

DEVELOPING THE FIRST REPORT ON MEDICAL DEVICES IN MOLDOVA: INDICATORS FROM THE NATIONAL INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

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A large share of medical devices found hospitals in Moldova has been provided through international projects. A few years ago, the investments were often made without clear situation analysis and weak coordination. This has left some facilities with maintenance problems, over- or underutilization, or missing essential equipment to provide the clinical services.

The Swiss Agency for Development and cooperation (SDC) projects procured required clinical equipment and invested in building-up of a Health Technology Management (HTM) system. In order to improve the information base for such activities, an open source, web-based information system for medical devices “openMEDIS” was introduced for the project hospitals.

From October 2012 to June 2014, an additional project component was set-up to implement the development, training and initial data collection in all health care facilities in the Republic of Moldova. The objective of the project was that health facilities are managed more efficiently, transparently through a functional national Information Management System (IMS) for medical devices.

As of today, the project showed considerable success in the implementation and achieved the following indicators: persons responsible for the management of medical devices in each health institution were appointed; more than 144 health institutions included data in “openMEDIS”; almost 21’000 medical devices were recorded, and 162 hospital-based users were trained. The data is accessed and utilized by each facility as well as nationally bodies such as the Agency for Medicines and Medical Devices (AMED). For the first time, data can be reported on the national level aggregating and analyzing various indicators. The Medical Devices Report 2014 includes the following summary indicators:

- 91.3 % of all recorded devices in the system are fully functional
- 83 % of the devices in the were reported to be used regularly
- 43.2 % of the inventory is located within Chişinău Municipality
- The total balance value of medical equipment is 721’727’442 MDL, which represents 16% of their original purchase costs
- 37 % of all devices were procured more than 10 years ago
- 93.6 % of all records assigned to GMDN¹ nomenclature

Information in the report will also be grouped by Hospital, Rayon, or Region. The data can be accessed in real-time by all registered users.

The reporting, dissemination and discussion of such indicators is important is relevant directly, e.g. for procurement planning or indirectly for targeted management interventions and plays a very important role in policy-making. For this reasons, the responsible bodies should annually issue such reports, further improve them and organize stakeholder meetings to discuss the indicators and make action-plans for the more efficient use of medical devices.



Fig. 1: Template of the 2014 issue

¹ Global Medical Device Nomenclature (GMDN) is a system of internationally agreed generic descriptors used to identify all medical device products