

# Basic Drug Procurement Pattern at Primary Health Care Centres, A Case Study of Shira Local Government Area Bauchi, Bauchi State

Abdul-Baqi, A. Magaji

*College of Health Technology, Bauchi*

**Abstract :** Basic or essential drugs are drugs that meets the health care requirements of majority of a population, hence, they should be made available at all times in sufficient amounts and in the appropriate dosage forms, and at a price that individuals and the community can afford. The study is aimed at investigating the basic drug procurement pattern at primary health care centre in Bauchi State. The sampling technique adopted is the random sampling techniques. The researcher collected all the relevant data from primary sources. Percentages and frequency were used in analyzing the data via SPSS version 22; the results were further presented in table and charts. 84 % of participants usually seek for approval from the government before procuring drugs. 56% responded positively to obtaining approval on time; 82% claimed they do not get sufficient supply from Government; 84% agreed to health clinic revolve drug. 34% representing twenty one respondents claimed that the accounting system is very efficient; 25% representing fifty respondents say not efficient. 70% claimed that procurement is a major problem to the effective operation I primary health care centre. 46% claimed that management of primary health care department use the funds provided by the government appropriately. The availability of essential drugs at the health centres was rather low, showing that the system has failed in achieving its main goal to manage availability also in remote area. The drug procurement and management system from the state, local government to district did not function well. Public officer should be made to understand that the public resources belong to everybody and that there management was everybody responsibility. Approval should be given on time from authority to purchased essential drug if their way from government.

**Key words:** basic drugs, procurement, pattern, clinic, government.

## I. INTRODUCTION

A Drug is any substance which, when administered to an individual, is capable of curing ailments, reducing suffering caused by the ailments or preventing the future occurrence of an ailment. According to WHO (2000), basic or essential drugs are drugs that meets the health care requirements of majority of a population, hence, they should be made available at all times in sufficient amounts and in the appropriate dosage forms, and at a price that individuals and the community can afford. For drugs to be effective they must be administered through the appropriate route, at appropriate dosage, and must be adequate and treatment continued for the correct length of time (FMOH Abuja, 2012). According to

UNODC (2018), An estimated 14.4% of the population in Nigeria, between 15 and 64 years of age had used drugs in 2017. This estimate includes people who had used a drug at least once in the past 12 months as well high-risk drug users. The estimates have been modified to account for individuals who had used more than one drug, in other words “any drug use” counts individuals only once even if they had used multiple substances in the past year. Access to basic drugs (EDs) is fundamental to the good performance of the health care delivery system. The procurement of safe, effective and affordable basic drugs of good quality in the right quantity to the whole population in particular the poor is therefore a priority in health and drug policy (Quick, 2009).

### *Statement of the Problem*

Over the years, the health sector has witnessed increase budgetary allocation. However funds release is not commiserate with the amount allocated. The financing of health care at the state and LGAs remain difficult and often contagious. Most public health finances are in the form of direct Out - Of - Pocket (OUP) payments. Given the limited resources, the state government implemented free ante- natal care (ANC) programmed for pregnant women and under 5 children as well as providing nutritional supplements for malnourished kids (Bauchi State Strategic Health Development Plan, 2015).

The proportion of the state budget allocated to the health sector has consistently increased from 6.38% in 2006 to almost 15% in 2009, this remarkable leadership commitment to providing health service in the state need to be sustained. However, in situations where there is no adequate supply or procurement of essential drugs, the consequences of this inadequacy include an enormous loss of life from preventable or treatable diseases (such as tuberculosis, pneumonia, acute respiratory infection, malaria, diabetes, and hypertension) and significant human suffering particularly among the poor and marginalized populations of the world. The lack of access to life saving and health supporting medicines for more than 2 billion poor people stands as a direct contradiction to the fundamental principles of health as a human right. Improving access to medicine must be a key component of strategies to strengthen health care (Primary Health Care for sustainable development, 2013).

In addition, the world medicine situation found that people in poorer countries were much less likely to have access to these medicine (WHO, 2004a). Access to essential drugs is fundamental to the good performance of the health care delivery system. The procurement of safe, effective and affordable essential drugs of good quality in the right quantity to the whole population in particular the poor is therefore a priority in health as drug policy (Quick, 2003).

It is on the basis of these facts, that the present study on “basic drug procurement pattern at primary health care centres, case study of Shira Local Government Area, Bauchi State became important.

#### *Research Questions*

Some of the question that need to be answered by this research include among others;

1. What is the main problem in this procurement and utilization of essential drugs in Shira local government
2. What is the practice in the procurement and utilization of essential drugs in Primary Health Care Shira LGA
3. Discrepancy in the amount collected as revenue at the amount on the receipt prepared by participating revenue collection
4. Infrequent visit of local government primary health care management committee
5. Poor medical auditing system.

#### *Objectives*

1. To identify the factors that affect procurement of essential drugs at primary Health care centre in Shira Local Government Area.
2. To identify the factor that affected utilization of essential drugs at primary health care centre
3. To determine the efficiency of primary Health Care system of Nigeria particularly Shira Local Government in utilization of essential drugs.
4. To outline the areas where there are deficiency and lapses in the primary Health Care Centres.

## II. METHODS

### *Historical Background of the Study Area*

The historical background of Shira Local Government Area of Bauchi State, the present area known as Shira was a county council since 1961, under Katagum native authority and later Katagum local government. Shira local government metamorphose into a development council in 1976 and was thus joined with the other communities such as Gamawa to form the former Katagum division in 196. The local government covers an area of 1202 square kilometers. It has six district namely, Shira, Disina, Tsafi, Beli, Andubun, Faggo, with 36 village heads. The local government has Yana as the administrative health – quarters. The geographical location of the area is quite interesting; it falls within the Sahel

Savannah belt, and the climatic condition is typical of the harsh tropical desert climate. The local government shares the boundaries with Giade local government at the east, Darazo local government to the south, Gwaram local government in Jigawa State to the west, Jamaare and Katagum Local Government to the north and northwest respectively.

#### *Population*

According to the 2006 census, the local government has a projected population of 400,470. The people are dominantly farmers. There are to major rivers that pass through Shira local government. The rivers include river Dilimi in Jos Plateau State and Kari in Darazo local government area. In terms and social amenities, the local government headquarters and 20 other villages are connected with national grid.

#### *Research Design*

The study design adopted in this study, involves two approaches, case study approach, and survey approach. **The case study approach:** this involve the study of a specific group of a particular time drawing conclusion based on the outcome of the finding of the groups. For the study Shira local government health centre was chosen as the case study and within the local government itself, departments (health, finance, audit etc) were studies conclusion were drawn based entirely on finding in that health centers of other two variables; audit and other staff. **The survey approach:** this involves a general view of drawing conclusion from what have been viewed. The advantage of the case study approach is that it gives room for an analysis in to the operation of the organization that is under study rather than conducting random supply, it is with survey approach.

#### *Population of the Study*

The population of the interest consist of different categories of people whose activities of action interact to determine the efficiency of utilization of essential drugs in the health care centre in Shira Local Government Area; therefore one is naturally dispose with two, three definite variable which are:

- 1) The organization (i.e. Shira local government and its department concerned to health department of finance and Store)
- 2) The staff working at various health centers and
- 3) Procurement

#### *Sampling Technique*

The sampling technique adopted is the random sampling techniques.

#### *Sources of Data*

The researcher collected all the relevant data from primary sources.

*Primary Data*

This consists of data gathered by the researcher himself for the purpose of the study. The primary data collected through the following:

- a. *Questionnaire:* which according to Chisnal (1999) is a method of obtaining specific information about a define problem so that the data can analyzed and interpret result in a better appreciation of problem. Hence, the question is restricted to the data collections that are self administered by the researcher.

In this research work, the organization (specifically the concerned department which include, maternity, pharmacy, medical laboratory, stores) the staff are given questionnaire so as to obtain data of the information on efficiency of procurement and utilization of essential drugs.

- b. *Interview:* Data can be collected through direct contact between the interviewer and the respondent or non personal contact through the use of postal question or radio connection. The advantage of the personal contact is that it normally produces a high response rate at this means error that might be introduced by many people is minimized. However, it can introduce bias if the interview is constructional. The main advantage is that it is expensive to conduct in time and logistic wise.

In the semi - structural interview, the questions are open and the respondents are free to answer in what ever way he/she pleases. The main setback in this form of interview is the difficulty in analyzing and interpreting the responses to the open ended question. However, both qualitative and quantitative data can be collected through the semi-structured interview.

The researcher used interviews to compliment the questionnaire. This helps to clarify the questionnaire. Some junior staff (skilled) were interviewed on the effort of health department to improve the procurement and utilization of essential drugs at Primary Health Care Centre. The questions asked were upon ended in some cases, so that the respondent would be free in giving answers.

*Method of Data Collection*

Percentages and frequency were used in analyzing the data via SPSS version 22, the results were further presented in table and charts.

**III. RESULT**

The result were based on sixty one (61) retrieved questionnaire from the respondents. Level of significant was generally taken at 0.05.

Table 1: Obtaining of approval from the local government before purchase essential drugs?

Option	Respondent frequency	Percentage of Response
Yes	51	84
No	10	16
<b>Total</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>100</b>

84 % representing 51respondents answered yes while 16% representing 10 respondents answered no .This show that the participants usually seek for approval from the government before procuring drugs.

Table 2: Fastness of approval

Option	Respondent frequency	Percentage of Response
Yes	34	56
No	27	44
<b>Total</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>100</b>

Fifty six percent 56% responded positively to obtaining approval on time, while 44% answered no . This shows that there was some level of delay in obtaining the approval from government

Table 3: Sufficient supply of drugs from the government

Option	Respondent frequency	Percentage of Response
Yes	11	18
No	50	82
<b>Total</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>100</b>

82% representing fifty respondents claimed they do not get sufficient supply from Government, while 18% claimed they do. This suggest that most often, government does not provide sufficient drugs to the study location.

Table 4: Revolving of essential drugs by clinics

Option	Respondent frequency	Percentage of Response
Yes	43	84
No	18	16
<b>Total</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>100</b>

84% representing forty three respondent answered Yes. While 16% representing eighteen respondents answered No. This suggest that health clinic revolve drug.

Table 5. Primary health care center has good accounting system.

Option	Respondent frequency	Percentage of Response
Very efficient	21	34
Efficient	15	25
Not efficient	25	41
<b>Total</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>100</b>

34% representing twenty one respondents claimed that the accounting system is very efficient; 25% representing fifty respondents say not efficient. This suggest that they do not have efficient accounting system.

Table 6. The visit of medical auditors to the health care center frequently

Option	Respondent frequency	Percentage of Response
Yes	11	18
No	50	82
<b>Total</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>100</b>

Based on the data collected 18% answered yes to the vist of medical auditor, while 82% representing fifty respondents (50) said Medical auditors are not checking the supply regularly .

Table 7:Procurement as a major problem to the effective operation in primary health care center

Option	Respondent frequency	Percentage of Response
Yes	43	70
No	18	30
<b>Total</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>100</b>

Based on the data collection 70% representing forty three (43) claimed that procurement is a major problem to the effective operation I primary health care centre, while 30%representing eighteen respondents say no .this suggest that procurement is likely a major problem.

Table 8. Does the management of primary health care department use the funds provided by the government appropriately?

Option	Respondent frequency	Percentage of Response
Yes	28	46
No	33	54
<b>Total</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>100</b>

46%representing twenty eight (28) respondent claimed that management of primary health care department use the funds provided by the government appropriately, while fifty four percent (54%) representing thirty three respondents answered no.

#### IV. DISCUSSION, FINDING, CONCLUSSION AND RECOMMENDATION

The socio demographic data support that all the respondent were within. The skilled staff at the different primary health care center. The provision of safe effective of affordable essential drugs of good quantity in the right quantity to the while population in particular the poor is therefore a priority in health and drop policy (Quick, 2003).The study revealed that 31% agreed that there was availability of essential drugs, while 69% did not agreed, which shows that at primary health care centre, suggesting that essential drugs were not readily available. The concept of revolving drugs funds (RDF) was

launched through Bamako initiative to be one of solving the problems of securing availability of drugs in resources in poor setting (Umeni and Narula 1999).The study also revealed that ,most of the participants (84%) believed that they practiced drugs revolving funds at their health care centre.

BASSHDP (2015), has invested past years on provision of the health care services. However, the great investment made in provision of health care services has not translated to qualitative access to care especially in the rural area. The study revealed that 64% believed that, the management has problems of procurement and utilization of essential drugs at rural health centre, and that there was problem of procurement which affected the operation in primary health care centre. Which also shows that there was problems in the procurement due to using the funds for purpose or giving equal opportunity. In the same vein, Erinoshio established that, Bamako initiative which has been adopted in the country with the aim of improving drugs supply in the publicly funded health care facilities in the country health care institution are still unable to make drugs available to the consumers (Sabo etal.,2008). the study further revealed that medical auditors are not usually auditing the primary health care centre which also contribute for the in proper utilization of the drug and other health facilities.

#### Conclusion

The availability of essential drugs at the health centres was rather low, showing that the system has failed in achieving its main goal to manage availability also in remote area. The drug procurement and management system from the state, local government to district did not function well. There were no regular meeting with Primary Health Care Management Committee and there was no regular monitoring, auditing or supervision of primary health care centre. There was also lack of necessary guideline for primary health care staff.

#### Recommendations

The following recommendation was necessary for the purpose of improving the performance of providing health care centre in general public.

1. Public officer should make to understand that the public resources belong to everybody and that there management was everybody responsibility.
2. On the utility of essential drug by the authority medical condition should be send frequently to answer proper utilization of essential drugs.
3. Enough skilled manpower should be providing of each health centre.
4. Government should be given enough drugs /finding to the health centers fo0r effective service delivery.
5. With regard to the revenue generation internally the authority should diversify its authority to the following: - medical lab rotary, maternity, drug involving fund etc.

6. Approval should be given on time from authority to purchased essential drug if there way from government.
7. One of the greatest problem be setting public sector is accountability and of course efficiency of political problem, and nepotism and of course all tears of government activities was besieged one way or the other by the factor, there by reaching to sub optimally in area of agriculture, Banking, education but name a few. Therefore a researcher recommended that not only that meant be allowed in the area of recruitment training and administration in very passage of government with a view to allowed competent personnel to handle and improve the quality of information in resulting from the system.

## REFERENCES

- [1]. Bauchi State Strategic Health Development Plan 2010- 2015. (2015). Retrieved from <https://nigeriandocuments.blogspot.com>
- [2]. F.M.O.H. (2012). National Guidelines for Development of Primary Health Care System in Nigeria June 2012. Retrieved from [www.health.gov.ng/](http://www.health.gov.ng/)
- [3]. Quick, J.D. (2003). Ensuring Access to Essential Medicine in the Developing Countries. A framework for action; *Chemical Pharmacology and Therapeutic*.73; 279-83
- [4]. WHO. (2007). Technical Report Series no 946. Geneva; WHO Press. The Selection and use of Essential Medicare. [www.who.int/whr/2007](http://www.who.int/whr/2007)
- [5]. WHO (2000). The use of essential drugs, Ninth report of the WHO Expert Committee (including the revised Model List of Essential Drugs).
- [6]. UNODC (2018). Drug use in Nigeria. Retrieved from [www.unodc.org](http://www.unodc.org)