Medication Sector in Qatar: Hand in Hand Facing the Blockade

National Strategic Stockpile for the Health Sector
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Disclosure of Conflict of Interest

Presenting Authors Have No Relationships to Disclose
National Strategic Stockpile for the Health Sector
Outline

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- Project Aim
- Expected Outcomes
- Proposal Process
- Project Management Plan
- Implementation steps
- The blockade Challenges and Measures
Introduction – Why Stockpile?

- The vision and aim of the Ministry of Public Health is to ensure that the health sector has the capacity to ensure best health coverage, and protection of the population; timely and effectively in responding to any emergency or disaster.
- Commitment to International Aid and relief.
- Qatar’s prepared for the FIFA 2022
Project Aim

The “Establishment of the NSS for Health Sector” is envisioned to:

- Provide contingency and redundancy to the current drug/consumable supply system.

- Serve – primarily – emergency situations, but may be used during severe system shortages.
Expected Outcomes

• **Drug Security** across the health sector in the State of Qatar, both in short term shortages experienced during unexpected high demands, and in national emergency and disaster situations.

• Contribution to the GCC stockpile initiative, due to integration of GCC required medications/consumables.

• **Swift response to relief aid requests** from national counterparts in response to international emergencies.
Proposal Process

- National Strategic Stockpile Committee (NSSC) formed – as subcommittee for the NHCDM
- Tasked with proposal preparation

- EPRD Desk Review of International stockpiling experience for the health sector, adding to the consultant recommendations
- Prepared Essential Drug List (1600 drugs)
- Sought Corporate Therapeutic Committee (CTC) advice
- Discussed the inclusion of medical Equipment in the NSS (will be in phase 2)
- Calculated the quantity of drugs and consumables needed
- Verified with GCC Region stockpile list

- WHO Consultant visit to assess drug supply system
- NSSC recommendations based on visit

2012

- Submitted & Approved

2014

2015

2017

Implementation
Project Management Plan

- Health Sector Coordination
- EPRD will lead NSSC in Monitoring and Evaluation
- Coordination with other sectors/partners (National and International)
- Funding

- Utilize existing infrastructure to:
  - Procure
  - Store
  - Manage ground operations
Implementation Steps

Phase I
- Procurement
- Generate Policy Documents (e.g. SOPs)
- Study options for dispensing
- Staff training
- Drills and Exercises
- Evaluation and Annual Report

Phase II
- Medical Equipment
- Medical Teams?

Approval & Budget Allocation
Blockade Challenges:

- Ensure the availability of medicines and medical supplies and to compensate for any shortage resulting from the lack of materials that were imported from or through the countries of the blockade.

- Continuity of the provision of medical services during crisis.

- To meet increased demands, both due to the increase in the population and those related to the preparation for the World Cup 2022.

- Ensure the availability of adequate stocks of medicines and medical supplies to meet the needs of the state for at least one year.

- Establishment of alternative routes to ship medicines and medical supplies.

- Overcome any effects of global shortage of certain medicines or manufacturing restrictions from the country of origin.
Measures Taken (1)

- Establishment of coordination and cooperation between MOPH and other governmental agencies to ensure the continuity of the health services.

- Implementation of the national health strategies for preparedness and response to withstand the effects of the blockade.

- Establishment of a warning system when the proportion of consumption of medical materials and medicines is critical that require activation of the process of ordering materials and providing them in warehouses to ensure the availability of a **stock of all medical materials for a period of not less than a year**.

- Monitoring of inventory levels of Drugs and Medical Consumables on daily basis.

- Monitoring the movements of consumption of medicines and medical supplies in the stores on immediate basis.
- Identifications of alternatives sources of medical materials and drugs imported from the countries of blockade.
- Established communication with international supply companies to supply medical materials and drugs directly.
- All cargo operations carried out through Hamad International Airport and Hamad Port on a regular basis.
- The Essential Emergency Strategic Stockpile inventory of medical supplies and medicines has been completed and the primary budget approved.
- Warehouse space has been expanded by leasing additional space to accommodate the additional materials resulting from increased inventory level.
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