



# Orphan Drug Pipeline Final Report

*Prepared for LIF*

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*IQVIA ID: 3240122*

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- + **Introduction**
- + IQVIA assessment of the orphan drug pipeline
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# LIF has asked IQVIA to validate TLVs estimation of the orphan drug pipeline



This report provides LIF with an assessment of the orphan drug pipeline, in order to prepare for further dialogue around TLVs principles and methods to let patient numbers and sales volumes to a higher extent influence what cost can be accepted for innovative drugs

## RESEARCH OBJECTIVE

Estimate the number of orphan drugs that may enter the Swedish market in the next 10 years – divided into the four categories defined by TLV – to validate TLVs estimations in appendix 6 of TLVs suggested methods published December 2024\*

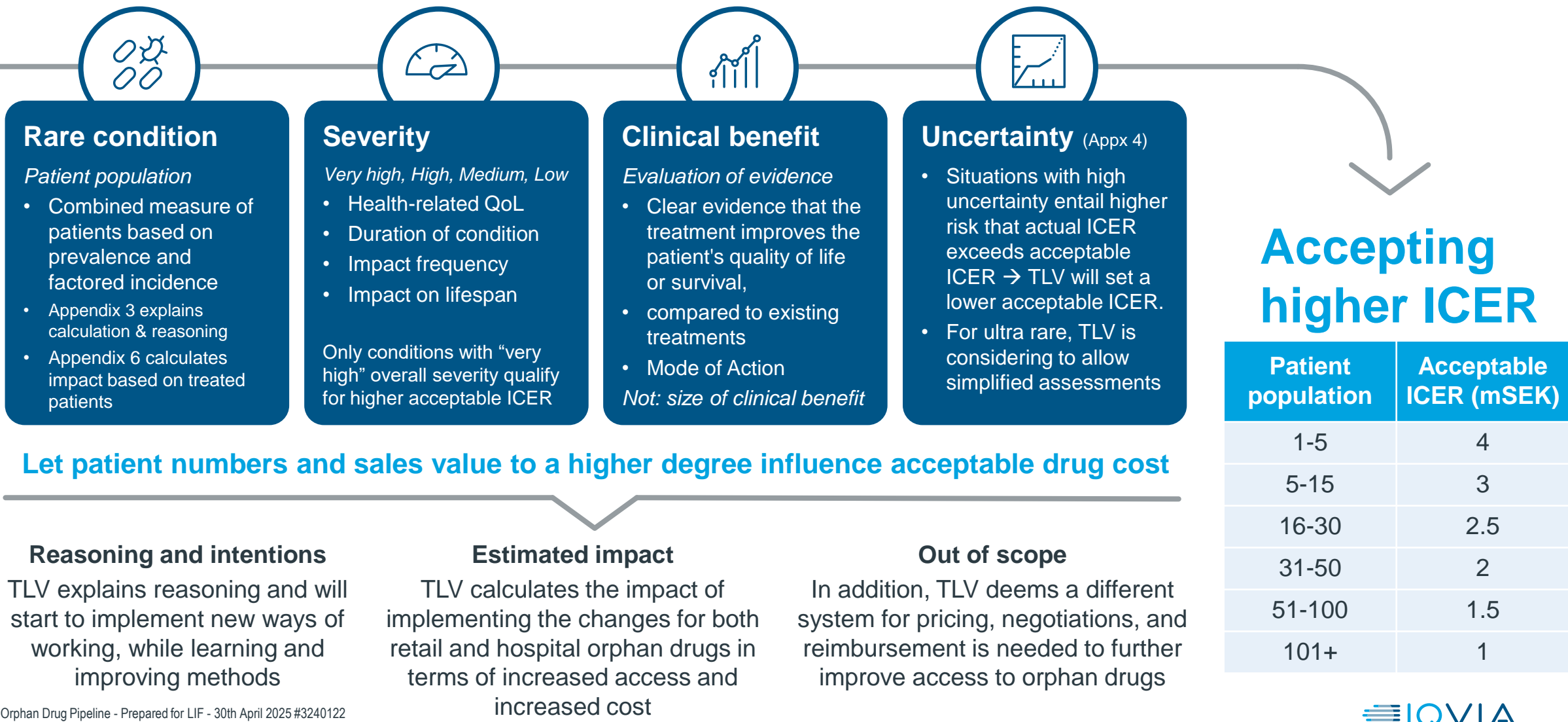
Faktor		Typ- läkemedel 1 "ovanlig cancer"	Typ- läkemedel 2 "genterapi"	Typ- läkemedel 3 "långvarig kontinuerlig behandling."	Typ- läkemedel 4 "långvarig kontinuerlig behandling."
) Antal lanserade läkemedel per år	Slump	Likformig:	Likformig:	Likformig:	Likformig:
		Bas: 0-3	Bas: 0-3	Bas: 0-5	Bas: 0-3
		Hög: 0-6	Hög: 0-4	Hög: 0-7	Hög: 0-5
		Låg: 0-1	Låg: 0-2	Låg: 0-3	Låg: 0-1

\*Source: Praktiska förutsättningar för stärkt tillgång till läkemedel vid sällsynta hälsotillstånd: [www.tlv.se/download/slutrapport.pdf](http://www.tlv.se/download/slutrapport.pdf)

## METHODOLOGY

- IQVIA Pipeline Link collects information on new active substances that are under development and may be launched over the next 10 years.
- IQVIA Nordics has analyzed the products in the Pipeline Link, added desk research to assess prevalence, and applied fact-based assumptions
- **Outcome: 216 orphan drugs are estimated to seek reimbursement in Sweden over the next 10 years**

# End 2024, TLV published how it will work on accepting a higher ICER to improve access to orphan drugs in some situations



# TLV has defined four typical drugs for rare disease and assessed the impact of the new procedures on access & cost

TLV definitions, assumptions and outcomes

Appendix 6  TLV definitions, assumptions, simulations	TLV definitions and impact	Scenario	Type 1 – Orphan oncology	Type 2 – Gene therapy	Type 3 – Ultra Rare	Type 4 – Rare	TLV Total
	Definition by TLV		Short treatment duration, rare cancer	Single administration gene therapy, rare condition	Long-term treatment 1 – 30 pts per year	Long-term treatment 31 – 100 pts per year	
	Nr of launched products in 10 years (multiplying TLV estimations per year with 10)	High	30	20	35	25	110
		Base	15	15	25	15	70
		Low	5	10	15	5	35
	Prevalence intervals		1 - 50	5 - 25	1 - 30	31 - 100	
	QALY gain intervals		0,1 - 2	1 - 8	1 - 4	1 - 4	
TLV outcomes	Cost increase over 10 years, in billion SEK	Base	1,07	2,14	1,27	1,83	6,31 billion SEK
	Access (i.e. reimbursement) increase 10 years in % points	Same across scenarios	25 (from 71 % to 96 %)	39 (from 46 % to 85 %)	38 (from 26 % to 64 %)	27 (from 73% to 100%)	"between 29-39" according to §6.1.1



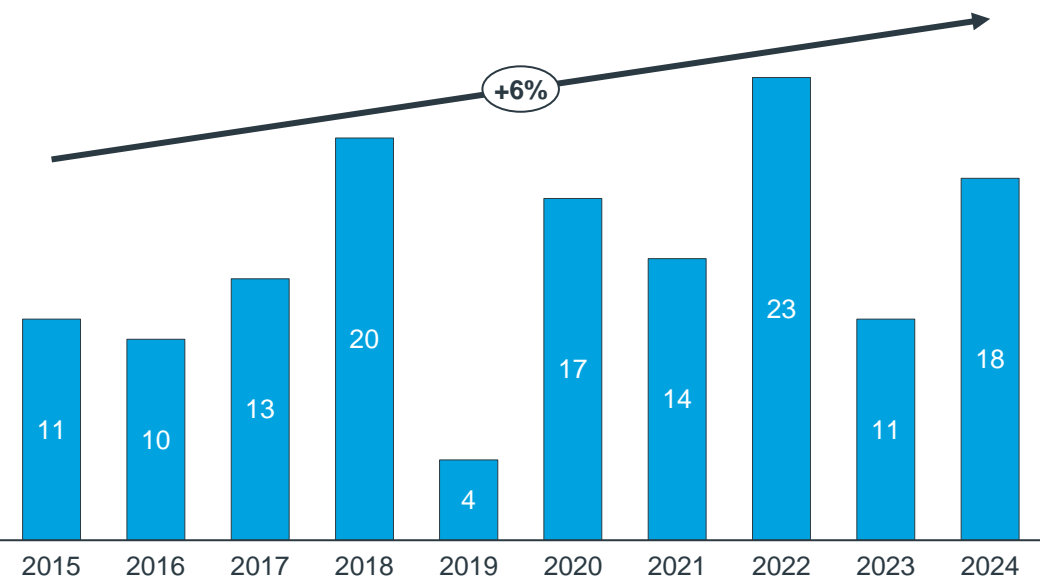
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# EMA orphan drug approvals have grown at a 6% CAGR over the past decade and are expected to keep rising

Orphan drugs approved and in development

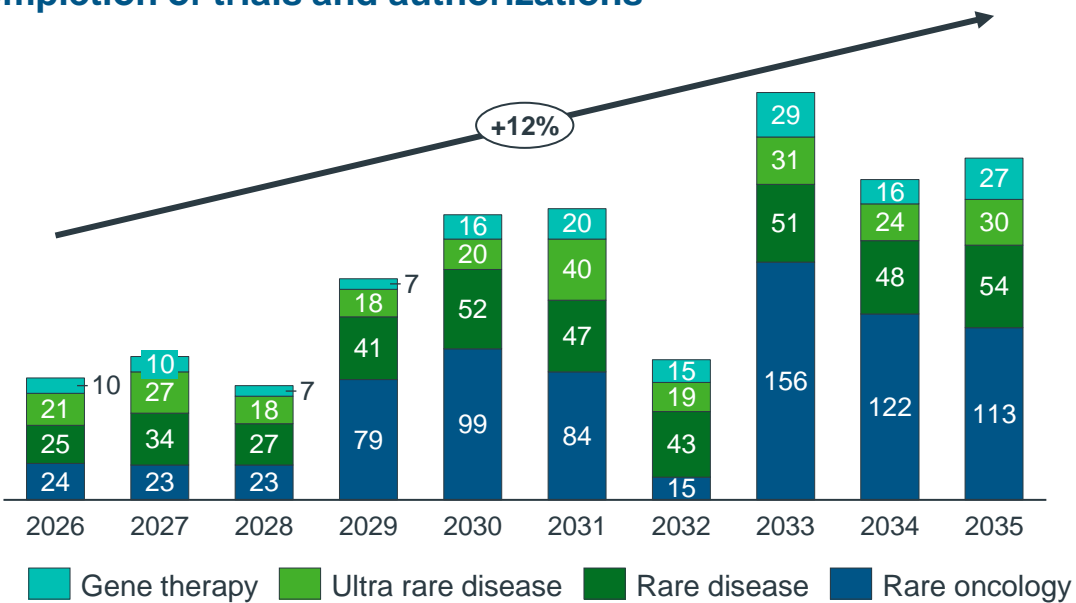
141 EMA approved orphan drugs\* (NAS) in the past 10 years



EMA has approved on average 14 New Active Substances (NAS) with orphan designation per year in the past decade. Activity was lower in general in 2019 due to the move of EMA to Amsterdam

Source: EMA orphan NAS drug authorizations 2015-2024 – database accessed April 2025. [Annual Report 2019](#)  
\*141 out of 537 (26%) total approved NAS were orphan drugs

1565 NAS for rare diseases\* are under development and expected across the EU per expected launch year, assuming completion of trials and authorizations

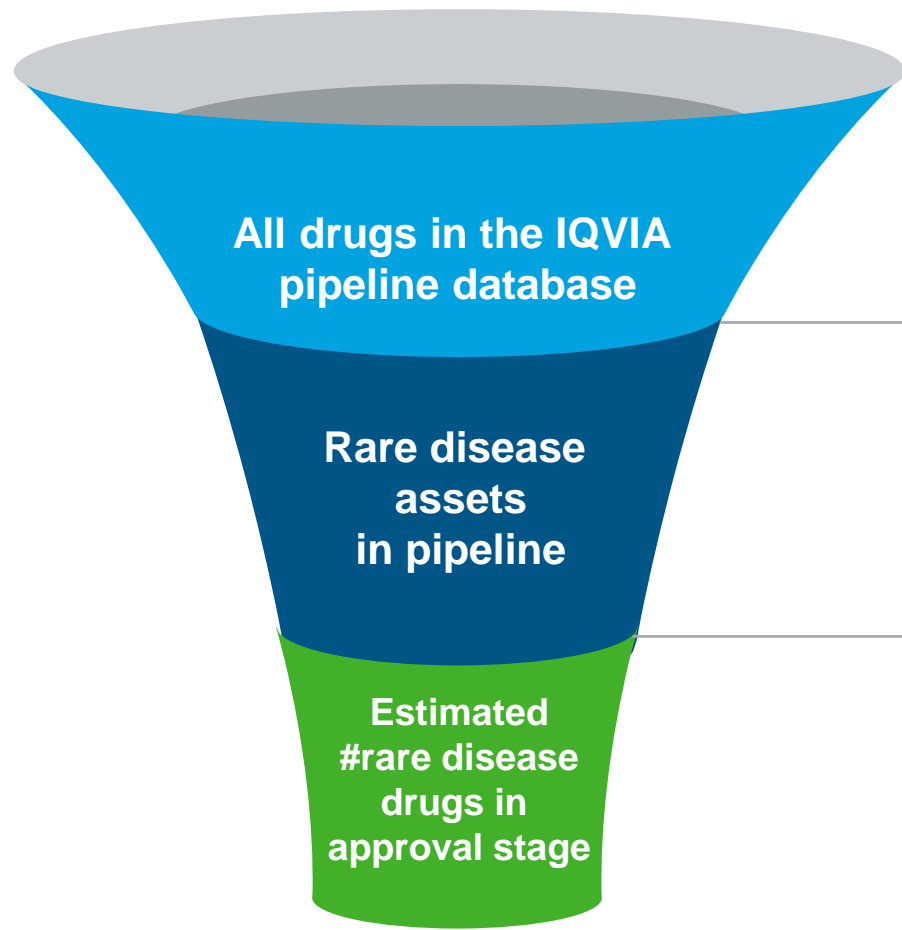


IQVIA Pipeline Link includes new active substances under development and their expected launch year based on current research phase. Since it does not consider the probability of trial success, the number of launched products will be much smaller. IQVIA Nordics has categorized the assets based on the expected indication.

Source: IQVIA Pipeline Link  
\*1565 out of 6872 (23%) drugs under development are for rare diseases

# Analysis and categorization of the Pipeline Link resulted in an estimation of orphan drugs to apply in Sweden the next 10 years

## Methodology



### **IQVIA pipeline drugs**

- Includes all New Active Substances under development in the IQVIA pipeline data estimated to seek approval over the next 10 years in Sweden, assuming 100% success in trial and market authorization

### **Categorization of rare & manual exclusion of non-rare**

- Gene therapies were flagged to stay included
- Orphan drug designations by EMA and FDA were considered, desk research conducted and pipeline assets with a non-rare or non-oncology indication excluded
- For oncology assets, a share of orphan (29%<sup>1</sup>) was applied based on EMA approvals for the latest 5 years

### **Final estimated number of rare disease drugs seeking for approval**

- To estimate the number of assets for rare diseases in the 10-year pipeline that will potentially apply for approval and reimbursement in Sweden, the average success rates per stage in the drug development process were applied



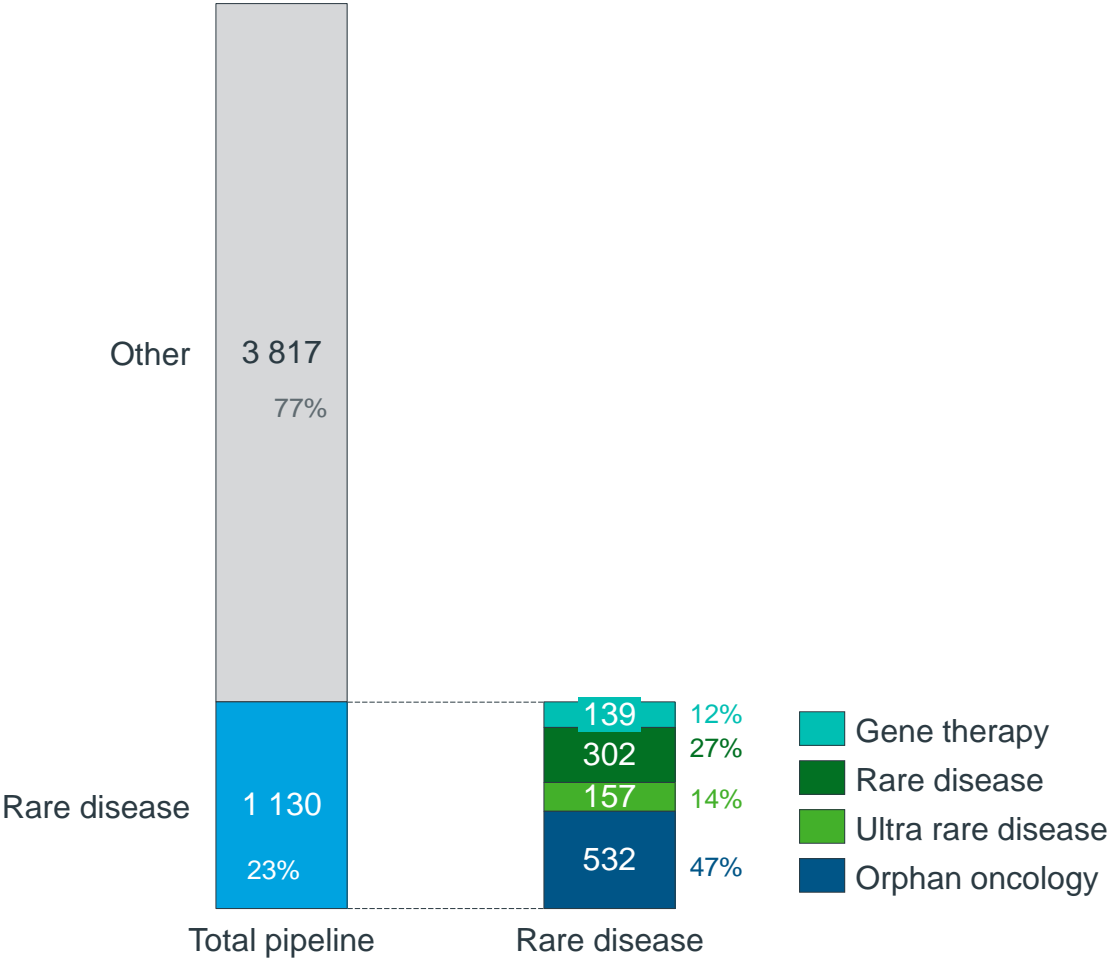
# IQVIA classified the assets for rare diseases in the Pipeline Link data into four categories to align with TLVs typical drug types

## *IQVIA rare disease categories and research caveats*

Drug category*	IQVIA definition	Research caveats	Source
<b>Orphan oncology</b>	IQVIA assumes that 29% of total oncology drugs in the IQVIA Pipeline Link data are orphan oncology. This assumption is based on EMA approvals for new active substances in oncology over the last 5 years (2020-2025), out of which the share of orphan oncology was calculated, equalling 29%.	It is estimated that the oncology drugs in the 10-year pipeline will have the same share of orphan oncology as the historical data. This assumption was applied due to the complexity of assessing whether oncology assets could get orphan designations	<a href="#">EMA approvals 2020-2025</a>
<b>Rare disease (EMA definition)</b>	Assets targeting a rare condition with prevalence of maximum 5 in 10,000** (reflecting ~5300 patients in Sweden), and at least 100 patients in Sweden	The desk research on prevalence of rare diseases is not always specific to Sweden in which case prevalence has been calculated by using any available prevalence rate applied to the Swedish population.	Desk research on prevalence rates of the expected indications of the assets in the Pipeline Link
<b>Ultra-rare disease (type 3 &amp; 4 TLV)</b>	Assets targeting a rare condition with a prevalence of fewer than 100 patients in Sweden (reflecting ~1 in 1M in Sweden), to accommodate TLVs drug types.	As above for rare disease  Note references to ultra-rare being defined as 200 patients in Sweden <sup>1</sup> , or 1 in 50,000 in Europe	Desk research on prevalence rates of the expected indications of the assets in the Pipeline Link
<b>Gene therapy</b>	Assets in development classified in the Pipeline Link as gene therapies.	No caveats	IQVIA Pipeline Link

# Pipeline assets in IQVIA Pipeline Link were analyzed and classified based on indication to identify those for rare diseases

## Total versus rare disease pipeline in Sweden



### 4 947 drugs in Pipeline Link

- Based on IQVIA Pipeline Link, there are in total 4 947 assets (NAS) under development in the 10-year pipeline for Sweden

### 1 130 rare disease drugs in pipeline

- The inclusion and exclusion criteria were applied on the total pipeline drugs to include only assets for rare diseases
- 1 130 assets for rare diseases were identified

### The rare diseases drugs in pipeline were further classified according to their indication into:

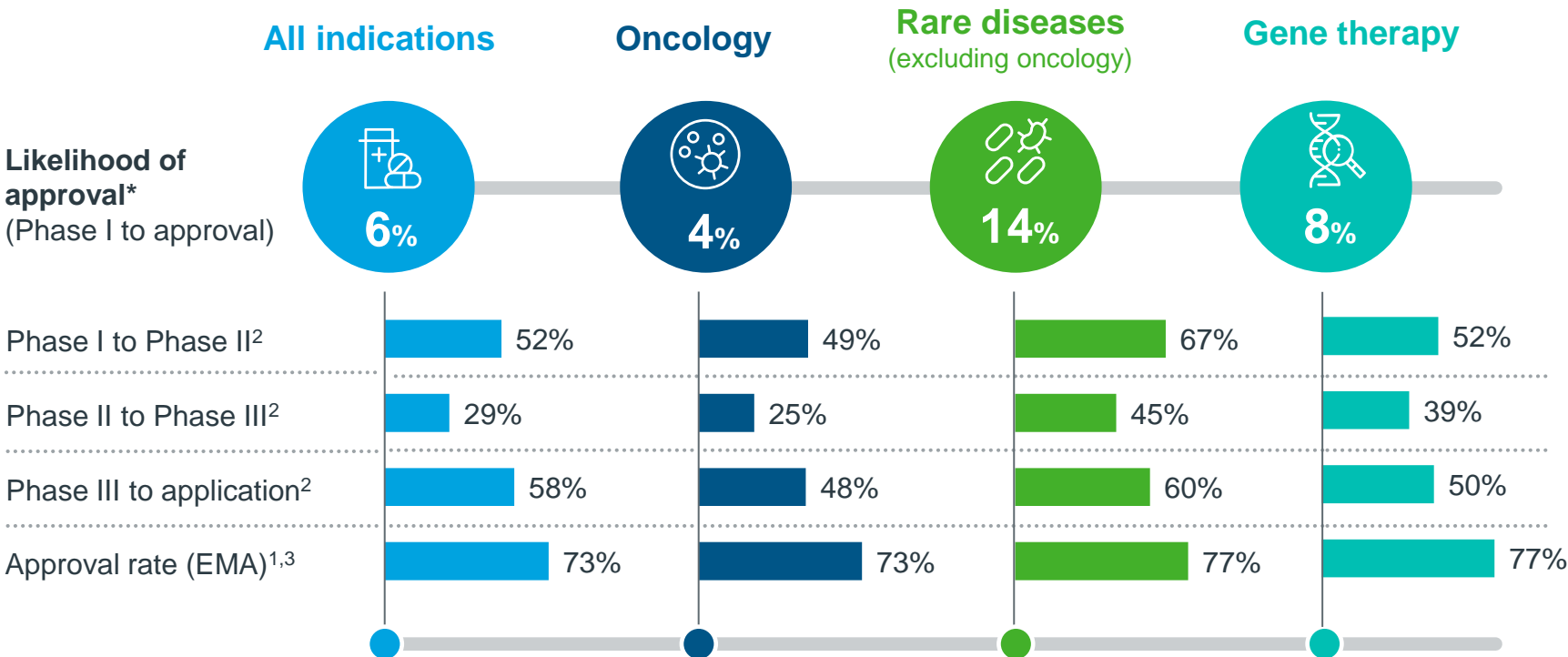
- 139 Gene therapy drugs
- 302 Rare disease drugs (>100 patients in Sweden)
- 157 Ultra rare disease drugs (<100 patients in Sweden)
- 532 Orphan oncology drugs (the 29%<sup>1</sup> share of orphan oncology within total oncology drugs was applied)

Sources: IQVIA Pipeline Link; 1) EMA authorizations 2020-2025

# Research shows rare disease assets have a higher phase I to approval success rate than drugs overall

*Phase II to phase III has the lowest success rate across all disease categories*

Average success rate for each phase of drug development:



The differences in success rates can have multiple causes. Rare diseases frequently have a targeted, well-defined patient population. In contrast, higher prevalence diseases, where large heterogeneous patient populations will be treated, likely entail more trial complexity.

The scientific complexity and more competitive dynamics for oncology products can have adverse impact on the success rates for oncology therapies.

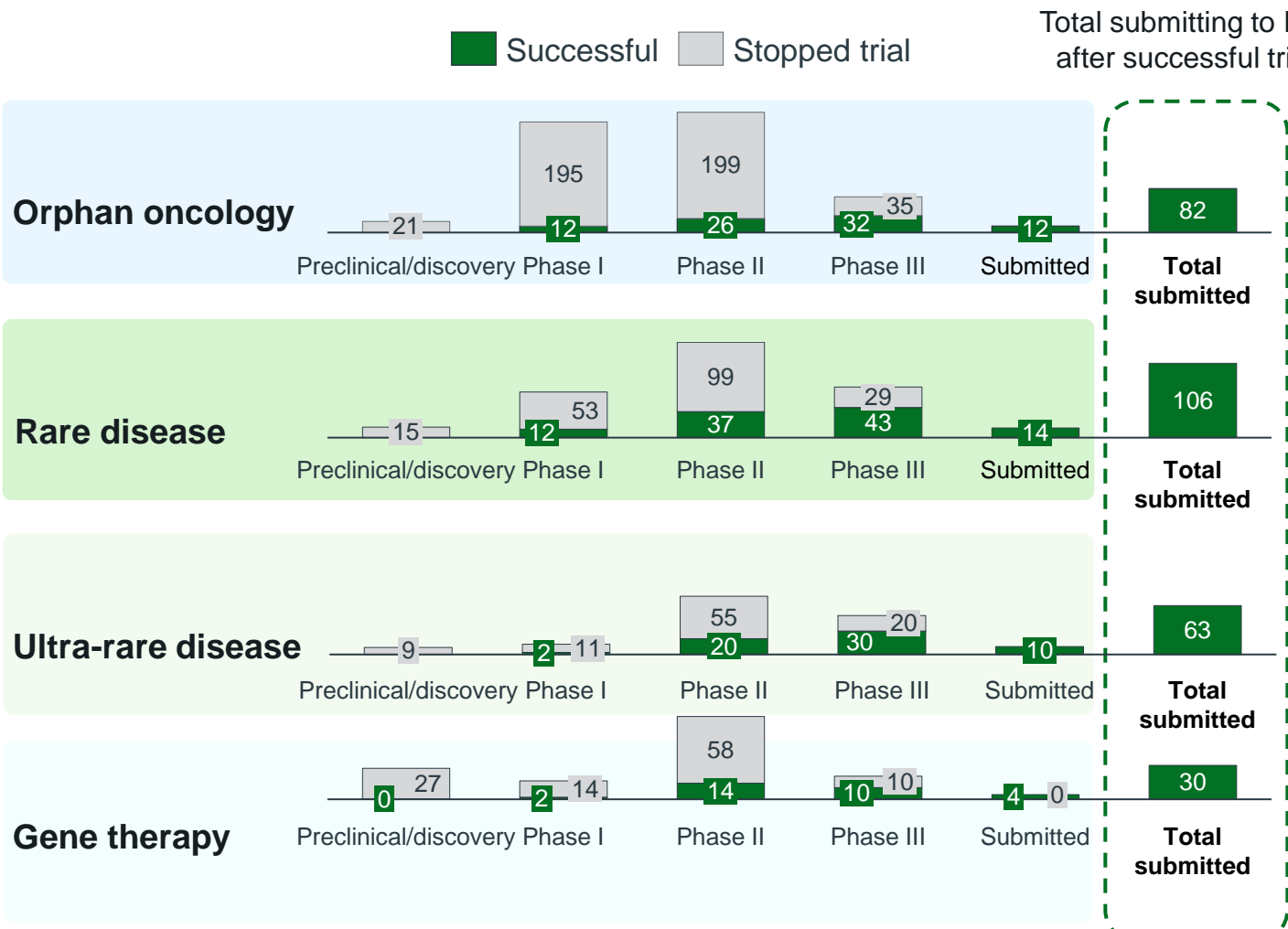
Avg. success rate from discovery to approval ~0,01%

Sources: 1) EMA authorizations 2020-2025;  
2) Clinical Development Success Rates and Contributing Factors (2011-2020), BIO report ([ClinicalDevelopmentSuccessRates2011\\_2020.pdf](#));  
3) Assessing Availability of New Drugs in Europe, Japan, and the U.S., Dec. 2024, IQVIA Institute ([iqvia-institute-availability-of-new-drugs-11-24-forweb.pdf](#))

\*Likelihood of approval is the product of the success rate of the stages of drug development  
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# Applying trial success rates, 281 orphan drugs are estimated to seek approval at EMA in the next 10 years

Orphan drugs by research phase, to which average success rates are applied



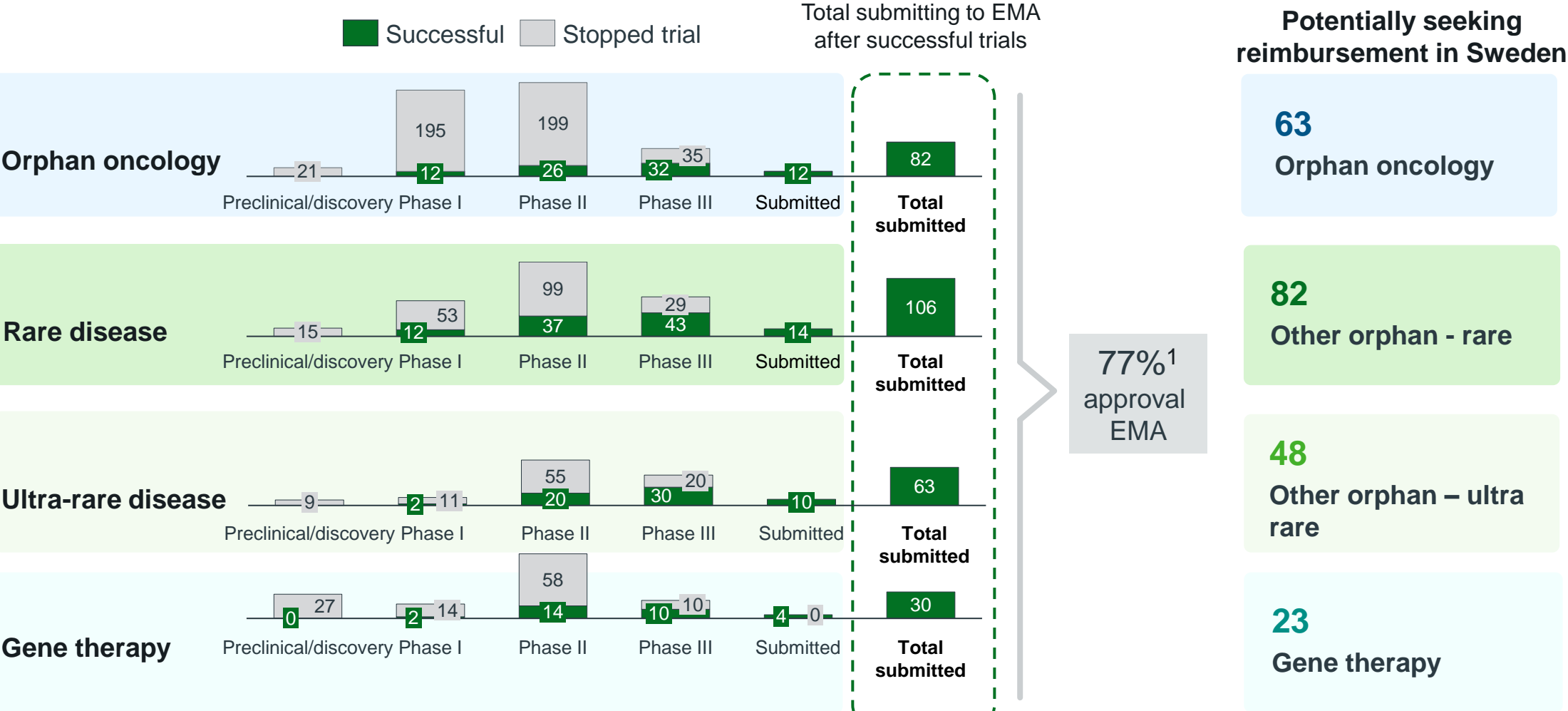
281 assets are expected to seek approval at EMA after successful trials

77%<sup>1</sup> of orphan and oncology drugs have gained EMA authorization 2020-2025

Sources: IQVIA Pipeline Link; Clinical Development Success Rates and Contributing Factors (2011-2020), BIO report ([ClinicalDevelopmentSuccessRates2011\\_2020.pdf](#)); 1) EMA authorizations 2020-2025

# At an approval rate of 77%, in total 216 orphan drugs are expected to apply for reimbursement in Sweden

Orphan drugs by research phase, and adding success rates to EMA approval



Sources: IQVIA Pipeline Link; Clinical Development Success Rates and Contributing Factors (2011-2020), BIO report ([ClinicalDevelopmentSuccessRates2011\\_2020.pdf](#)); 1) EMA authorizations 2020-2025 show 77% approval rates



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# TLV scenarios are quite aligned with IQVIA estimates for the types in scope, while 82 orphan drugs are not eligible for higher ICER

*IQVIA orphan oncology class includes a wider range than TLV rare cancer class*

Estimated number of launches potentially seeking for reimbursement in Sweden over the next 10 years:

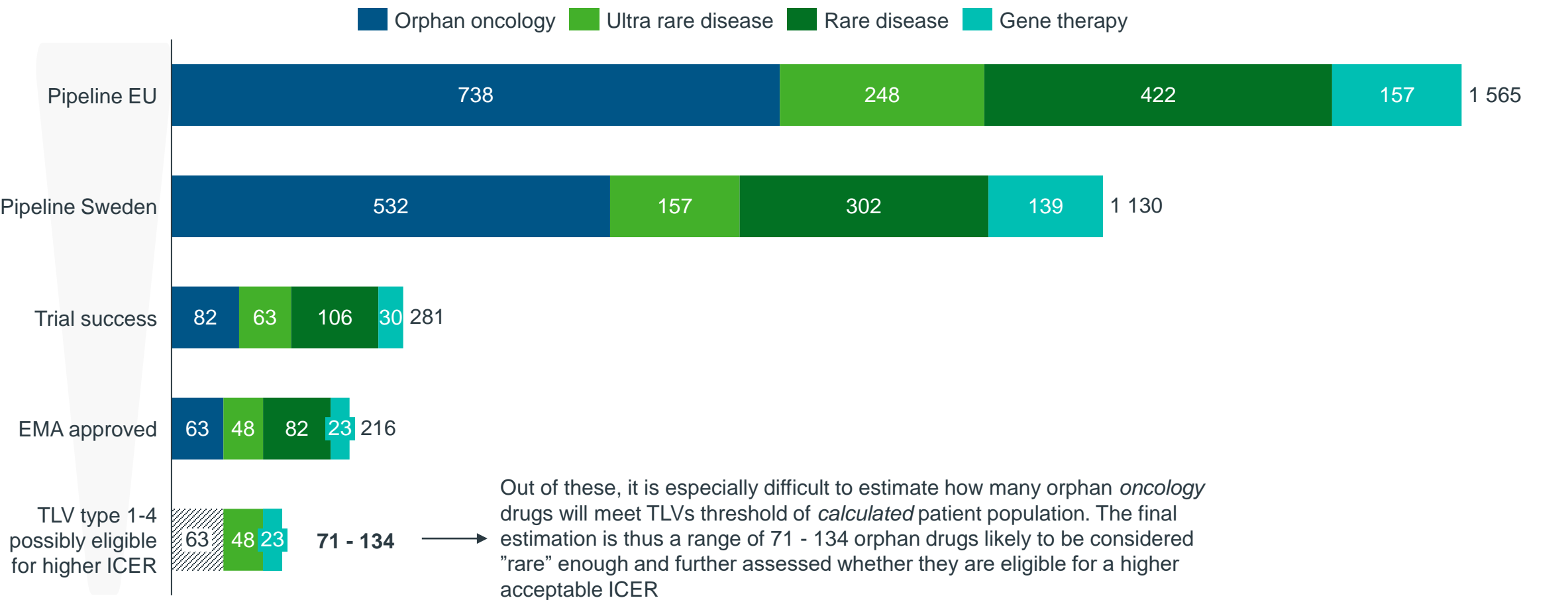
TLV Scenarios*	TLV Type 1 drugs	IQVIA Orphan oncology	TLV Type 2 drugs	IQVIA Gene therapy	TLV Type 3 + 4 drugs	IQVIA Ultra-rare	TLV total	IQVIA total	IQVIA Rare disease
High	30	63	20	23	60	48	110	134	82
Base case	15		15		40		70		
Low	5		10		20		35		

TLV distributes drugs into four types, which can be compared to IQVIA's categories. Note however differences in classification methodologies as described below.

- **TLV type 1** is defined to treat a rare cancer that is given for a short period of time. TLV historically sees 1-50 patients in Sweden. The **IQVIA orphan oncology** category includes assets labelled according to the EMA classification for orphan oncology, hence **IQVIAs higher estimated number of launches than TLV**.
- **TLV type 2** is defined as a gene therapy for a rare health condition that is given on one occasion, independent of patient numbers treated. It is equivalent to **IQVIA gene therapy** category. **The pipeline suggests that TLVs high case scenario is most appropriate.**
- **TLV type 3** is defined as a long-term, continuous treatment for a rare health condition *affecting* up to 30 patients in Sweden. **TLV type 4** is defined to *affect* 31–100 patients with a rare condition in Sweden. TLVs type 3 + 4 estimations can be compared to **IQVIA ultra-rare disease therapy** class, which includes drugs for indications with a *prevalence* of fewer than 100 patients in Sweden. Note that affected patients and prevalence can deviate and **TLVs base case scenario may be appropriate.**
- IQVIA includes **rare disease drugs** as an additional category, with a prevalence of 100 to ~5300 patients in Sweden, based on the EMA orphan drug designation. TLV would NOT grant these drugs a higher ICER, unless **their calculated population could result in fewer than 100 patients**. It is unclear from the report if TLV could consider drugs with an *affected* population of less than 100 in cases where prevalence of the condition is more than 100.

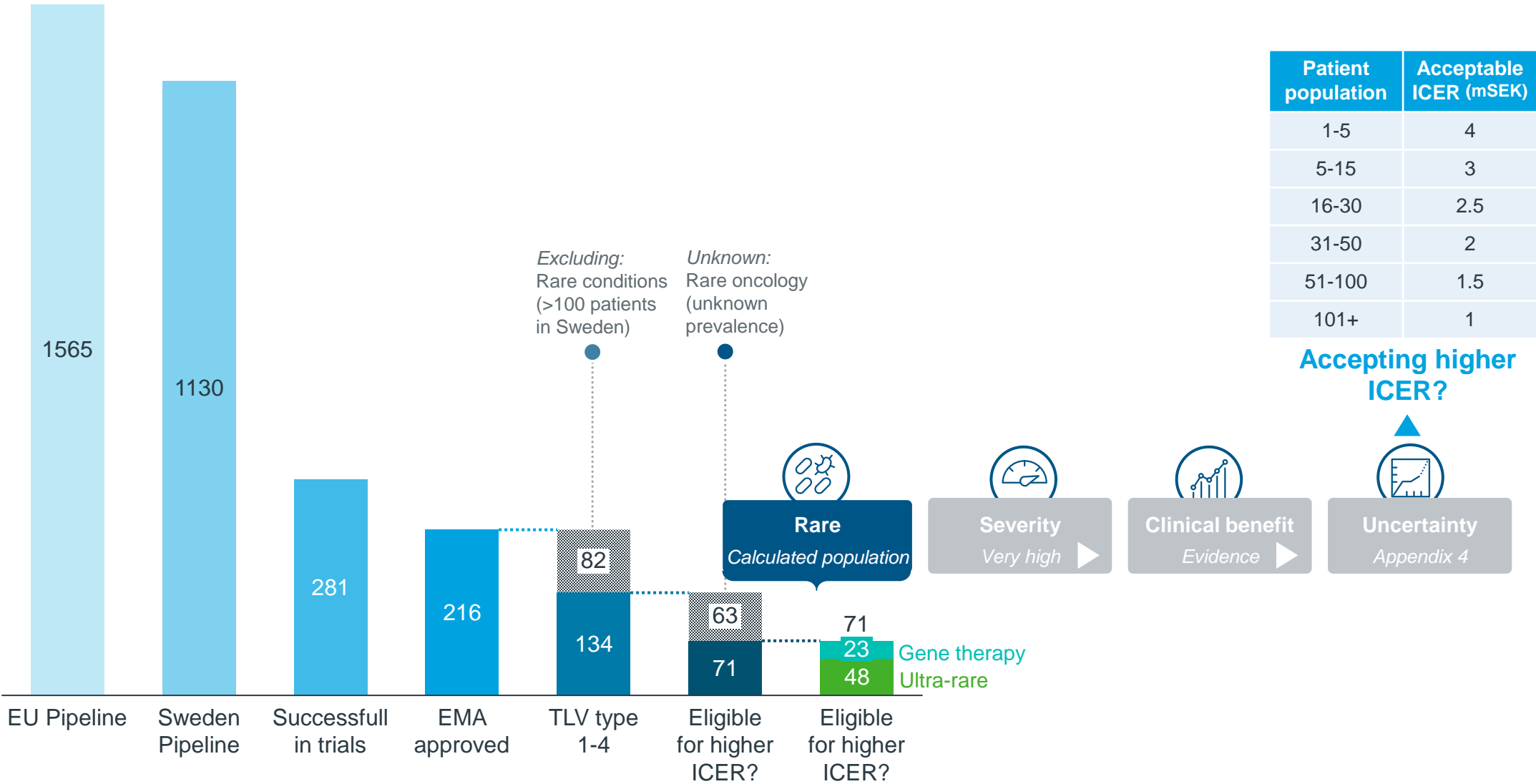
\*Values for the TLV scenarios are based on the estimated mean of TLV's uniform distribution for each scenario and each drug class, per year. The average number of yearly launches are multiplied by 10 to obtain the 10-year estimation.  
Sources: *Praktiska förutsättningar för stärkt tillgång till läkemedel vid sällsynta hälsotillstånd*, TLV (2024); IQVIA Pipeline Link; Clinical Development Success Rates and Contributing Factors (2011-2020), BIO report; EMA authorizations (2020-2025)

# In the next 10 years, 216 orphan drugs may apply for funding in Sweden, of which 71 to 134 may meet TLVs population size criteria





# Once these 71 to 134 orphan drugs are considered, they still need to meet the other criteria to be allowed a higher ICER



# Knowledge of prevalence, incidence and SoC are needed to forecast if a drug is eligible for higher acceptable ICER

## *IQVIA reflections*

TLVs definition of typical drug types deviates from international definitions in two ways, which makes it complicated to forecast which drugs and how many will be eligible for a higher acceptable ICER.

1. TLV does not use the EMA definition of rare disease (maximum 5 in 10,000\* (reflecting ~5300 patients in Sweden).
2. TLV does not use the common definition of ultra-rare disease (maximum 1 in 50,000 – reflecting ~200 patients in Sweden)
3. TLV considers **a calculation of** patient numbers in their definition, combining prevalence and incidence, and setting limits at 30 and 100 patients defining payment of the drug in scope – both are lower than the above definitions.
4. TLV explains the reasoning for this calculation in appendix 3, referring to objectives around revenue and aggregated health benefits.
5. There is room for interpretation of the payment defining population which may in reality be dependent on the expected indication of the drug, the standard of care at that point in time, and likely the division of adult versus pediatric population – where drugs may first research in and apply for adult populations.
6. For orphan **oncology** drugs, it will be even more complicated to calculate patient population, predict requirements on biomarkers and tumor expressions, predict relevant standard of care at assessment, and with that the relevant line of treatment and patient population in scope.

# Appendix



# Appendix 1 – Terms and definitions

Term	Definition	Source
NAS	<p>New Active Substance – note that IQVIAs Pipeline data and analysis ONLY take into account NAS and their first indication. TLV also considers unique drugs. Chapter 3 describes that TLV will follow-up on usage and actual patients treated. In case the number of patients is larger than expected, or increases due to additional indications, TLV will reassess reimbursement and the acceptable ICER.</p> <p>This IQVIA analysis and TLV report both include retail and hospital drugs in their scope – TLV assuming that the NT council will adopt the same way of reasoning and lowering the acceptable ICER in certain situations.</p>	-
Orphan drug (EMA definition)	<p>The EU offers incentives to encourage companies to research and develop medicines for rare diseases that otherwise would not be developed. To access these incentives, companies can apply for orphan designation for their medicine, provided certain criteria are met. Orphan-designated medicines that eventually make it to the market are granted 10 years of market exclusivity, provided it can be demonstrated that the criteria for their designation still apply.</p> <p>There are over 260 orphan medicines authorised in the EU, and over 3000 medicines with orphan designation</p> <p>To qualify for orphan designation by EMA, a medicine must meet several criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Intended for the treatment, prevention or diagnosis of a disease that is life-threatening or chronically debilitating;</li> <li>- Prevalence of the condition in the EU must not be more than 5 in 10,000 or it must be unlikely that marketing of the medicine would generate sufficient returns to justify the investment needed for its development; → <i>in Sweden in 2025: ~5300 patients</i></li> <li>- No satisfactory method of diagnosis, prevention or treatment of the condition concerned can be authorized, or, if such a method exists, the medicine must be of significant benefit to those affected by the condition.</li> </ul>	EMA
Orphan drug (FDA definition)	Orphan drug is defined as a drug intended for the treatment, prevention or diagnosis of a rare disease or condition, which is one that affects fewer than 200,000 persons in the US (~6 in 10,000)	FDA
Orphan drug (TLV definition)	<p>TLVs general definition of "Sällsynt hälsotillstånd": Rare health conditions usually have lasting consequences on the conditions of life and bring special problems caused by the rarity of the condition. They require special expertise and often coordinated efforts from the health care system and the rest of society. As a guide, prevalence in less than 5 per 10 000 inhabitants can be considered as low prevalence.</p> <p>This is <i>NOT</i> the definition used in the staircase model. For the staircase model, TLV does not consider any orphan drug designation, and TLV calculates relevant population based on a formula of prevalence and incidence.</p>	

# Appendix 2 – Description of assumptions made by IQVIA

Description	Assumption	Source
IQVIA Pipeline Link	<p>IQVIA Pipeline Link collects information on new active substances that are under development and may be launched over the next 10 years. Pipeline Link data only considers the first launch of a NAS, i.e. it does not cover indication extensions.</p> <p>Pipeline Link doesn't consider the probability of trial success, hence the data includes all products under development. IQVIAs analysis started with all products that the Pipeline Link expects relevant for Sweden. These products were categorised into orphan oncology, rare disease drugs, ultra-rare disease drugs and gene therapy. The number of products that are expected to launch were then estimated per category and stage of development. Therefore, the results in this report are showing much fewer drugs than reports covering the full Pipeline Link data.</p>	IQVIA
Success rate (%)	<p>The success rate at each phase of drug development is calculated by the share of drug candidates that advances to the next phase versus the ones that were suspended by the sponsor. The success rates were based on average success rates from 2011 to 2020. It is estimated that the drugs in the 10-year pipeline will be subject to the same success rates as the historical data.</p>	<p>Clinical Development Success Rates and Contributing Factors (2011-2020), BIO report (<a href="#">ClinicalDevelopmentSuccessRates2011_2020.pdf</a>)</p>
Likelihood of approval calculation	<p>To calculate the likelihood of approval for a phase I drug, success rates for “phase I – phase II”, “phase II – phase III”, “phase III – submission” and “submission – approval” are cumulatively applied.</p> <p>To calculate the likelihood of approval for a phase II drug, success rates “phase II – phase III”, “phase III – submission” and “submission – approval” are cumulatively applied.</p> <p>To calculate the likelihood of approval for a phase III drug, success rates for “phase III – submission” and “submission – approval” are cumulatively applied.</p> <p>To calculate the likelihood of approval for a submitted drug, the success rate for “submission – approval” is used.</p> <p><i>Note that the analysis does not assume any drugs to apply for approval earlier than finishing phase III</i></p>	<p>IQVIA calculations based on Clinical Development Success Rates and Contributing Factors (2011-2020), BIO report (<a href="#">ClinicalDevelopmentSuccessRates2011_2020.pdf</a>)</p>
EMA approval rate	<p>The approval rates for oncology and orphan drugs were calculated from EMA approvals for new active substances from 2020-2025 (77% approval rate for both oncology and orphan drugs). It is assumed that the drugs in the 10-year pipeline will be subject to the same approval rates as the historical data.</p>	<p><a href="#">EMA approvals 2020-2025</a></p>

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