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MONTHLY NEWS DIGEST

April 2020

REPURPOSING MEDDATA TO COLLECT COVID-19 DEMAND FROM HEALTHCARE FACILITIES

MedData is an effective information-analytical system of the State-owned Enterprise "Medical Procurement of Ukraine" (aka as Central Procurement Agency or CPA). The system, created by the Ministry of Health of Ukraine with support from the USAID SAFEMed project, helps to ensure patients' access to medicines and medical products purchased with public funds. MedData supports centralized data collection from healthcare institutions and, from a strategic planning standpoint, helps the Ministry of Health to more efficiently plan for centralized purchases and supplies.

The COVID-19 pandemic is presenting healthcare facilities with multiple challenges. In response to the outbreak, Ukrainian government institutions play a critical role in boosting hospitals' capacity to provide the required treatment and care of COVID-19 patients.

In April 2020, SAFEMed produced an instructional video on how to use MedData to enter current stock and the expected supplies of medicines, medical devices, personal protective equipment, and medical equipment necessary to combat COVID-19. The video is used by medical professionals, who are authorized to enter data on the availability and expected supply of those medicines and medical goods in high demand during a pandemic. In a short period of time, procurement in emergency and laboratory centers then receive timely and detailed instructions. These emergency and laboratory centers provide up-to-date information every three days, which is then used by the Ministry of Health of Ukraine and the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

EXPENDING THE E-CATALOGUE FOR COVID-19 PURCHASES

In the midst of the global pandemic, the e-catalogue created by the Central Procurement Agency on ProZorro became fast, efficient and economical way for Ukrainian healthcare facilities to equip clinicians and patients with necessary medical supplies as part of Covid-19 response activities. Thanks to the e-catalogue, during the Covid-19 pandemic in Ukraine numerous express tests, antiseptics, disinfectants, non-contact thermometers, respirators, masks, gloves, and other personal protective equipment in the total amount of over 1 million Ukrainian Hryvna were purchased through this new procurement instrument for small purchases supported by both SAFEMed and SAFEMed projects.

More specifically, the Central Procurement Agency worked together with SAFEMed to create new profiles and add suppliers and goods to provide Ukrainians with quality and affordable Covid-19 products with an easy and fair purchase procedure. After nine months of work on the e-catalogue, more than 50 categories were created, 200 profiles developed, and 300 products added by the Central Procurement Agency to the Prozorro Market, home to the public procurement platform used by suppliers of medicines and medicinal products.



PROVIDING EVIDENCE SUMMARIES FOR COVID-19 TREATMENT OPTIONS

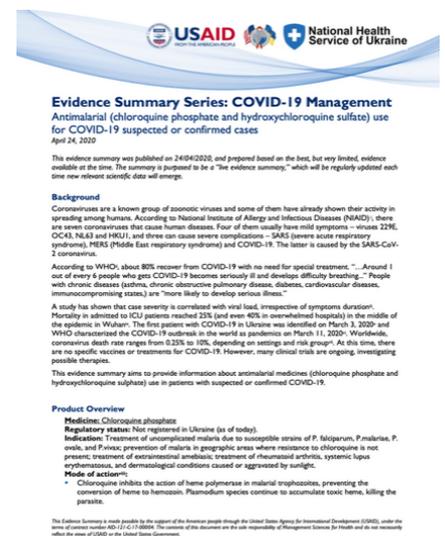
Globally, the uncertainties in prevention and treatment of Covid-19 make it extremely difficult for health care decision-makers. There is the need for immediate action yet evidence is still scarce. And policy makers, as well as health care professionals, encounter challenges in obtaining, understanding, and putting the right information into practice.

The need for evidence-based decisions and close intergovernmental collaboration is more important than ever now. SAFEMed experts, in close collaboration with the National Health Service of Ukraine (NHSU) and Ukrainian clinical experts, developed four Evidence Summaries on select treatment approaches and broad international practice. The developed Evidence Summaries target the use in Covid-19 infected patients of:

- 1) Remdesivir
- 2) Chloroquine and hydroxychloroquine
- 3) Lopinavir/Ritonavir combination
- 4) Convalescent plasma.

SAFEMed not only developed the methodology and template for these Evidence Summaries, but also piloted it in a short timeframe. Such Evidence Summaries can assist in complex decision-making processes, so that patients are provided with safe and effective medical care. SAFEMed shared Evidence summaries with the State Expert Center, National Health Service of Ukraine, and Ministry of Health for consideration in distribution to a broader clinical community, during the protocol development process.

Stay Tuned for the Next Digest



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