

## Enhancing Medical Procurement in Africa

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### Abstract

**Background:** Medical procurement plays a critical role in ensuring that essential medications and equipment are available to meet the healthcare needs of the population. In Sub-Saharan Africa, however, the medical procurement system is often associated with inefficiencies that result in frequent stock-outs of essential medication and equipment. These challenges pose a significant barrier to the provision of quality and timely healthcare, particularly in emergency situations. Challenges in Africa's healthcare procurement systems despite the opening of a new hospital wing in Africa, staffing levels, procurement systems, and hospital administration have remained unchanged. The medication procurement system, like many in Sub-Saharan Africa, is associated with inefficiencies and the hospital experiences frequent stock-outs of essential medication and equipment which pose a challenge in the provision of quality and timely healthcare. One of the primary challenges in Africa's healthcare procurement systems is the lack of effective coordination and management. This leads to fragmented procurement processes, where different departments and facilities procure medications and equipment independently, often resulting in duplication of efforts, inefficient allocation of resources.

The objective for this research is policy analysis for medical procurement in Africa in order.

In order to enhance, facilitate accessibility to medical services.

**Methods:** Integration was conducted between all data registered in National health accounts for the following countries as Representing samples for African countries (Algeria, Morocco, Egypt, Nigeria, Kenya, Senegal, Mali, South Africa, Cameroon, Angola and Zambia) plus Tender analysis for previous countries.

Standardized Survives was conducted with different stake holders at Procurement systems at previous countries (170 Members was participated including payers, supply chain managers, physicians, pharmacists, accountant and payers consultants).

One way sensitivity analysis was conducted in order to garniture data Accuracy.

**Results:** The following results was founded.

**Conclusion:** In conclusion, enhancing medical procurement in Africa is crucial for improving healthcare systems and ensuring the availability of essential medications and equipment. Despite the opening of new hospital wings and the establishment of public procurement authorities, challenges in medical procurement persist in Africa. These challenges include inefficient procurement systems, frequent stock-outs of essential medicines and equipment, inadequate logistics infrastructure, coordination issues, and corruption.

**Keywords:** *Abdalla Abotaleb; Africa Medical Procurement*



Category of Procurement	What to Procure	Documents Required from the Divisions	Selection Method	Timeline
Consultancy Services	Firm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Request Memo</li> <li>Purchase Requisition in SAP</li> </ul>	Quality Cost Based Selection (QCBS) - Firm Selection	6 months
	Individual Consultant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clear Terms of Reference (ToR)</li> </ul>	IC - Individual Consultant	3 months
Goods	Different equipment, supplies, accessories, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Request Memo</li> <li>Purchase Requisition in SAP</li> <li>Clear Specification</li> </ul>	Request for Bids Request for Quotation	5 months + 30 to 60 days for delivery 3 weeks + 30 days for delivery
Workshops	Ticket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approval</li> <li>Request Memo</li> <li>Purchase Requisition in SAP</li> <li>Booking and Registration form</li> <li>Passport copy</li> </ul>	Quotation from the Airlines	10 days before departure
	Honorarium Accommodation Promotional Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approval</li> </ul>	Request for Quotation	2 weeks before the event
Technical Assistance	Stationeries Ground transportation Interpretation services Other items need	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Request Memo</li> <li>Purchase Requisition in SAP</li> </ul>		
	Honorarium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Curriculum Vitae</li> <li>Request memo that include name of experts</li> <li>Passport copy</li> </ul>		
Training	Training institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approval</li> <li>Request Memo</li> </ul>	Request for Quotation	3-4 weeks
	Ticket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Same as above for ticket</li> </ul>	Quotation from the Airlines	10 days before departure

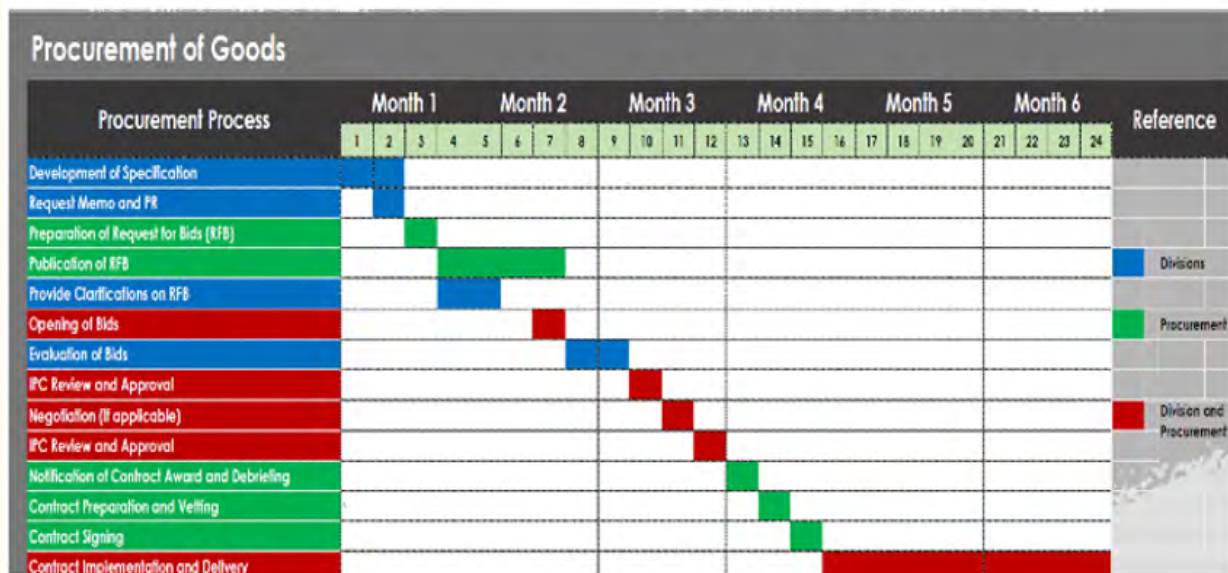


Figure 1

### Background

Addressing inefficiencies and improving access to essential medications understanding medical procurement in Africa.

Medical procurement plays a critical role in ensuring that essential medications and equipment are available to meet the healthcare needs of the population. In Sub-Saharan Africa, however, the medical procurement system is often associated with inefficiencies that result in frequent stock-outs of essential medication and equipment. These challenges pose a significant barrier to the provision of quality and timely healthcare, particularly in emergency situations. Challenges in Africa’s healthcare procurement systems despite the opening of a new hospital wing in Africa, staffing levels, procurement systems, and hospital administration have remained unchanged. The medication procurement system, like many in Sub-Saharan Africa, is associated with inefficiencies and the hospital experiences frequent stock-outs of essential medication and equipment which pose a challenge in the provision of quality and timely healthcare. One of the primary challenges in Africa’s healthcare procurement systems is the lack of effective coordination and management. This leads to fragmented procurement processes, where different departments and facilities procure medications and equipment independently, often resulting in duplication of efforts, inefficient allocation of resources, and a lack of standardized procurement practices. Emerging trends in medical procurement in Africa aim to address the existing challenges and improve access to essential medications. One emerging trend is the adoption of electronic procurement (e-procurement) systems. Despite the potential benefits offered by e-procurement systems, studies have revealed common challenges and barriers to their adoption in most developing countries, particularly in Africa.

These challenges include the lack of perceived benefits of e-procurement systems among users and diverse attitudes towards their adoption. Moreover, the inadequate logistics infrastructure and inappropriate means of coordination and cooperation further exacerbate the difficulties in medical procurement in Africa. To enhance medical procurement in Africa, it is crucial to establish proper mechanisms for sourcing, procurement, deliveries, storage, and physical distribution of medical products.

### Importance of enhancing medical procurement

Enhancing medical procurement in Africa is crucial for ensuring the availability of essential medicines, equipment, and supplies in healthcare facilities. Currently, Africa faces numerous challenges in its medical procurement systems.

The difficulties are more pronounced in the inadequacy of logistics infrastructure and inappropriate means towards coordination and cooperation.

These challenges hinder the efficient sourcing, procurement, delivery, storage, and physical distribution of medical products in emergency situations.

### Potential strategies for improving medical procurement in Africa

In order to enhance medical procurement in Africa, it is necessary to implement proper mechanisms and strategies. Firstly, there is a need for better coordination in the procurement of essential medical supplies. The recent launch of the Africa Medical Supplies Platform is a promising step towards achieving this goal.

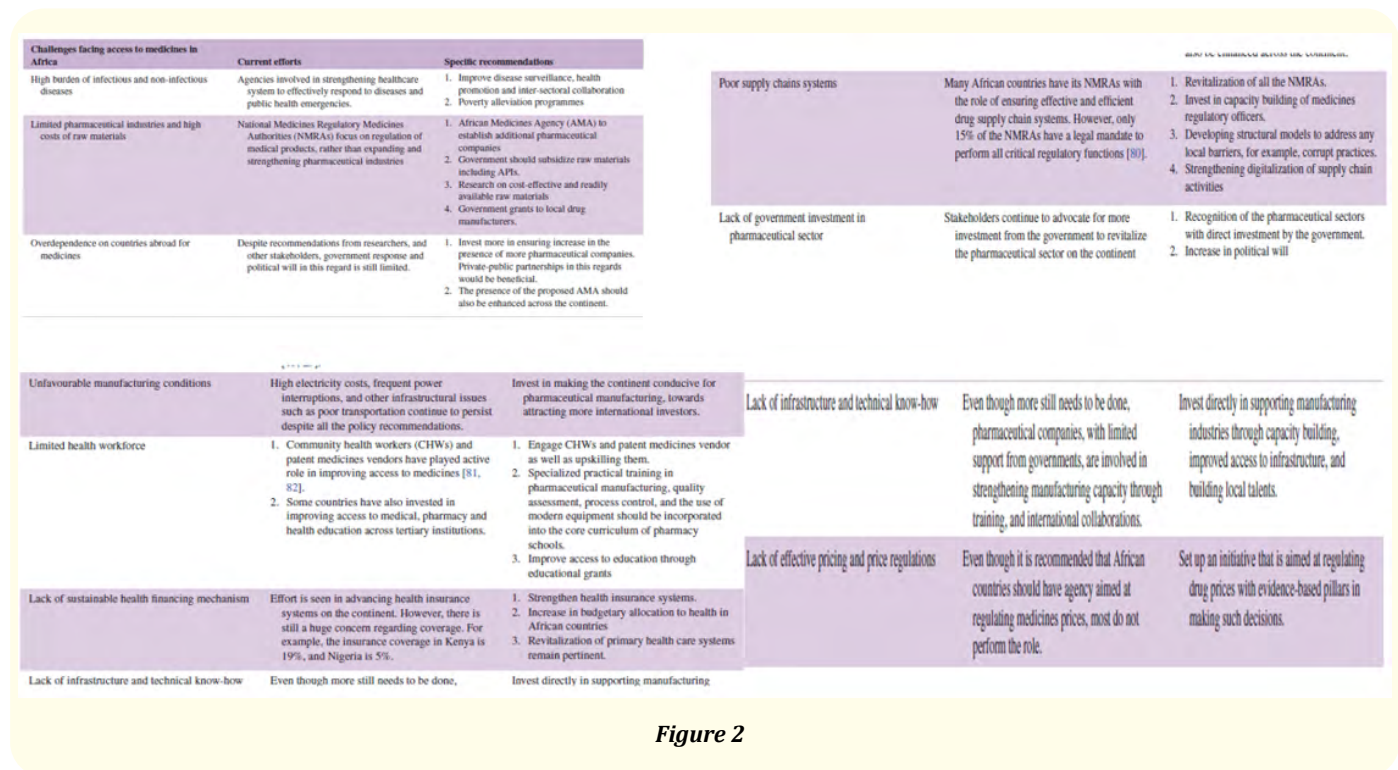


Figure 2

### Methods

Integration was conducted between all data registered in National health accounts for the following countries as representing samples for African countries (Algeria, Morocco, Egypt, Nigeria, Kenya, Senegal, Mali, South Africa, Cameroon, Angola and Zambia) plus tender analysis for previous countries.



Standardized survives was conducted with different stake holders at procurement systems at previous countries (170 members was participated including payers, supply chain managers, physicians, pharmacists, accountant and payers consultants).

One way sensitivity analysis was conducted in order to garniture data accuracy.

	Total population (000s)	Population < 15 years	GDP USD billions, current exchange rates	GDP growth	GNI per capita, USD current exchange rates	Population living < PPP int. USD1 a day	Adult literacy rate, 15+ years	Maternal mortality ratio, per 100 000 live births	Infant mortality rate per 1,000
Angola	17,024	46%	61.4	6%	2,540	43%	67%	1,400	116
Botswana	1,882	35%	12.3	8%	6,120	23%	81%	193	33
DRC*	65,800	50%	9.0	6%	140	59%	72%	549	92
Lesotho	2,506	40%	1.6	3%	1,030	39%	82%	762	91
Malawi	13,925	47%	3.6	7%	250	40%	72%	807	71
Mauritius	1,262	24%	6.8	4%	5,580	Na	84%	15	15
Mozambique	20,531	44%	7.8	8%	330	68%	44%	520	108
Namibia	2,190	39%	6.3	5%	4,704	44%	80%	449	46
Seychelles	87	23%	0.7	6.3%*	8,960	Na	96%	1	13
South Africa	49,321	31%	362.8	3%	5,720	21%	98%	124	46
Swaziland	1,018	39%	2.89	2%	2,560	62%	80%	589	85
Tanzania	40,454	44%	16.2	7%	410	82%	72%	578	58
Zambia	11,992	46%	11.4	7%	770	64%	na	830	103
Zimbabwe	12,225	40%	12.0	8%	340	Na	90%	880	59

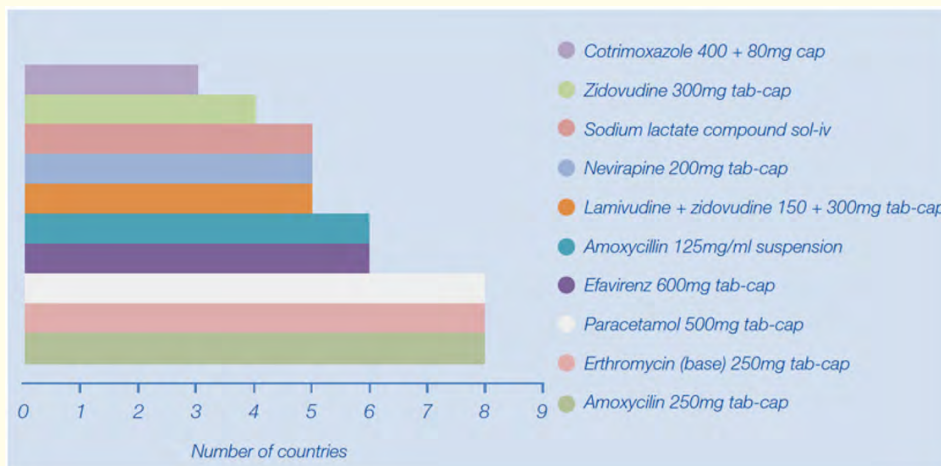


Figure 3

Results

The following results was founded.



Category of Procurement	What to Procure	Documents Required from the Divisions	Selection Method	Timeline
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Technical Assistance	Honorarium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approval</li> <li>Request Memo</li> <li>Purchase Requisition in SAP</li> </ul>	Request for Quotation	2 weeks before the event
	Accommodation			
	Promotional Items			
Training	Ground transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Curriculum Vitae</li> <li>Request memo that include name of experts</li> <li>Passport copy</li> </ul>	Request for Quotation	3-4 weeks
	Interpretation services			
Training	Other items need	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approval</li> <li>Request Memo</li> </ul>	Request for Quotation	10 days before departure
	Honorarium			
Training	Training institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approval</li> <li>Request Memo</li> </ul>	Request for Quotation	10 days before departure
	Ticket			

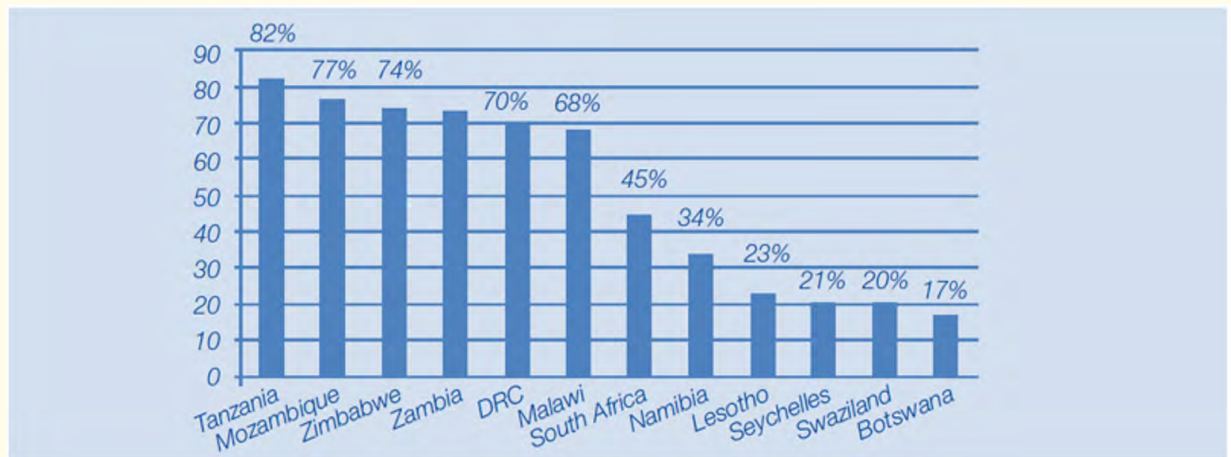
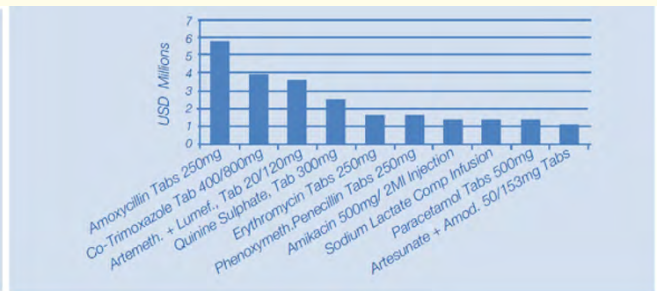
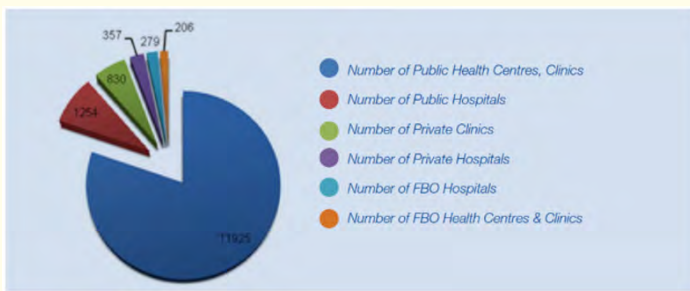
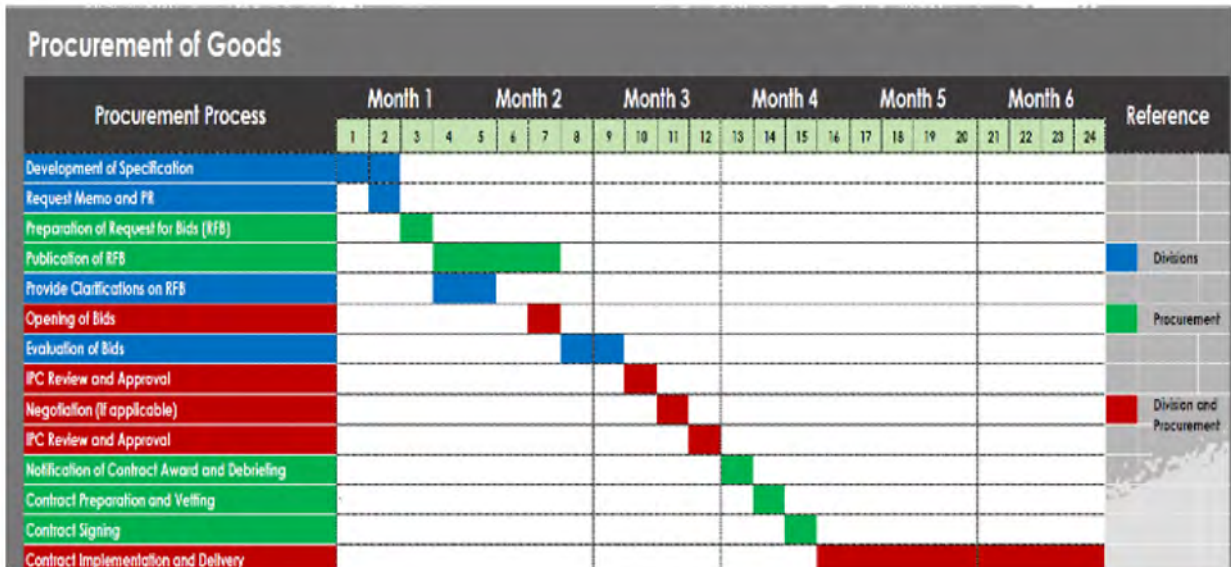


Figure 4



## Conclusion

In conclusion, enhancing medical procurement in Africa is crucial for improving healthcare systems and ensuring the availability of essential medications and equipment. Despite the opening of new hospital wings and the establishment of public procurement authorities, challenges in medical procurement persist in Africa. These challenges include inefficient procurement systems, frequent stock-outs of essential medicines and equipment, inadequate logistics infrastructure, coordination issues, and corruption [1-15].

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