INTRODUCTION

STUDY OBJECTIVE

To evaluate differences in physicians' understanding of biologic and biosimilar medicines in the U.S. & Europe.

METHODS

Physicians in the U.S. and in Europe completed a web-based survey.

RESULTS

“...two medicines have the same non-proprietary scientific name, does this suggest to you or imply that...
...the medicines are structurally identical?”

“...a patient could safely switch between the products during a course of treatment and expect the same result as treatment with only one of the products?”

53% European Physicians
67% U.S. Physicians

39% European Physicians
64% U.S. Physicians

CONCLUSIONS

A significant portion of physicians in the U.S. and Europe do not understand important differences between innovator biologics and biosimilars.

This lack of knowledge is particularly evident in the U.S.

Clinical trials of biosimilars for each medical indication are needed to define safety and efficacy and inform physicians and patients about the implications of switching medications.

Furthermore, educational initiatives should seek to educate physicians, patients, and pharmacists on the differences between biologics and biosimilars.

Unique names for each biosimilar medication is an essential step toward reducing physician confusion and risks to patients.