



SAFE, AFFORDABLE, AND EFFECTIVE MEDICINES FOR UKRAINIANS (SAFEMed) ACTIVITY

MONTHLY NEWS DIGEST

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SAFEMED PARTICIPATES IN "PHARMEXPERT 2023" FORUM TO DISCUSS ESTABLISHMENT OF UKRAINIAN MEDICINES AGENCY

On November 30, USAID's SAFEMed Activity joined the "PharmExpert 2023" forum in Kyiv, which specifically focused this year on the establishment of a new medicines regulatory authority known as the Ukrainian Medicines Agency (UMA). During the event, government representatives shared their vision for the UMA and explained how functions carried out by the State Service of Medicines and Drug Control, State Expert Center (SEC), and Ministry of Health of Ukraine (MOH) would be transferred to this new unified regulatory authority. The UMA is intended to be created on the principals of independence, digitalization, and transparency and will improve the quality of services for all market players, including pharmaceutical and medical device companies, pharmacies, distributors, and patients.



Photo credit: SAFEMed

The creation of this agency will not only help Ukraine reform the healthcare system, but also serves as an essential step toward progressing Ukraine's European Union (EU) accession. Representatives from the European professional pharmaceutical community were also in attendance, including those from the European Medicines Agency (EMA) and regulatory bodies of European countries, along with representatives from government institutions, public pharmaceutical organizations, the business sector, and academic institutions.

SAFEMed will assist in the creation of the UMA by supporting various activities, including reviewing the regulatory framework, providing proposals and recommendations for amendments to regulatory and legal acts, conducting economic calculations, and modeling various finance and operations scenarios.

SAFEMED LEADERSHIP TEAM JOIN MEETING ON MPU ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND PLANS FOR FUTURE

On December 7, SAFEMed's COP Rebecca Kohler, DCOP Sergey Strashuk, and ST Advisor for Pharmaceutical Procurement Victoria Nosulenko attended the Medical Procurement of Ukraine's (MPU) annual donors meeting to celebrate MPU's accomplishments and discuss goals for the next three years. Other attendees included the Minister of Health Viktor Liashko, Chairman of the Committee on Health of the Verkhovna Rada Mykhailo Radutskyi, and Head of the USAID Office of Health Robin Martz. The MPU's presentation included many achievements that were developed with SAFEMed's support:

About SAFEMed

The Safe, Affordable, and Effective Medicines (SAFEMed) for Ukrainians Activity is designed to support the Government of Ukraine in its ongoing efforts to reform its health care system and expand access to affordable and reliable medicines. With support from USAID and PEPFAR, MSH provides technical and legal assistance to strengthen Ukraine's pharmaceutical sector. Our work in Ukraine aims to boost transparency, improve cost efficiency, and strengthen the pharmaceutical supply chain, ultimately leading to better availability and use of essential medicines and health commodities for TB, HIV and AIDS, COVID-19, and noncommunicable diseases. We support the Government of Ukraine in its ongoing efforts to reform its health care system in the wake of the war.

- Successful merger and reorganization of Ukrmedpostach.
- Acquisition of the ISO 37001:2016 certificate — a testament to MPU's commitment to anti-corruption and compliance activities.
- Development of IT products, such as eStock and modules that are crucial to the national system.
- Progress and enhancement of MedData, MedSupply, and eCatalog.



MPU's General Manager Edem Adamanov gave a presentation on MPU's strategic focus for the next three years. This plan includes ensuring holistic support for health care institutions, enhancing procurement practices, streamlining the management of medical goods, and strengthening the state's logistics infrastructure, while always prioritizing Ukraine's recovery. Additionally, with SAFEMed's support, MPU continues to develop its Learning and Development strategy, positioning itself as the first public institution with a dedicated staff development strategy. This strategic shift underscores MPU's dedication to not only procuring medical supplies but also actively contributing to the comprehensive transformation and improvement of health care services in Ukraine.

SAFEMED PROVIDES CRUCIAL SUPPORT TO BEGIN ENHANCING LABORATORY DIAGNOSTICS IN UKRAINE

To promote rational resource utilization and increase access to diagnostic services for patients, Ukraine is working to optimize its laboratory network for the diagnosis of tuberculosis (TB), HIV, and hepatitis C. This intervention involves analyzing the existing equipment in various regions, considering all aspects of its utilization, and proposing ways to optimize regional equipment types, along with corresponding updates to laboratory commodities for procurement.

SAFEMed convened a coordination meeting with the Center for Public Health (CPH), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), I00% Life, and Alliance for Public Health to gather inputs and proposals from a variety of diverse stakeholders. Subsequently, SAFEMed developed a detailed work plan for this activity, outlining the main stages, structure, and key priorities.

END OF YEAR VIDEO CELEBRATES MPU'S ACHIEVEMENTS AND RESULTS IN 2023

In recognition of the accomplishments and progress made by MPU to ensure that Ukrainians have access to the medicines and services they need, SAFEMed helped create a new video that has been published on the MPU Facebook page.

[WATCH THE VIDEO](#)



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