

AT A GLANCE

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELLBEING



SDG 3.1: Reduce global maternal mortality ratio (MMR) to below 70 and MMRs in all countries to below **140** per 100,000 live births by 2030

Maternal mortality ratio in Africa was **542** per 100,000 live births in 2017

In 2017, an estimated 196,000 women died from pregnancy-related causes on the continent, accounting for 66% of global maternal deaths



Hypertension cases (million)

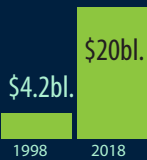


27% of Africa's population are hypertensive and the cases are rising rapidly



95.9%

of pharmaceutical product imports was from outside the continent in 2018



Africa's imports of medicines and medical equipment

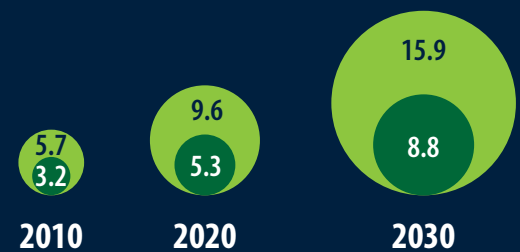
Market size for oxytocin in Africa



Year	10-IU doses (million)	\$ million
2050	66.0	29.1
2040	59.2	18.9
2030	49.3	11.3
2020	37.4	6.2

Total annual direct patient costs and spending on medicines for hypertension (\$ billion)

● Direct patient costs ● Spending on medicines



Essential Medicines for MNCH and Hypertension: Prices in African Countries vs. Global Median Prices

Oxytocin 10-IU dose (\$/ml)

Global: 0.1664



DRC: **0.0710**
South Africa: **0.3949**
Sudan: **0.1884**

Hydrochlorothiazide 25 mg (\$/tablet)

Global: 0.0237



South Africa: **0.0077**
Sudan: **0.0859**

Misoprostol 200 mcg (\$/tab-cap)

Global: 0.1664



South Africa: **0.3150**

Hydralazine 20 mg (\$/ampoule)

Global: 2.2290



Sudan: **2.9262**

Amoxicillin 500 mg (\$/tablet)

Global: 0.0299



DRC: **0.0206**
South Africa: **0.0343**

Captopril 25 mg (\$/tablet)

Global: 0.0076



South Africa: **0.0090**
Sudan: **0.0388**

Oral Rehydration Solution (\$/packet)

Global: 0.1664



Nigeria: **0.1200**

Losartan 50 mg (\$/tablet)

Global: 0.0181



South Africa: **0.0194**

ANALYSIS

LEVERAGING THE AfCFTA TO BOOST INTRA-AFRICAN PHARMACEUTICALS TRADE:

Efforts to increase local pharmaceutical production in Africa have been hampered by small, fragmented markets and policy incoherencies. These are areas which the AfCFTA can help remedy in order to boost intra-regional trade of pharmaceuticals in Africa. It is important that trade negotiators ensure that the pharmaceutical and medical supplies sector is included as a priority sector for liberalization under the trade in goods negotiations. Experiences from other countries show that this can also attract investments to the sector and thereby lead to investments in training and skills development, accelerated technology transfer agreements, and job creation.

OPPORTUNITIES IN MAKING GENERICS: Producing off-patent drugs presents a unique opportunity for Africa to develop essential industrial capabilities while reducing risks. The technical requirements and production unit economics are lower for generics than for drugs under patents. Some countries with thriving pharmaceutical industries today – India and Brazil, for example – got their start by taking advantage of relatively lax intellectual property rights to produce generics for their large domestic markets. Africa may be able to do the same. A healthy generic industry can then serve as a platform to develop manufacturing experience and to train the workforce for increasingly more complex products over time.

REGULATORY STANDARDS: Introducing a continental set of regulations and standards in Africa's pharmaceutical market to assure the quality of medical products and ensure that local manufacturers adhere to such standards can have a positive impact on both the quality and the availability of the products that are needed specifically in Africa. The ratification of the African Medicines Agency (AMA) is an important step towards harmonizing rules and regulations to help fight informal markets and tackle the challenge of low-quality drugs through a coordinated monitoring mechanism of drug manufacturing.

SEQUENCING OF PHARMACEUTICAL MANUFACTURING: Sequencing the development of the pharmaceutical value chains (VC) in Africa could help ensure stable and long-term expansion. The VC steps can be prioritized by identifying the steps which will have the most immediate impact on cost, time, and capacity. Scaling up existing production of APIs in Africa of generic medicines for MNCH and hypertension will contribute to cheaper medicines and better access. Other dimensions of the value chains can be sequenced to the latter stages of the development of pharmaceutical manufacturing in Africa. This includes the stage of research and development (R&D) which is a highly costly and complex process.