

A Multi Stakeholder approach to Pharmaceuticals in the environment: Working together towards effective solutions

PharmaSwap

Results of a pilot to reduce medication wastage

Tuesday 12 November 2019

Who are behind PharmaSwap?

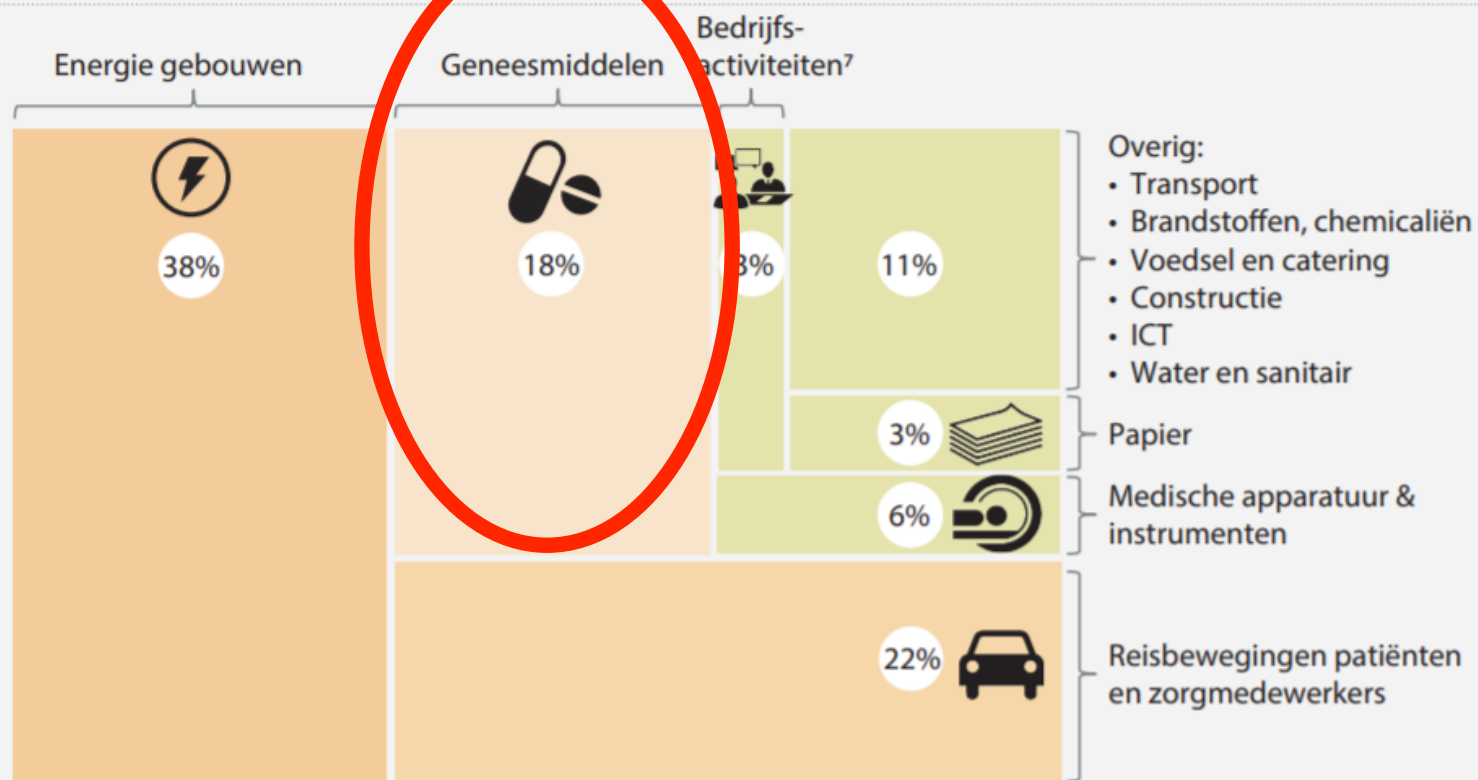
- Dutch Pharmacists:
 - Jelmer Faber, BovenIJ hospital @Amsterdam
 - Piter Oosterhof, OLVG hospital @Amsterdam
- Founding partnership: FLOWW2 Healthcare:
 - Lieke van Kerkhoven, co-founder



7% of total CO₂ emissions in the Netherlands come from healthcare sector

Aandeel in totale CO₂-voetafdruk gezondheidszorg

[Percentage; 100%=11 Mton CO₂]

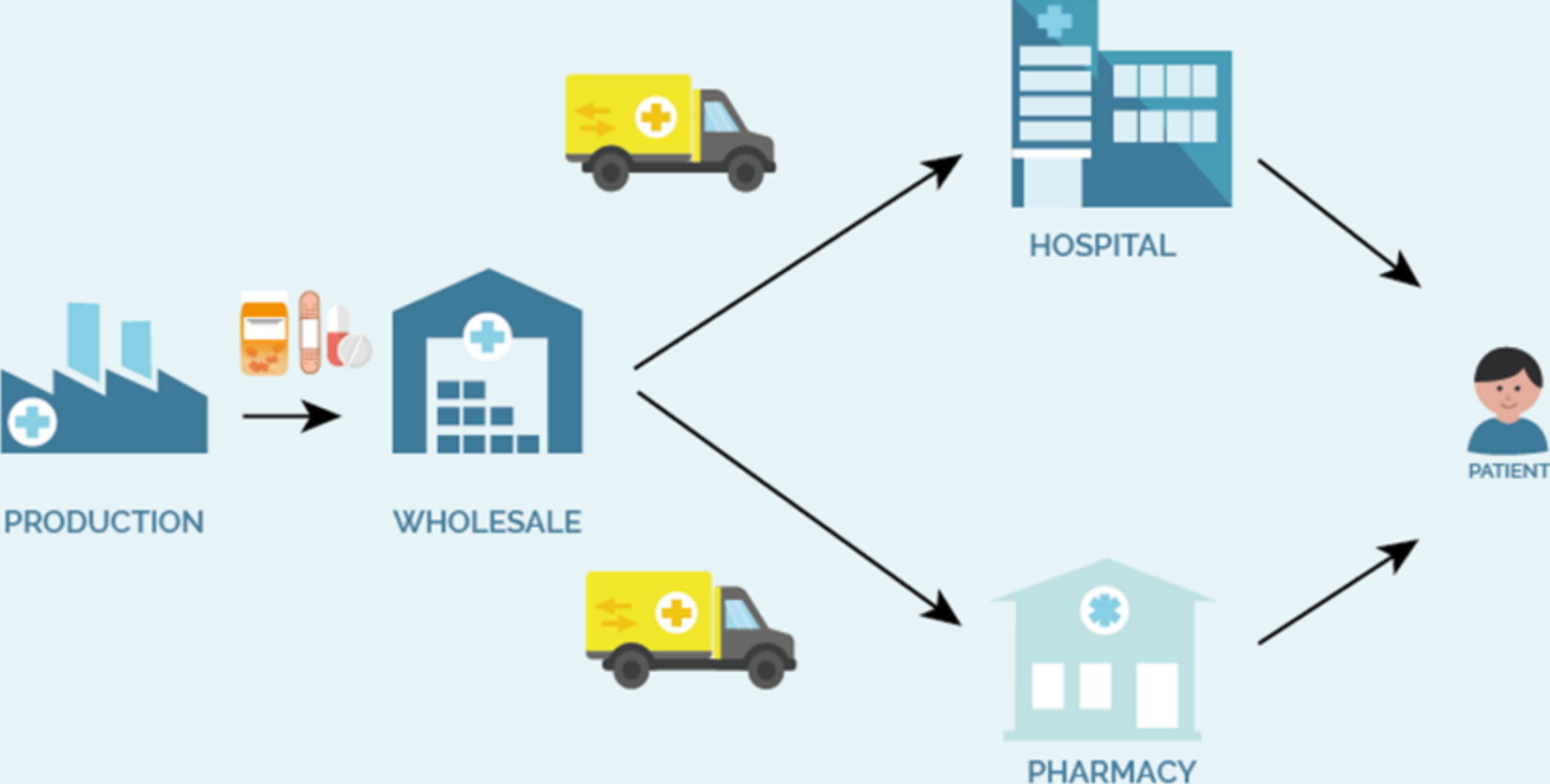


Financial impact wastage of medicines

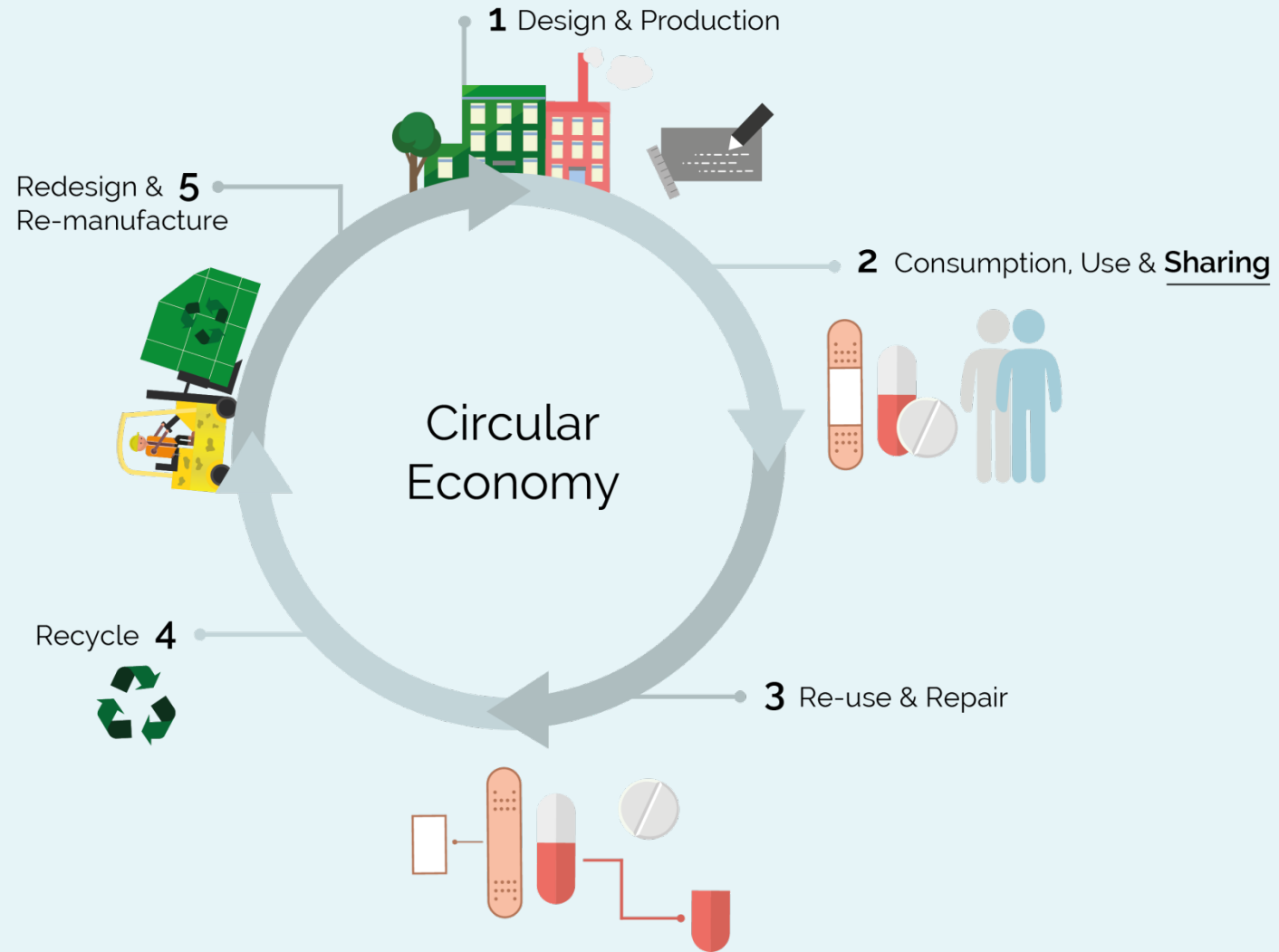
The background features a light blue gradient with several stylized pills and capsules scattered across it. There are red and white capsules, and grey and white round tablets. The pills are positioned at various angles and sizes, creating a sense of movement or falling. The top and bottom of the slide have horizontal bars in shades of green, blue, and red.

- In total, around **4500** packs of generic medicines are destroyed per day. This amounts to the destruction of **1.6 million** packages per year.
- Scientific research (Bekker et al) At least **100** million in medicines per year are destroyed, 40% of which can be prevented.
- (Scientific) research mainly focuses on drug spillage at patients
- **Wastage within pharmaceutical supply chain is unknown**

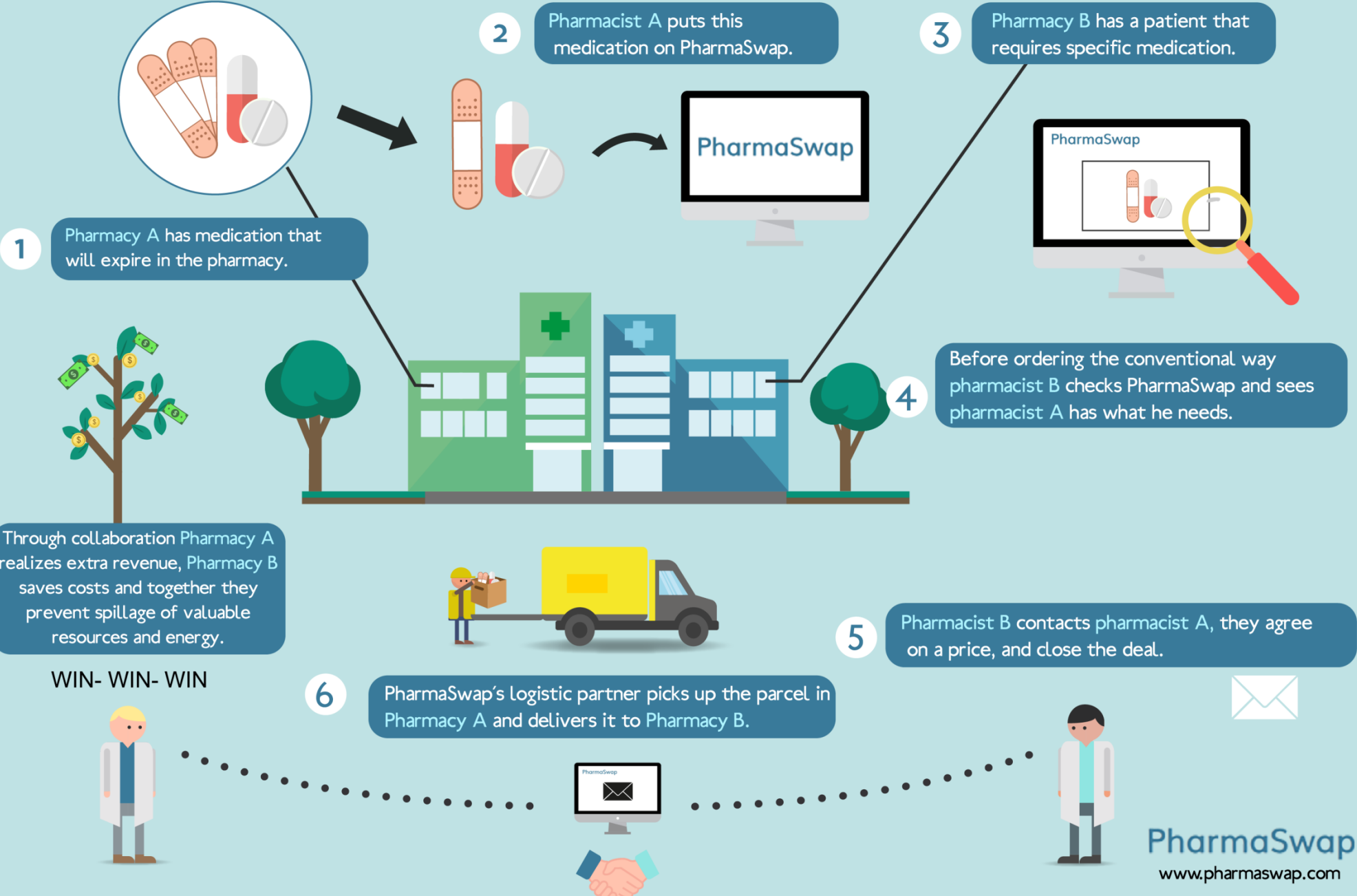
Pharmaceutical supply chain



Circular economy for pharmacies



PHARMASWAP: HOW DOES IT WORK?



Conditions

Safety and hygiene are always top priority

- ✓ Certified pharmacists only
- ✓ Only unopened and undamaged packages
- ✓ Packages were always stored under controlled and monitored conditions in pharmacy
- ✓ Buying pharmacist must have a patients' recipe ready, to guarantee bought goods are used for patient care directly
- ✓ No products that require cooling, or opiates
- ✓ Transportation of packages after a transaction by PharmaSwap logistics partner obligatory



Results:

In 2019 we did a pilot of a few months. The results:

20 participating pharmacists

68 packaging not destroyed, but handed over.

€54.000 saved on purchasing value!

We won first prize!

Most sustainable healthcare professionals

Jury



Audience



Scalability and dreams

- 2.000 pharmacies in the Netherlands
- European potential with universal issues shortages and wastage
- Platform and business model are built to accommodate large numbers



OUR AIM:

- ✓ Reduce costs
- ✓ Create circular and sustainable pharmacies



“To not act upon spillage in pharmacies, is to wilfully destroy capital investments. By using PharmaSwap we can now optimize usage of goods and capacity, hence increase return on investments.”

