Abstract: Access to medicines – or the lack thereof – is no longer a concern only for low- and middle-income countries. It is now regularly a topic of debate in high-income countries, including in the Netherlands. The Dutch Minister of Health has, for example, announced that it is time to “change the rules of the game” to tackle what he called “absurd” medicines pricing. He also clashed with Novartis after the pharma company increased, by fivefold, the price of one of its cancer medicines. Pharmaceutical Accountability (a Dutch NGO) was recently established specifically with the view to address the issue of unreasonably high medicine prices. In a different case it requested the Dutch Authority for Consumers & Markets to examine whether the price hike of a medicine (from €306 to €153,000 pppy) constitutes an abuse of the pharma company Leadiant’s dominant market position. Jennifer is a member of the Advisory Council of Pharmaceutical Accountability.

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