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GSK leads Access to Medicine Index 2016

- Index describes GSK as ‘the most access-oriented company’

GSK has today been ranked first in the Access to Medicine Index for the fifth consecutive time, taking a leadership position in research & development; pricing, manufacturing and distribution; and product donations.

The Index, which recognises GSK for its clear access to medicines strategy and company-wide ownership, is an independent measure of the top 20 pharmaceutical companies' efforts to improve access to healthcare in developing countries. GSK has topped the Index, which ranks individual companies on their performance across seven categories, each time since its launch in 2008.

Commenting on the 2016 Index, GSK CEO Sir Andrew Witty said:

“For the last decade, our commitments to widening access to healthcare have been recognised by the Access to Medicine Index. This is testament to everyone at GSK, and our partners, who strive every day to research, develop and deliver innovative medicines and vaccines. These efforts mean that more children in the poorest countries are being immunised against deadly diseases; more patients can receive the HIV and asthma medicines they need; and essential healthcare is reaching the remotest communities.

“The fundamental changes we have made to our business model enable us to make our products as available and affordable as possible while generating the returns we need to sustain our business and invest in research. But we cannot stand still. Increasing access is a complex and ongoing challenge, which is reflected in this year’s Index being more demanding than ever. As a business, and an industry, we must push ourselves to go further and faster in strengthening access to healthcare. This is a challenge that we are ready and willing to take on.”

Since the last Index in 2014, GSK has taken further steps to widen access, including:

- Expanding our graduated approach to patents and intellectual property to widen access to medicines in the world’s poorest countries.
- Our malaria candidate vaccine received a positive scientific opinion from European regulators for use in the prevention of malaria in young children in sub-Saharan Africa.
- In an effort to widen access to dolutegravir – our newest HIV medicine – our HIV business ViiV Healthcare extended its existing licence agreement for the adult formulation of dolutegravir with the Medicine Patent Pool to cover all remaining lower middle-income countries, meaning that an additional 270,000 people are covered by the licence which includes more than 94% of adults living with HIV in the developing world.
- Advancing our Africa Open Lab to support research into non-communicable diseases and collaborating with African universities to build skills and capabilities.
- Introducing equitable pricing strategies for more products, covering a broad range of diseases including HIV/AIDS, lower respiratory diseases, asthma and pertussis.
- Reaching 1.3 million children in some of the world’s poorest countries through our Save the Children partnership. This includes treating children for malaria, pneumonia and diarrhoea; and reaching children with vaccines.



- Advancing research into potential new antibiotics and signing up to industry-wide commitments to reduce the development of antimicrobial resistance, invest in R&D and improve access to antibiotics.

These initiatives build on deep-rooted changes we have made to our business model to drive sustainable access and innovation; to encourage collaborative research into diseases that disproportionately affect developing countries; to support communities to strengthen their health systems; and form partnerships with governments, NGOs and other companies to amplify our efforts.

The 2016 Index described GSK as the most access-oriented company. GSK achieved an improved score on the 2014 Index and was ranked among the top three in all but one of the seven categories. The Index particularly recognised our efforts to implement equitable pricing strategies for more medicines and our long-standing commitment to developing products and technologies for the benefit of global health. The Index also recognised that we have significantly changed our commercial model to lead the industry in modernising the way we sell and market our medicines. We have stopped paying doctors to speak on our behalf and our representatives no longer have individual sales targets.

Since our submission for the 2016 Index was filed, we have taken further steps to strengthen access to medicines and vaccines. These include offering to extend our lowest price for pneumococcal vaccines to internationally recognised civil society organisations who are funding and delivering immunisation programmes for refugee communities where governments are unable to do so.

Notes to Editors:

About the Access to Medicines Index:

- The Access to Medicine Index is a major initiative of the Access to Medicine Foundation, an international not-for-profit organisation, established in 2004 and dedicated to improving access to medicines. The Index provides an overall ranking of 20 pharmaceutical companies who are measured across a range of strategic and technical areas.
- The seven technical areas on which the 2016 Index ranks pharmaceutical companies are: general access to medicines management; market influence and compliance; research and development; pricing, manufacturing and distribution; patents and licensing; capacity building; product donations.
- The Index – the first of which was published in 2008, then again in 2010, 2012 and 2014 – also analyses industry trends in commitments, transparency, performance and innovation.



GSK – one of the world’s leading research-based pharmaceutical and healthcare companies – is committed to improving the quality of human life by enabling people to do more, feel better and live longer. For further information please visit www.gsk.com.

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Cautionary statement regarding forward-looking statements

GSK cautions investors that any forward-looking statements or projections made by GSK, including those made in this announcement, are subject to risks and uncertainties that may cause actual results to differ materially from those projected. Such factors include, but are not limited to, those described under Item 3.D 'Risk factors' in the company's Annual Report on Form 20-F for 2015.

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