



A Data Descriptor for a Critical Review of Medicine Policy in Namibia: An East African Perspective

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Published: 04 November 2011 | **Received:** 25 July 2011 | **Accepted:** 13 September 2011

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DOI: [10.5281/zenodo.18530236](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18530236)

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Abstract

Medicine policy is fundamental to healthcare delivery, but detailed data on its development and application within specific regions can be fragmented. This data descriptor presents a structured dataset derived from a critical review of medicine policy in Namibia, considered from an East African regional perspective. The purpose is to provide a reusable, annotated dataset that systematically records the scope, development, and key thematic elements of Namibian medicine policy. The objective is to support secondary analysis by offering a consolidated resource for comparative regional studies and policy assessment. A systematic document review was undertaken. The dataset was constructed by identifying, retrieving, and thematically analysing publicly available policy documents, legislative texts, strategic plans, and relevant grey literature. Data extraction used a pre-defined framework focused on policy aims, governance structures, essential medicines, financing, and supply chain mechanisms. The dataset identifies dominant themes, including a consistent policy direction towards strengthening primary healthcare and improving access to essential medicines. A prominent finding was the recurrent identification of supply chain fragmentation as a critical implementation barrier. The compiled dataset provides a structured foundation for analysing the trajectory and focal points of medicine policy in Namibia. It illustrates consistencies in strategic intent alongside persistent systemic challenges documented within the literature. Future research should use this dataset for comparative analysis with other East African nations. Policymakers may leverage this resource to inform evidence-based policy revisions, with specific attention to integrated supply chain solutions. Medicine policy, Namibia, East Africa, health policy, dataset, essential medicines, supply chain, document analysis This data descriptor contributes a novel, structured dataset for the analysis of Namibian medicine policy within a regional context.

Keywords: *Medicine policy, Health systems research, Sub-Saharan Africa, Pharmaceutical sector, Policy analysis, Data descriptor*



ABSTRACT-ONLY PUBLICATION

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