IS THE UPTAKE IN USE OF BIOSIMILARS SIMILAR TO GENERIC MEDICINES?

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Biosimilars

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What are they?

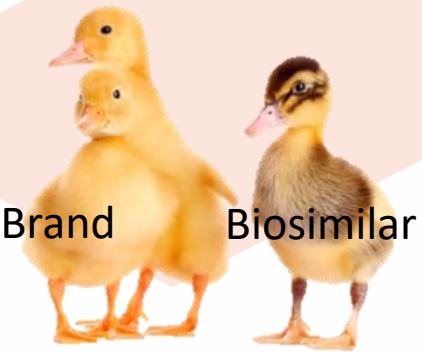
- Similar but not identical copies of the reference product approved by European Medicines Agency

Are they generics?

- Biosimilars cannot be considered generics.

Importance?

- Biosimilars are seen as an opportunity to reduce medicines expenditure for NHS.



Aim

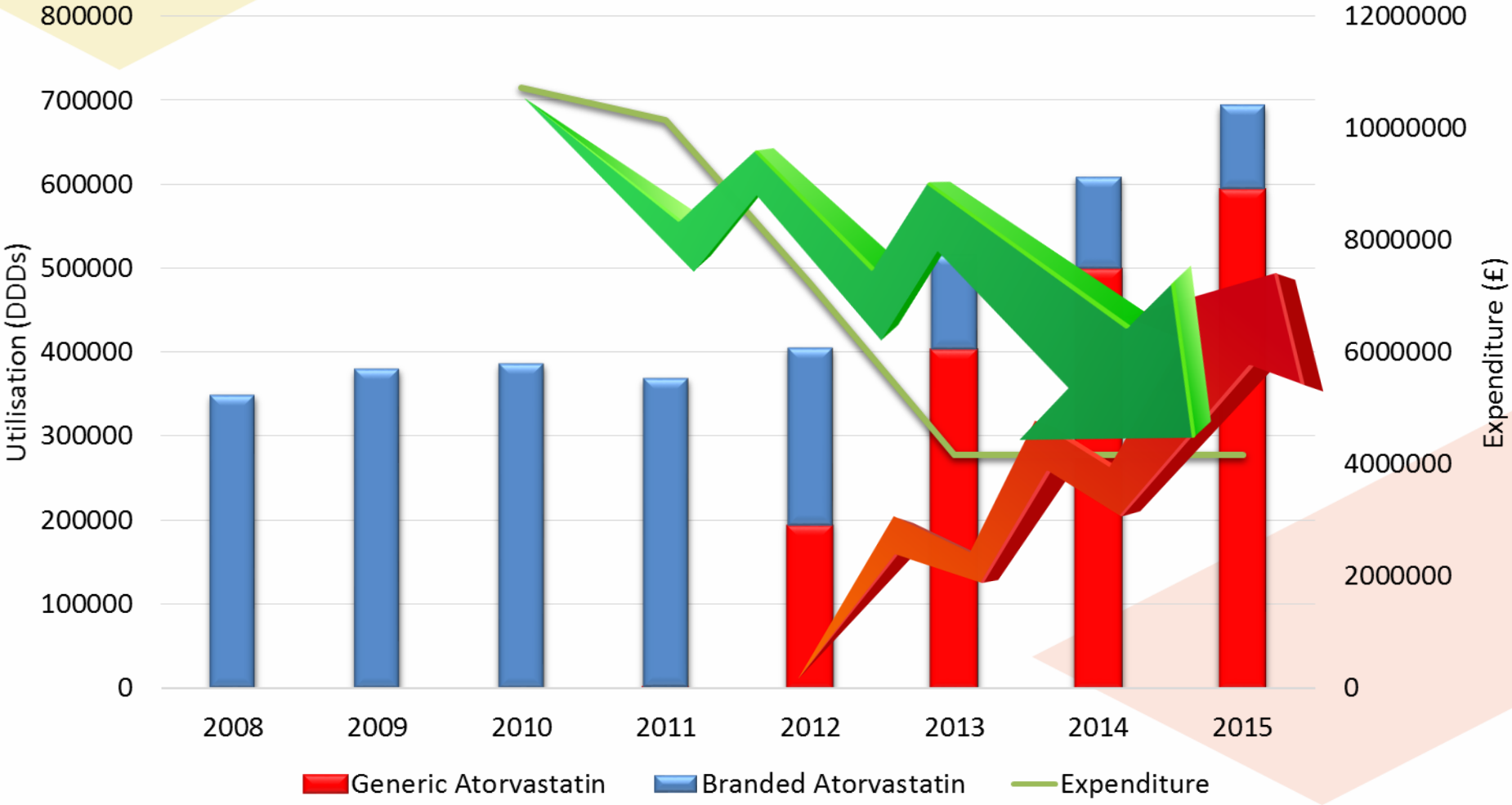
- To compare the utilisation of a widely used generic medicine with utilisation of early biosimilar medicines

Methods

- UK Secondary care prescribing data
- IMS Health database
- 2008 - 2015
- Branded and generic atorvastatin
- Branded and biosimilar erythropoietin (EPO)
- Branded and biosimilar filgrastim

Results

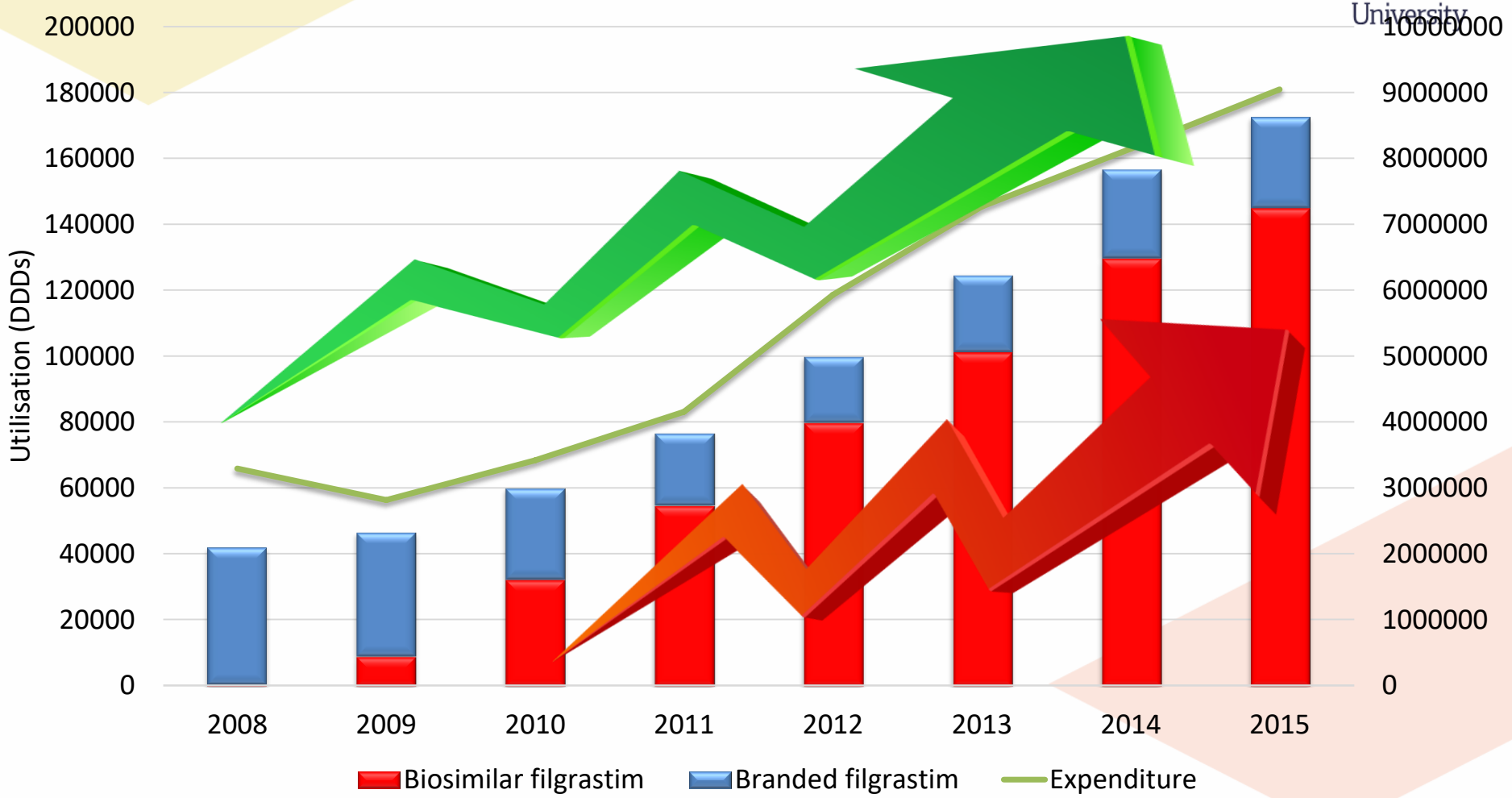
Atorvastatin



Branded Atorvastatin: Lipitor®

Results

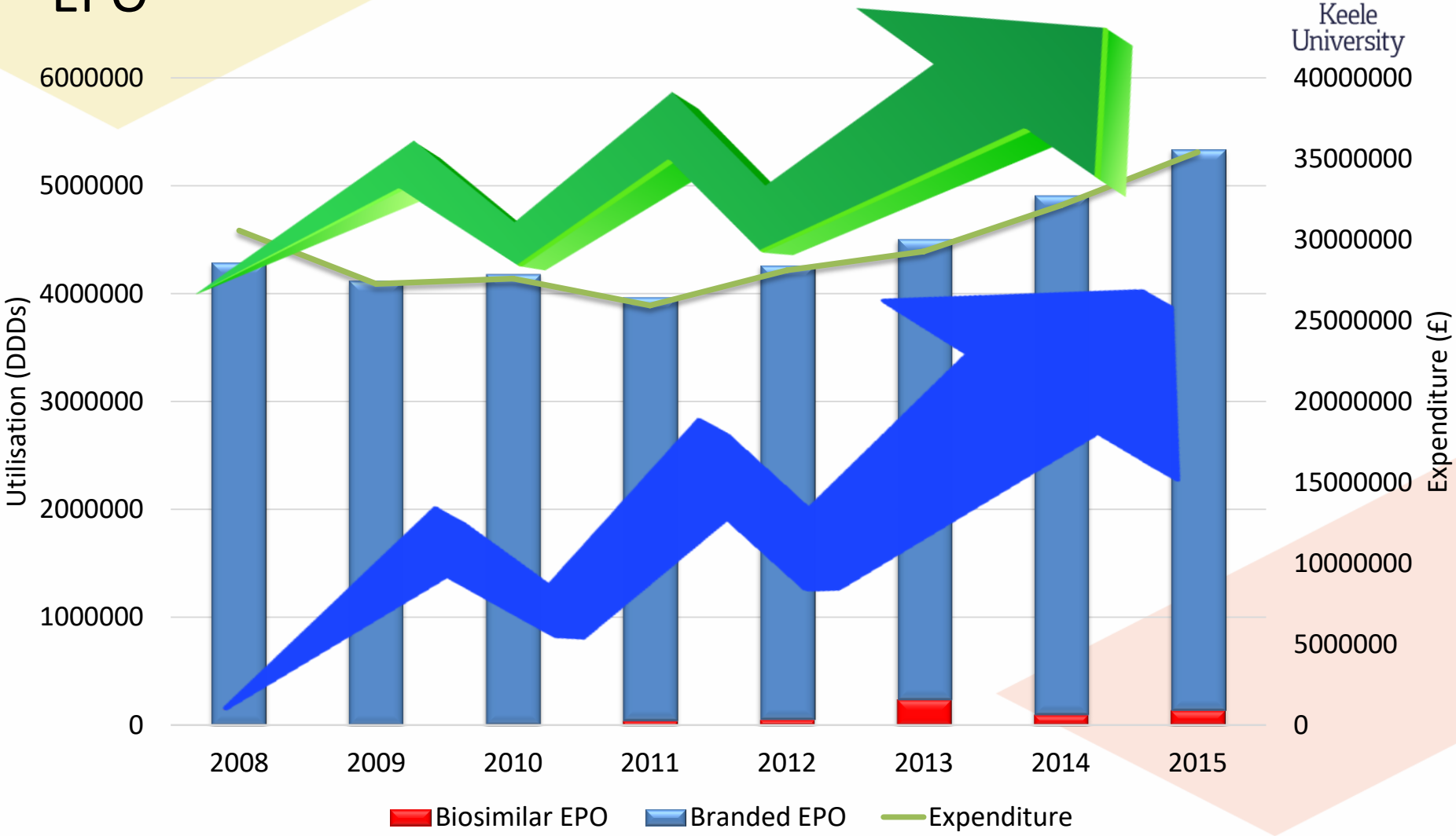
Filgrastim



Biosimilar filgrastim: Ratiograstim®, Tevagrastim®, Nivestim®, Zarzio® and Accofil ®. Branded filgrastim: Neupogen®

Results

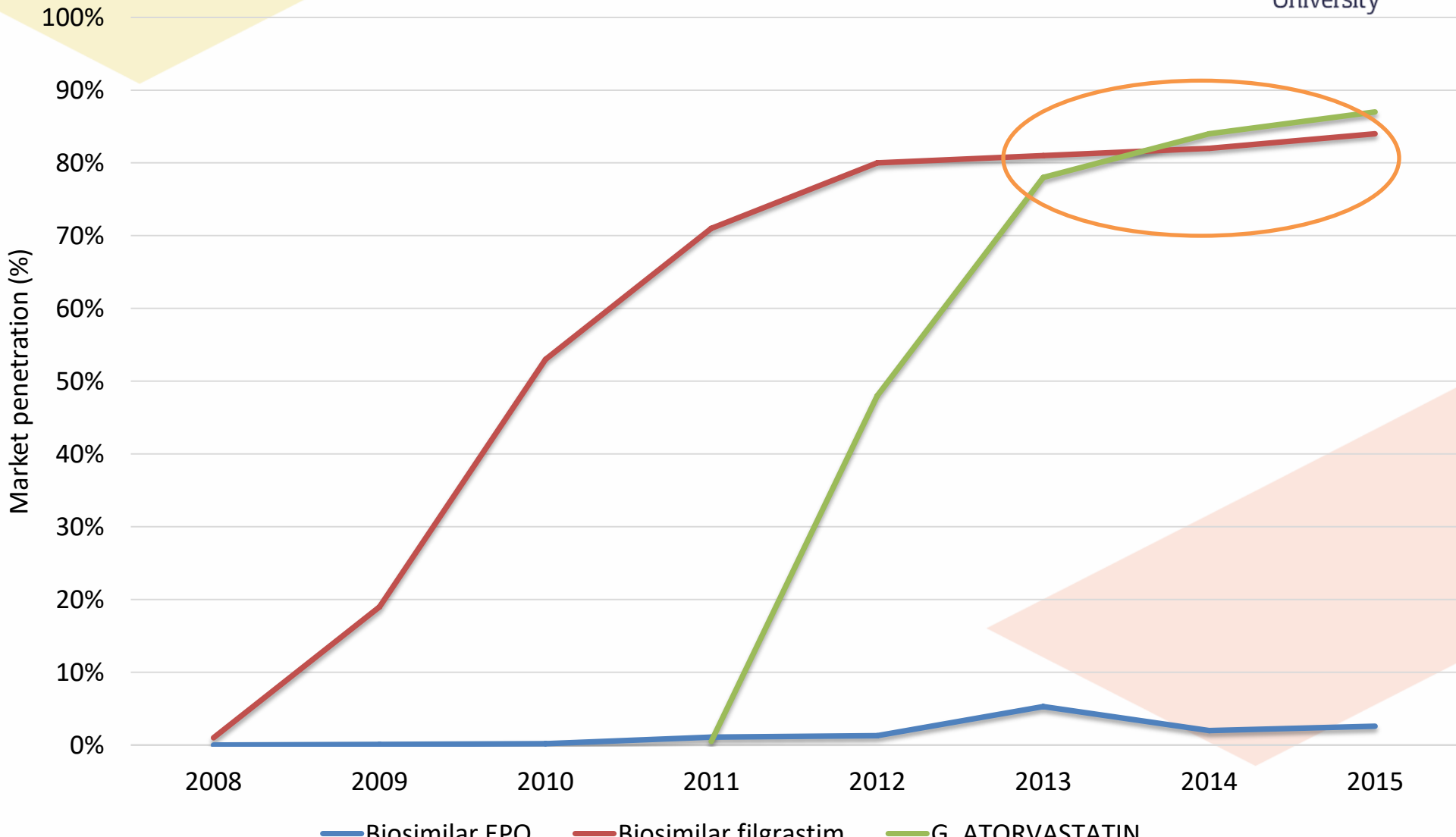
EPO



Biosimilar EPO: Binocrit® and Retacrit ®. Branded EPO: Aranesp®, NeoRecormon® and Eprex

Summary

Generic and biosimilars market penetration



Conclusion

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Different formulations

Prescriber / patient preferences

Safety concerns

Saving

Uptake

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