**Pharmaceutical System**

### SINGAPORE

#### SOCIOECONOMICS
- Population: 5,470,000
- Life Expectancy at Birth: 83 years
- 17% Percentage of Adults Aged over 60 years
- 16% Percentage of Children Aged below 15 years
- GDP / Capita (PPP): US$80,191.5

#### HUMAN RESOURCES
- No. of Physicians: 21 per 10,000 population
- No. of Pharmacists: 0.5 per 1000 population
- Hospital Beds: 2.2 per 1000 population
- Doctor Consultations: 1.7 per capita

#### HEALTH EXPENDITURE
- Total Health Expenditure / Capita (PPP): US$2,538
- Total Health Expenditure as a share of GDP: 54.2% Public, 45.8% Private
- Public vs Private Share of Total Health Expenditure: 54.2% Public
- Composition of Total Health Expenditure:
  - 43.8% General Government
  - 30.7% Out-of-Pocket
  - 15.1% Voluntary Health Care Payment
  - 10.4% Social Health Care

#### PHARMACEUTICAL EXPENDITURE
- Total Pharmaceutical Expenditure / Capita (PPP): No data available
- Public vs Private Share of Total Pharmaceutical Expenditure: No data available

#### PHARMACEUTICAL REGULATION
- Regulatory Authority for Pharmaceuticals: Health Sciences Authority
- Pharmaceutical Legislation: Health Products Act
- National Medicines Policy: No Formal National Medicines Policy
- Agency that Sets Price: None
- Pricing Regulation in the Public Sector: NO
- Pricing Regulation in the Private Sector: NO

#### PRICING
- Free Pricing?: YES
- Price Negotiations?: YES
- External Price Referencing?: NO
- Internal Price Referencing?: NO
- VAT on Medicines?: NO

#### PROCUREMENT / REIMBURSEMENT
- No. of Registered Medicines: 5,500
- No. of Products on Essential Medicines List: No data available
- No. of Products on Procurement List: 590
- No. of Products on Reimbursement List: 1,040

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*a Health-care expenditures paid out from voluntary or private sources

*b Combined compulsory medical savings accounts, social health insurance, and other government-supported schemes not classified elsewhere*
Pharmaceutical System Flowchart

**MARKET AUTHORIZATION / LICENSING**

- **TASKS**: Licensing and market authorization of drugs
- **CRITERIA**: Quality, safety and efficacy
- **REGULATIONS**: Health Products Act

**NEW MEDICINE**

- **National Regulatory Authority**
- **HEALTH SCIENCES AUTHORITY**

**DRUG ADVISORY COMMITTEE, MINISTRY OF HEALTH**

- **PURPOSE**: Recommendation for inclusion of drugs to the Standard Drug List
- **CRITERIA**: Clinical relevance and cost-effectiveness in the management of common diseases afflicting the majority

**PROCUREMENT**

- The Group Procurement Office consolidates drug purchases for the health-care system at the national level.
- Private sector hospitals and pharmacies

**PROCESSION**

- There are no price controls for manufacturers, importers and wholesale distributors.

**PRICING AND REIMBURSEMENT**

- **For the public sector**
  - All people are entitled to subsidized medical services and treatments at government polyclinics and hospitals.
  - The Drug Advisory Committee decides on suitability of drugs for subsidy based on disease burden, clinical need, comparative clinical benefits and safety, cost-effectiveness and budget impact.

- **For the private sector**
  - Payment is out of pocket.

**DISTRIBUTION**

- **Mixed public-private system**
  - The primary care sector consists of around 1900 private medical clinics and 17 government polyclinics.
  - Hospital care in the public sector is organized into two vertically integrated delivery networks, National Healthcare Group and Singapore Health Services.
  - The Community Health Assist Scheme subsidizes visits to any of the 720 participating medical clinics and 460 dental clinics for acute conditions, specified chronic illnesses, specified dental procedures, and recommended health screening.

**REFERENCES**

3. Data provided by country