



Availability of essential medicines and commodities

Abbreviated name	Availability of essential medicines and commodities
Indicator name	Availability of essential medicines and commodities
Domain	Health systems
Subdomain	HSS
Associated terms	Access
Definition	Percentage of health facilities with essential medicines and life-saving commodities
Numerator	Number of facilities with essential medicines in stock.
Denominator	Total number of health facilities.
Disaggregation/ additional dimension	<p>Facility type, facility managing authority (public/private), specific type of medicine/commodity (e.g. priority medicines for women and children, vaccines, ART, family planning, essential NCD medicines)</p> <p>WHO-recommended essential core list of medicines: bronchodilator inhaler, steroid inhaler, glibenclamide, metformin, insulin, angiotensin-converting-enzyme (ACE) inhibitor, calcium channel blocker, statin, aspirin, thiazide diuretic, beta-blocker, omeprazole tablet, diazepam injection, fluoxetine tablet, haloperidol tablet, carbamazepine tablet, amoxicillin tablet/capsule, amoxicillin suspension, ampicillin injection, ceftriaxone injection, gentamicin injection, oral rehydration salts, zinc sulfate.</p> <p>Essential NCD medicines: at least aspirin, a statin, an ACE inhibitor, thiazide diuretic, a long-acting calcium channel blocker, metformin, insulin, a bronchodilator and a steroid inhalant.</p> <p>Priority medicines for women and children: amoxicillin tablet/capsule, amoxicillin suspension, ampicillin injection, ceftriaxone injection, gentamicin injection, oral rehydration salts, zinc sulphate, oxytocin injection, magnesium sulphate injection.</p> <p>Suggested core list of medicines for pricing/affordability surveys: Salbutamol inhaler 100 mcg per dose (200 doses); beclometasone inhaler 100 mcg/dose (200 doses); glibenclamide 5 mg tablet; metformin 500 mg tablet; insulin regular 100 IU/ml, 10 ml vial; enalapril 5 mg tablet; amlodipine 5 mg tablet; simvastatin 20 mg tablet; aspirin 100 mg tablet; hydrochlorothiazide 25 mg tablet; carvedilol 12.5 mg tablet; omeprazole 20 mg tablet; diazepam 10 mg/2 ml injection; fluoxetine 20 mg tablet; haloperidol 5 mg tablet; carbamazepine 200 mg tablet; amoxicillin 500 mg capsule/tablet; amoxicillin 250 mg/5 ml suspension; ampicillin 500 mg injection; ceftriaxone 1 G vial; gentamicin 80 mg/2 ml injection; oral rehydration salts (sachet for 1 litre); zinc sulfate 2 0mg tablet; oxytocin injection (5 or 10 iu); magnesium sulfate 50% injection 10 ml vial.</p>
Method of measurement	<p>Stock out data may also refer to specific time period (1 month, 3 months).</p> <p>Data on the availability of a specific list of medicines are collected from a survey of a sample of facilities. Availability is reported as the percentage of medicine outlets where a particular medicine was found on the day of the survey. Health facility reports may also include stockouts indicators but require regular independent verification.</p>
Method of estimation	
Measurement frequency	Annual or biannual
Monitoring and evaluation framework	Output
Preferred data sources	Special facility surveys
Other possible data sources	Routine facility information systems
Further information and related links	<p>Draft comprehensive global monitoring framework and targets for the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases, including a set of indicators. Agenda item A66/8, Sixty-sixth World Health Assembly, 20–28 May 2013. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2013 (http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA66/A66_8-en.pdf?ua=1, accessed 29 March 2015).</p> <p>Indicators for monitoring the Millennium Development Goals: definitions, rationale, concepts and sources. New York (NY): United Nations; 2012 (http://mdgs.un.org/unsd/mi/wiki/MainPage.ashx, accessed 29 March 2015).</p> <p>Monitoring the building blocks of health systems: a handbook of indicators and their measurement strategies. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2010 (http://www.who.int/healthinfo/systems/WHO_MBHSS_2010_full_web.pdf?ua=1, accessed 29 March 2015).</p> <p>Framework of actions for the follow-up to the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development beyond 2014. Report of the Secretary-General. New York (NY): United Nations; 2014 (https://www.unfpa.org/webdav/site/global/shared/documents/ICPD/Framework%20of%20action%20for%20the%20follow-up%20to%20the%20PoA%20of%20the%20ICPD.pdf, accessed 19 August 2014).</p>