

Access to Medicines: Issues & Possible KP Strategies

	Regulation	Procurement	Financing	Cost Containment
Issues	<p>Supply, quality & cost of medicines affected by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -regulations discourage entry of new drugs - Patents are not respected - Not all registered drugs are actively sold - Need stronger local manufacture - Doctors in pharmacy business 	<p>Uneven understanding of procurement process;</p> <p>Devolution – fragmented procurement</p> <p>High cost & low availability of medicines</p> <p>Personal OPP & low availability of medicines</p> <p>Absence of procurement therapeutic committees</p>	<p>Communication between national & local governments re health investments</p> <p>Lack of communication on underutilization of medicines</p> <p>Fragmented effort & priorities (devolved health system)</p> <p>Philhealth benefit packages: responsive? What is the basis?</p>	<p>High value added tax (12%)</p> <p>Large disparity of cost (fees, meds, diagnostics)</p> <p>Lack of information on health for the poor</p> <p>Poor enforcement of regulatory policies</p> <p>Fragmented/decentralized healthcare</p>
Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cap brands per molecule - Post Marketing Surveillance - Promote Good Practices for Supply of Meds - promote bioavailability & bioequivalence - Inspection Standards - Finance FDA 	<p>DOH becomes central buyer & distributor of medicines for LGUs</p> <p>Education on procurement process, PPP, consignment modalities & how LGUs budget for health/ medicines</p> <p>Sin tax IRR & Law</p> <p>Compliance w law</p>	<p>Information to LGUs on how to relate medicines to health outcomes; allocate resources based on health needs</p> <p>Sharing of innovations w LGUs</p> <p>Who manages UHC in DOH – one dedicated undersecretary person?</p> <p>More transparency in PHIC benefit package development & review</p>	<p>Lower VAT on essential medicines</p> <p>Standardize fees</p> <p>Shared financing responsibility</p> <p>Improve referral system</p> <p>Cost transparency</p> <p>Gatekeepers</p>