February 28, 2020

To the Members of the Committee to Conduct an Interim Study Concerning the Costs of Prescription Drugs:

On behalf of Boehringer Ingelheim, we would like to submit the following information for the Committee's consideration at today's hearing.

Boehringer Ingelheim is a family owned, research-driven company committed to the discovery, development and manufacture of innovative medicines. In reviewing the materials provided to the public ahead of the hearing, we identified inaccurate information in the Pharmaceutical Care Management Association (PCMA)'s slide deck about our rare disease product, Ofev® (nintedanib) that we wish to clarify to the Committee.

Ofev® was first approved in 2014, for the treatment of patients living with idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis (IPF). IPF is a rare, debilitating and fatal lung disease. As a research driven company, BI continues to invest in the ongoing development of therapies to treat rare diseases and areas of unmet medical need. For example, in September of 2019, Ofev® received FDA approval as the first and only medicine to slow the rate of decline of pulmonary function in patients with systemic-sclerosis-associated interstitial lung disease (SSc-ILD).

On slide 9 of the PCMA presentation, Ofev® is included under the title of "Commonly Used…" products. As noted above, Ofev® is a rare disease product, with two orphan indications and is utilized in a very small and targeted patient population across the entire US. For 2019, this represented less than 10,000 patients across the US treated with Ofev®. The slide also includes other inaccuracies, for example, the wholesale price/unit does not account for dosing differences across products. Therefore, a comparison of unit price does not reflect a true comparison across products.

We thank the Committee for allowing us the opportunity provide this more detailed analysis of the data presented.

Sincerely,

Cheyanne K. Cook
Director of State Government Affairs
Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals