



## SIMONA IGAZ

Bratislava, Slovakia

+421 907 716 905

simona.igaz@novartis.com

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/simona-igaz-572465ba>

### PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Strategic healthcare leader with 20+ years of experience in market access, public affairs and commercial management within leading pharmaceutical companies. Proven track record in shaping healthcare policy, driving innovative access solutions and improving patient access to advanced therapies in Slovakia. Recognized for expertise in legislative engagement, stakeholder collaboration and data-driven decision-making. Committed to advancing transparent, efficient and patient-centered healthcare systems.

### KEY SKILLS & COMPETENCIES

Healthcare Policy & Advocacy

Innovation in Market Access

Legislative & Regulatory Affairs

Stakeholder Engagement & Negotiation

Team Leadership & Talent Development

Data-Driven Decision Making

Public Speaking & Strategic Communication

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

#### Value and Access Head & Public Affairs

**Novartis, spol. s r.o.**, Bratislava, Slovakia | 2019 – Present

- Led strategic market access and reimbursement for innovative and established pharmaceutical products, enabling patient access to advanced therapies.
- Managed an 11-member team, fostering professional growth and cross-functional collaboration.
- Implemented data-driven pricing and reimbursement strategies that improved predictability and patient access.
- Negotiated with national health authorities, payers and healthcare institutions to influence policy and secure patient access.
- Built external partnerships to shape national health policies and support innovation.

- Championed innovative reimbursement models, including Slovakia's first managed entry agreements, setting a precedent for transparent and sustainable access.

### **Head of Approval for High-Cost Treatment**

**VSZP** (General Health Insurance Company), Slovakia | Jan 2019

- Managed a 15-member team overseeing approval of medicines and international treatments, ensuring equitable access and compliance with national standards.
- Developed protocols and participated in the HTA committee for reimbursement assessments.

### **Market Access and Corporate Affairs Director**

**Roche spol. s r.o.**, Slovakia | Mar 2015

- Designed and executed market access strategies that aligned with evolving healthcare policies and innovation priorities in oncology and specialty care.
- Negotiated with payers for exceptional contracts and public procurement.
- Advanced evidence-based decision-making through development of health-economic data and reimbursement dossiers.

### **Various Roles: Market Access & External Relations Manager, Marketing Director, Project Manager, Brand Manager**

**Servier s.r.o.**, Slovakia & Czech Republic | 2000 – 2015

- Managed teams of up to 10 people and led cross-border projects introducing innovative approaches to market access and public affairs.
- Negotiated with payers, implemented strategic marketing and stakeholder engagement plans that reinforced evidence-based practices.

## **EDUCATION**

Faculty of Medicine, Comenius University, Slovakia

## **CERTIFICATIONS & TRAINING**

Marketing and Project management, Brand Building Foundation (Oxford SM), Typology and Insights, Finance for Non-Finance (University of Bled, Slovenia), Negotiation Skills (Krauthammer, Simon-Kutcher), Pharmacoeconomics and Health Outcome trainings (Slovak Medical University; University of Sheffield), Secondment in Access to Medicine Dpt, , UK (2012), Negotiations skills in Zurich 2016, Coaching (2010), Advanced coaching (2013)

## **INTERESTS**

Sports, Travelling, Design, Gardening, Inspirational Reading, Gastronomy, Industry Case Studies