Ensuring Access to Medicines in Qatar
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Disclaimer:
Presenting Authors Have No Relationships to Disclose
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Outline

- PDCD Mission & Vision
- Role & Activities
- Organization Chart
- Registration process
- Embargo Impact
- Action plan
Mission and Vision

- Pharmacy & Drug Control department (PDCD) takes the role of highest drug authority in Qatar

- To protect public health and safety of individuals, through scrutinizing and emphasizing that all medications and other pharmaceutical preparations imported and circulated in the country conform to higher international standards in terms of Safety, Quality and Effectiveness

- Emphasizes the readiness of the country in case of any emergency by participating actively in securing emergency stock of medicines and vaccines
General Role and Activities

- Development of medication policy for state of Qatar
- Quality control of medications, pharmaceuticals and raw materials
- Ensuring the compliance of the provided products to patients with worldwide standards
- Ensuring the availability of essential medicines in affordable prices
- Issuing of importing and exporting license for controlled medications and pharmaceutical products
- Control import and release of medications and other pharmaceutical products at all points of entry
- Control of herbal products and folk medications
Structure and Functional Units of PDCD

- Registration Section
- Inspection & Narcotics Section
- Quality Control Lab
- Release Section
Registration Process

Classification

Agent Registration

Marketing Authorization Holder & Manufacturing Site

Product Registration

Variation on Registered Products
The political crisis had an impact on medication accessibility in Qatar.
Embargo Impact Contd.

Registered Products in Qatar 4615

- KSA: 536
- UAE: 394
- Egypt: 247
- Other Countries: 3438
Embargo Impact Contd.

Percentage Out of Total Registered Products

- KSA: 11.61%
- UAE: 8.54%
- Egypt: 5.35%
- Other Countries: 74.50%
**Embargo Impact Contd.**

Total Number of Active Ingredients (same strength, Dosage form) ~ 1006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Risk Level</th>
<th>Similarities</th>
<th>Number of Items</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>267</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High</td>
<td>≤ 2</td>
<td>221</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>55</td>
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<tr>
<td>Low</td>
<td>4</td>
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Registered pharmaceutical products in Qatar

- 75% Other countries
- 25% Blockage countries

Active ingredients from blockage countries

- 47% High risk
- 14% High risk
- 10% moderate
- 4% Low
- 25% High risk

- No similars
- 1 similar
- 2 similars
- 3 similars
- 4 similars
Action Plan Taken (Immediate)

- Establishment of Emergency Committee including all Managers
- List all the affected products
- Determination of alternatives for each product
- Fast tracking assessment of files.

Market update through:
- Regular reports from inspection section to determine the actual stocks in the market including private pharmacies.
- Communicating with local agents to provide regular reports to ensure at least 6 months stocks from all essential medicines.
- Communicating with multinational pharmaceutical companies to ensure alternative supply chain.
**Action Plan (Strategic or Long-Term)**

- Encouraging local pharmaceutical manufacturing plant to play a remarkable role in securing local market needs.
- Achieve *equilibrium* in registered items by ensuring registration of appropriate number of generics from every active ingredient, as well as ensuring multiple sources.
- Continuous communication with all stakeholders to ensure at least 6 months *stock of essential medicines*.
- Continuous updating of MOPH requirements and *guidelines* to cope with worldwide guidelines, which will have positive impact on registration and availability of any newly discovered product in the Qatari market.
Summary & Conclusion

- Good healthcare system should ensure coverage, continuity, accessibility, quality and accountability during crisis as it was normal situation.

- An efficient actions & crisis management with quick solution for long term strategic effect to avoid similar condition in future.

- Encouraging and supporting local manufacturing plants to participate in ensuring medication security in the state of Qatar.
Thank You