# I. Background

The WHO Medicines Price & Availability Monitoring Pilot 2016 has two main objectives:

- To assess the current availability of medicines for non-communicable disease (NCD) medicines and other essential medicines in low- and middle-income countries
- To test a smart-phone/tablet based survey mechanism for collecting medicine price and availability data

Survey123 is a free mobile application that can be downloaded to your smart phone or tablet. The WHO Essential Medicines and Health Products Department (EMP) has developed a survey on this application with questions on availability and pricing of the following categories of medicines:

- Diabetes Medicines
- Respiratory Medicines
- Cardiovascular Medicines
- Anti-Infectives
- Medicines for the Central Nervous System
- Maternal and Child Health Medicines
- Anaesthetics and Controlled Substances
- Anti-retrovirals
- Anti-malarials



The survey application can be used on- or offline. The GPS coordinates for each facility were data are collected will be captured in both cases. When you are finished collecting data and are online, you may upload the survey immediately. If you are offline, you may save the completed survey and upload it when you are linked to the internet. Instructions on submitting surveys, both on- and offline, are listed below.

Paper-based versions of the survey will also be provided, in case any technical issues arise.

### II. Data Collection Guidelines

#### Introduction

This survey is designed to collect information about availability and prices of a list of essential medicines in public and private sector facilities. The data will presented for each country, so approval from the Ministry of Health should be obtained for publication of results.

#### Data collectors

Wherever possible, data collectors should have previous experience of conducting surveys, have some pharmaceutical training, and be familiar with the locality.



Part I: General Information

## Sectors covered in the survey

The survey will measure the availability of medicines for non-communicable diseases (NCD) and other essential medicines in the public sector, private sector, and where applicable, the NGO/Faith-based sector. The public sector facilities to be surveyed are: central medical stores, a teaching hospital, a district hospital and primary health care centres. The private sector facilities to be surveyed are: pharmacies and clinics. The NGO/Faith-based facilities to be surveyed are: central medical stores and primary health care centres. For this project, data collection will be limited to health facilities and medicine outlets in the capital city of each participating country.

#### Selecting public sector facilities (n=6)

Generally, lists of public health facilities will be available at central level, so these facilities can be selected centrally.

- 1) Identify the Central stores.
- 2) Select the main teaching hospital in the capital city.
- 3) Select **one** district hospital in the capital city from the list of hospitals:
  - Where there is more than one, choose one at random.
- 4) Select **three** primary health care clinics in the capital city
  - Choose three facilities **at random** from the central list of primary health care facilities, in geographically separate parts of the capital city.

#### Selecting private sector facilities (n=5)

A survey of **five** pharmacies is required. Once the public health facilities have been selected, choose the pharmacy that is closest to each facility, i.e. one pharmacy closest to the teaching hospital, district hospital and each of the three primary health care clinics. This will result in **five pharmacies** participating in the survey.

## Selecting NGO/Faith-based sector facilities (n=2)

As medicines may be procured and dispensed from the NGO/Faith-based sector, a survey of this sector may be applicable for some countries. Choose **one** NGO/Faith-based **procurement centre** and **one** NGO/Faith-based **primary health care centre**. Where there is more than one in a category, choose one **at random**.

## Method for collecting data

There are two options for collecting the data: (1) use the survey app that has been developed for smart phone or (2) use paper based collection.

- For use of the survey app see the instructions in Part II.
- For a paper based collection use the forms attached in Part III.

The questions in this survey ask for information on availability of the product for supply today and pack size and price to a patient.

#### Availability of medicines for NCDs

Available: means "Is this product on the shelves and able to be supplied today?"

Where multiple medicines in a specified category are available, choose the medicine most commonly prescribed or recommended according to national treatment guidelines.

Part 1: General Information 2



Enter data for the INN, dosage form and strength and how many are in the pack sold to a patient.

**Number of units in pack sold to patient:** means the number of tablets, capsules, or other units sold in the package to the consumer/patient

## Medicines for NCDs Survey (Health facilities - pricing)

This survey form requests information on the *price to the patient* of the medicine, based on the cheapest product. Record the amount of money the patient will be asked to pay to receive this medicine. Record the price of the *cheapest* available version of this drug for the patient. This may be the originator branded product or a generic version of the medicine.