

Bhutan pharmaceutical profile 2017

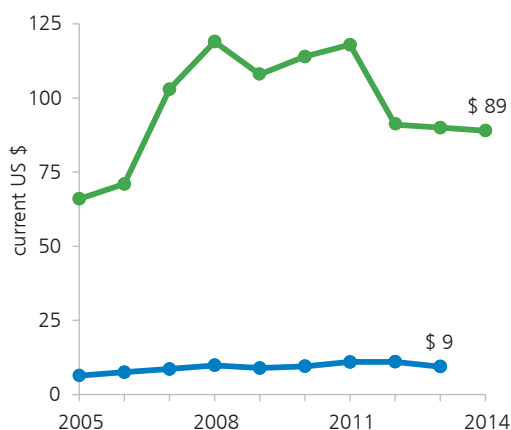


COUNTRY AT A GLANCE

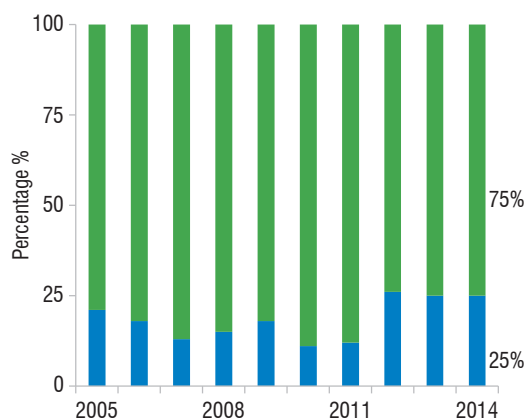


OVERALL SPENDING ON HEALTH

Total per capita spending on health care (current US\$)⁴
Total per capita spending medicines (current US\$)⁵

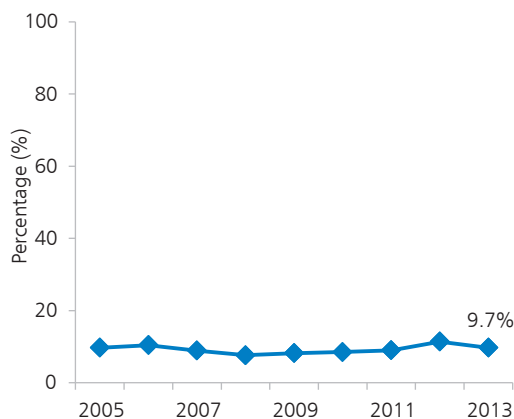


Share of government vs. out-of-pocket spending on health⁴



SPENDING ON MEDICINES

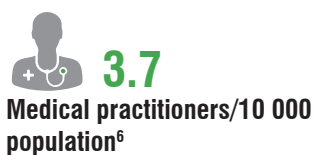
Spending on medicines as share of total health-care cost⁵



Share of public and out-of-pocket spending on medicines⁵



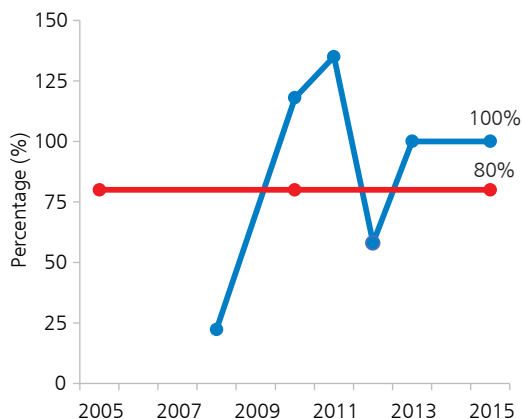
MEDICAL AND PHARMACY WORKFORCE





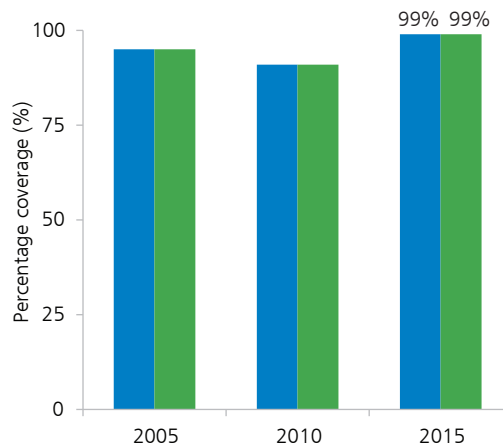
ACCESS TO MEDICINES

Malaria and Tuberculosis treatment coverage ^{7,8}

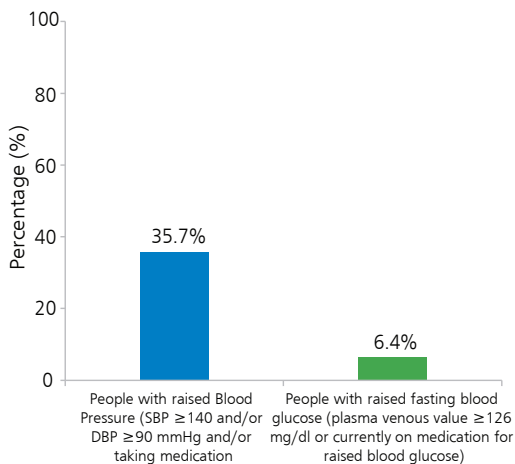


HIV/AIDS data insufficient

Diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis (DTP3) and Hepatitis B3 immunization coverage ⁹



Hypertension and Diabetes Mellitus treatment coverage ¹⁰



Data for age group 18-69 years

Access to palliative care: Opioid consumption in Morphine Equivalence (ME) minus Methadone

No data available

Morphine Equivalence minus methadone represents country capacity to deliver palliative care, because it excludes treatment for drug dependency



KEY MEDICINES POLICIES AND GUIDANCE

Key Pharmaceutical Legislation¹¹

1. Medicines Act of the Kingdom of Bhutan, 2003;
2. Bhutan Medicines Rules and Regulations, 2012;
3. Blood and Blood Products Regulation, 2016

National Medicine Policy¹²

National Medicine Policy 2007

National Essential Medicines List¹³

National List of Essential Medicines-2016

National Standard Treatment Guidelines¹⁴

National Standard Treatment Guidelines 2014, distributed to all district facilities

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RELATED POLICIES & PRODUCTION



Number of Local pharmaceutical manufacturers ^{15,A}

2

Least Developed country status since¹⁶

1971

Member of World Trade Organization since ¹⁷

No

TRIPS flexibilities used ¹⁸

Not applicable

Pharmaceutical system flowchart

Medicine



National Regulatory Authority: Drug Regulatory Authority of Bhutan www.dra.gov.bt

Regulated products¹⁹:

Medicines: YES **Vaccines:** YES **Medical devices:** NO **Traditional medicines:** YES

Medicine Quality Control Laboratory²⁰: Drug testing Laboratory, Royal Centre for Disease Control, Ministry of Health, Bhutan and other testing laboratory outside Bhutan based on contract service agreement.

ISO 17025 certified: NO **WHO prequalified:** NO

Number of Registered Medicines²¹: allopathic-1450 & traditional medicinal products-77

Agency responsible for selection: Essential Medicines & Technology Division, Department of Medical Services, Ministry of Health

Number of products on essential medicines list¹³:

By active ingredient: 332 **By dosage form:** 429

Traditional medicines products included in essential medicines list: YES

Medicines availability is indicated by health facility level: YES

Number of Products in National Formulary : 429

Public sector

Agency responsible for Public Procurement¹⁴: Medical Supplies Procurement Division under Department of Medical Supplies and Health Infrastructure (DMSHI), Ministry of Health

Procurement done at Central State Facility

Commonly used procurement methods: International tendering

Private sector¹⁹

Number of wholesalers: 27

Public sector

Price control²²: NO

Health insurance reimbursement price: No health insurance scheme

Patient prices for essential medicines in public sector:

Free medicines: YES

Private sector

Agency responsible for price control¹⁹: Drug Regulatory Authority

Pricing mechanism¹⁴: Price structure to be submitted at the time of registration of product.

Manufacturer **Wholesale** **Retailer**

Mark-ups regulated: YES

Fixed or regressive¹⁴: Fixed Maximum Retail Price (MRP), which is the same MRP as in India

Public sector

Agency responsible for distribution: Medical stores and distribution division under department of medical supplies & health infrastructure²³

Public Sector Facilities²³:

Hospitals: 31
Basic Health Unit (BHU)-I: 23
BHU-II: 184
Sub-Post: 28

Private sector

Number of retail outlets¹⁹: 54

Licensed retail pharmacies per 10 000 population^{19,B}: 0.69

Number of traditional medicines outlets¹⁴: 1

Patient

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Notes:

- A. One Herbal and one Active Pharmaceutical Ingredient manufacturer.
- B. 54 pharmacies spread across the country.