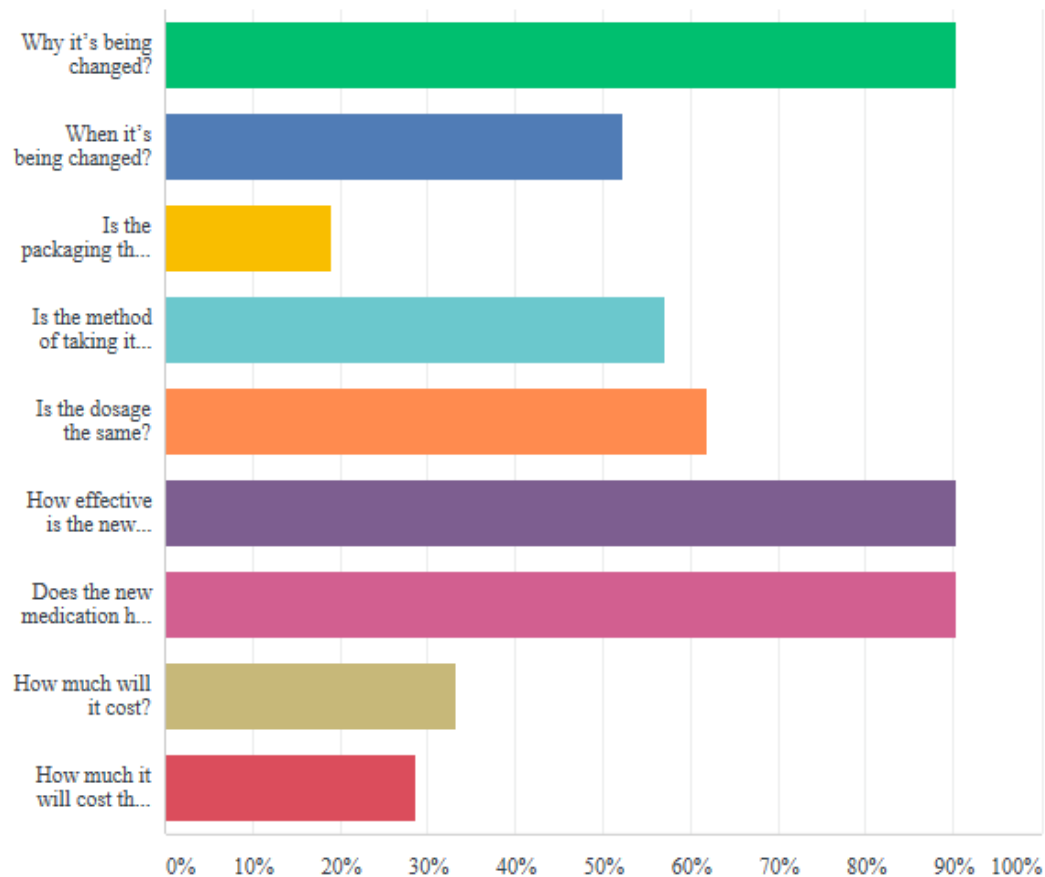


Patient and Public Biosimilar Medicines Survey

- Circulated to each of the 12 Healthwatch and posted on social media
- 21 responses
- You tube film explaining biosimilars:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cxn37P|Uh04>

Q1, What in general is important to you as a patient if/when your prescribed medication is changed?



Q1 continued

Answer Choices	Responses
Why it's being changed?	90.48%
How effective is the new medication?	90.48%
Does the new medication have any side effects?	90.48%
Is the dosage the same?	61.90%
Is the method of taking it the same?	57.14%
When it's being changed?	52.38%
How much will it cost?	33.33%
How much it will cost the provider?	28.57%
Is the packaging the same?	19.05%

“The packaging and different shape tablets does concern older people and those with sight problems and learning disabilities.”

“It would be helpful if patients were given a comparison between the two medications, i.e. the current one and the new one”

Q2, Do you have any objections or concerns about switching to a biosimilar medicine if it was proven to be as effective and would help save the NHS money?

ANSWER CHOICES	-	RESPONSES	-
- Yes		4.76%	1
- No		95.24%	20
TOTAL			21

Comments (5)

From my experience leading Patient Led Clinical Medicines projects (piloted on over 140 people) we've yet to come across anyone who would say yes to this question, providing they have been given all the relevant information, an opportunity to ask questions, and had time to think about it. (As per NICE Guidance on Medicines Adherence).

Providing we get the same benefits it doesn't make that much difference but things need to be explained clearly.

I would trust my GP to have studied the change.

Question to our Senate Council clinicians:

What would you say to a patient to reassure them about why their medicine is changing, is it as effective and are there any side effects?