



<p>Title</p> <p>Implement restrictions on over-the-counter pharmaceuticals</p>
<p>Submitted by:</p> <p>EurEau</p>
<p>Description of measure</p> <p>Implement restrictions on over-the-counter pharmaceuticals that are persistent and have an impact on the environment by making prescription by physicians compulsory. Reduce self-prescription of pharmaceuticals (particularly high-risk pharmaceuticals, such as antibiotics and persistent, bioaccumulative and toxic pharmaceuticals).</p>
<p>Activity:</p> <p>Not applicable</p>
<p>Pressure:</p> <p><i>Input of other substances (e.g. synthetic substances, non-synthetic substances, radionuclides) — diffuse sources, point sources, atmospheric deposition, acute events</i></p>
<p>State:</p> <p>Hazardous substances</p>
<p>Extent of impact:</p> <p>Restriction would limit emissions of persistent pharmaceuticals. Extent of impacts should be evaluated, not available at the moment.</p>
<p>Effectiveness of measure</p> <p>European policy towards micropollutants in surface water and groundwater should - as a priority - be based on the principles of 'Control at Source' and the 'Polluter-Pays', as enshrined in Art.191.2 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. In the case of pharmaceuticals, that are persistent and have an impact on the environment it is important that prescription by physicians should be compulsory. The correct use of the source control approach is also essential to protecting human health and achieving a truly circular economy.</p> <p>Effectiveness of restrictions should be evaluated. Information is not available at the moment.</p>
<p>Cost, cost-effectiveness of measure:</p> <p>NA. Should be evaluated.</p>
<p>Feasibility:</p> <p>Implementing restrictions on over-the-counter pharmaceuticals that are persistent and have an impact on the environment by making prescription by physicians compulsory targets action to the original source of pollution. Responsible use of pharmaceuticals is supported by this action.</p>
<p>Follow-up of measure:</p>
<p>Background material:</p>
<p>References</p>