimination towards any person especially in respect of gender, age as well as culture and religion.
2. Education and training programmes in cooperation with universities, research centres and other bodies which are dedicated to providing safe and quality assured healthcare products and services to the wider population.
3. Environmental programmes which aim to ensure the pharmaceutical full-line wholesale distribution sector takes an active role in the protection of the environment in the areas where they have the greatest impact – packaging, waste, buildings and transportation.
4. Community based programmes which support healthcare professionals to better serve their local communities.
5. Health and safety programmes which are dedicated to ensuring operations wide health and safety practices are to the benefit of employees in the healthcare sector and ultimately patients. Support in third world countries by providing personal and professional expertise in the area of medicines distribution.

GIRP members CSR programmes frequently go beyond these main social responsibility areas and include initiatives which make the provision of medicines and healthcare services accessible and easier, which facilitate skills and know-how transfer and which support disease elimination and prevention programmes.

The vision for the pharmaceutical full-line wholesale distribution sectors' role in global healthcare is to facilitate the continuous and timely access to medicines that save and improve the lives of millions of people and, in partnership with governments and other organisations, to help improve access to them.

*GIRP
European Association of Pharmaceutical Full-line Wholesalers
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Contact us

Rue de la Loi 26
10th floor, box 14
B - 1040 Brussels

Phone: +32 2 777 99 77
Fax: +32 2 770 36 01

Email: girp@girp.org
Website: www.girp.eu

