Situation on access to essential medicines in the context of Thai UHC

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Conceptual Framework of Thai Drug System 2020

International context: SDGs, trade and health, political economy etc.

National and health system context i.e. Universal Health Coverage

**Governance:** Information, Policy & Strategy, Legislation, Monitoring & Evaluation, Regulatory system and Participation (government, providers, communities)

**Financing:** Sustainability, Adequacy, Fairness, Efficiency

**Inputs**
- Knowledge
- Human resources
- Infrastructure

**Process**
- R&D -> Manufacturing -> Pharm Products
- Selection
- Utilization
- Product management
- Distribution
- Procurement

**Outputs/Outcomes**
- Availability
- Affordability
- Accessibility
- Quality
- Rational use
- Equity
- Sustainability & drug security

Source: Author team, as of 11 April 2019
Five key challenges the Lancet Commission addresses

1. Paying for a basket of essential medicines
2. Making essential medicines affordable
3. Assuring quality and safety of essential medicines
4. Promoting quality use of medicines
5. Developing missing essential medicines

Cross-cutting -> measuring progress
1. Paying for a basket of essential medicines


- Medicines in Thailand

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>2000</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Current health expenditure US$ per capita</td>
<td>WDI</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>222</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Medicines as % of current health expenditure</td>
<td>Drug System 2020</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Medicines, US$ per capita</td>
<td>Calculation AxB</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. Paying for a basket of essential medicines
2. Making essential medicines affordable

• Context of Thai Universal Health Coverage (UHC)
  – National Essential List of Medicines is included in benefit package of Thai UHC under the management of three main public health insurance schemes
  – Essential medicines are available at public health facilities
  – Quality private drug stores are included into service provision of UC Scheme (pilot phase, Oct 2019)
SDG 3.8 UHC
Thailand was comparable to high income countries

Source: PHC on the road to UHC 2019 Monitoring Report

FIGURE 5  Countries are at different stages in service coverage and financial protection

Source: PHC on the road to UHC 2019 Monitoring Report
High cost / sophisticated medicines: available and affordable

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>รายการ</th>
<th>หน่วยนับ</th>
<th>2558</th>
<th>2559</th>
<th>2560</th>
<th>2561</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- การให้ยาคลายลิมเบื้องในผู้ป่วยโรคหลอดเลือดสมองที่ร้ายแรง (Stroke fast track)</td>
<td>ครั้ง</td>
<td>2,557</td>
<td>2,901</td>
<td>3,868</td>
<td>4,844</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- การให้ยาคลายลิมเบื้องในผู้ป่วยโรคหลอดเลือดหัวใจขาดเลือดเฉียบพลันชนิด ST-elevated (STEMI fast track)</td>
<td>ครั้ง</td>
<td>3,846</td>
<td>3,955</td>
<td>4,604</td>
<td>4,726</td>
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<td>- การใช้ยาตามบัญชี จ (2) ในผู้ป่วยรายเก่าและรายใหม่</td>
<td>คน</td>
<td>21,478</td>
<td>34,434</td>
<td>33,145</td>
<td>33,393</td>
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<tr>
<td>- การใช้ยาแก่ผู้ที่มีการยาดื้อยา (17 รายการ)</td>
<td>คน</td>
<td>5,708</td>
<td>7,141</td>
<td>6,917</td>
<td>5,312</td>
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<tr>
<td>- การใช้ยาคุ้มกันการอุดตันของหลอดเลือด (Clopidogrel) ที่ใช้สิทธิ CL</td>
<td>คน</td>
<td>201,795</td>
<td>232,052</td>
<td>402,925</td>
<td>439,003</td>
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</table>

Source: NHSO Annual Report 2018
Compulsory Licensing: improved access to medicines

Source: Prelim-report on Health Impact from the government use of license for pharmaceuticals in Thailand
However, limited access to opioids

Availability of opioids* for pain management (2014-2016 average)

(Consumption in defined daily doses for statistical purposes (S-DDD) per million inhabitants per day)

Monitoring access to medicines

• Adequate funding to ensure inclusion of essential medicines in benefit package
• Reducing out of pocket expenditure
• Investing in capacity to accurately track health expenditure, esp pharmaceutical expenditure
• However, no system in place for measurement of SDG 3.b.3 availability, affordability and access to medicines and vaccines