Strategies for Managing and Mitigating Drug Shortage by Taiwan FDA

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Drug Supply Chain

Licensed pharmaceutical holder





Pharmaceutical Affairs Act § 27-2



Trace and track system of medicinal products



Pharmaceutical wholesaler





Draft regulations to control the supply of drugs in shortage.



Drug Distribution Monitoring System

Medical institutions





Drug Shortage Management



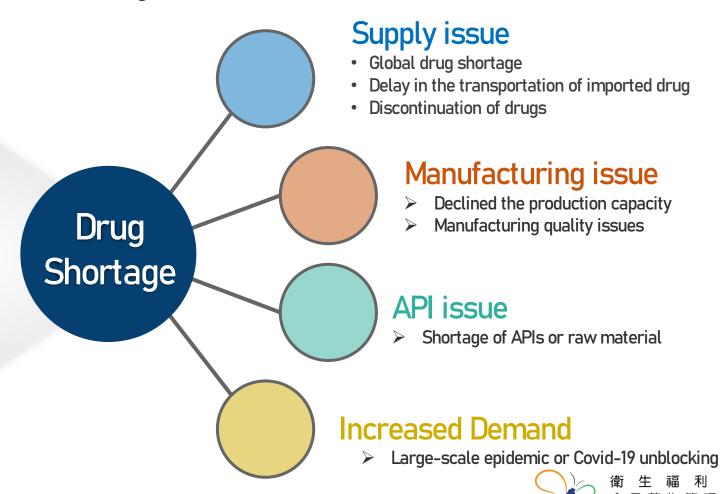
Drug Supply
Management System



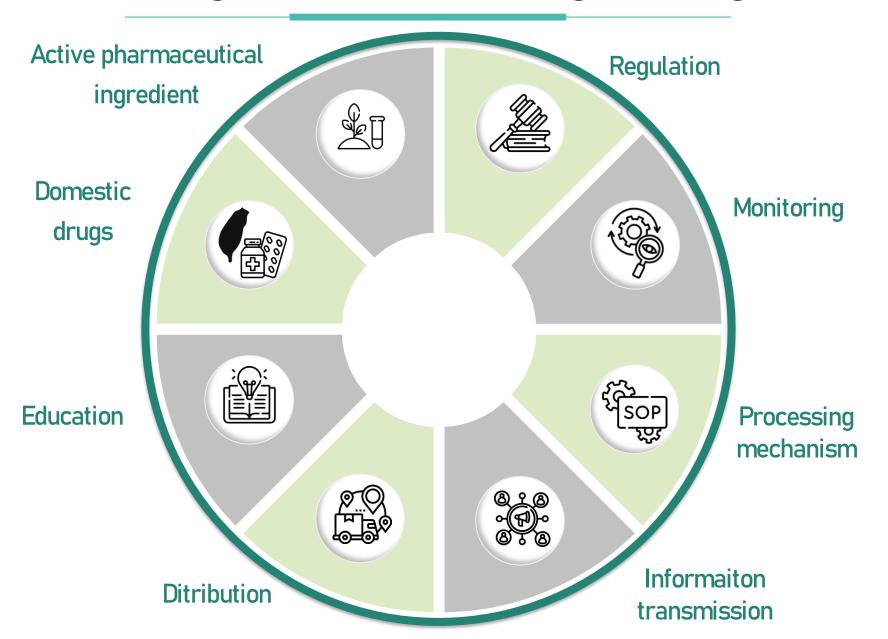
Taiwan's National Health Insurance Database

Drug Shortages

Due to factors such as epidemics, wars or inflation, how to avoid drug shortage is an important issue among countries.



Strategies to Prevent Drug Shortages



Essential Drugs List

Pharmaceutical Affairs Act § 27-2

Mainly refers to : (481 medicines in edition 2023)

- World Health Organization (WHO) Essential Medicines List.
- Recommendations from domestic medical associations.
- Medications required for emergency patients in the List of Essential Medicines of the United States.
- Reserved medicines according to the Mobilization of Reserve Medicines and Medical Devices Regulations.(mainly for trauma and emergency care)
- Antimicrobial drugs and vaccines recommended by Taiwan CDC.



Reporting Responsibility of Industry

Pharmaceutical Affairs Act

- § 27–2 The time at which essential drugs license holders shall report their incapability to continue drug supply.
 - In general situations: 6 months ahead of time.
 - In irresistible situations: within 30 days of the incident's occurrence.

TFDA may post information about alternative drugs on a public website and may grant special permission to manufacture or import the drug.

§ 96-1 Penal Provisions

- > TFDA may public announcement of the base information of the firm, and the violation detail.
- ➤ In the case of a serious violation or continued violation, may be imposed with a fine of not less than NT\$60,000 but not more than NT\$300,000.

Special Permission to Manufacture/Import

According to Regulation for Drug Shortage Management (Announced Date: 2016-07-11)

















Assessment

The drug is incapable of continuing supply and there is no alternative drug available.

Solicitation

Public solicitation of alternative drug at "Drug Shortage Management System (DSMS)"

Approval

Approval of the project application form pharmaceutical company.

Publication

Announce the approval information on the DSMS website.



Reporting System

- Established Drug Supply Management System (website) in 2016.
- Online reporting and information sharing.
- Unified reporting format, including Shortage Report and Supply Investigation Report.





https://dsms.fda.gov.tw



Active Monitoring



Global drug shortage events

 Drug shortage news and websites, such as US ASHP, TGA, Health Canada



Domestic clinical drug demand and supply situation

 Domestic infectious disease development trends, such as COVID-19, influenza, enterovirus



GMP warning letters

- Finished products and APIs
- US FDA, EDQM, PIC/S



Drug Distribution Monitoring System

Pharmaceutical wholesaler stock data



Medical institutions

Place an order for medicine with available wholesalers.





TFDA and TFPA

Monitor pharmaceutical wholesalers' inventory levels in real-time and predict the risk of drug shortages.



TFPA: Federation of Taiwan Pharmacists Associations

Cooperation







- Investigating the supply status of reported shortage drugs
- Assessing alternative drugs.
- Monitoring the recovery of the supply of reported shortage drugs.
- Coordinating with the drug license holders of shortage drugs to expedite the restoration of supply.
- Collaborating with pharmaceutical companies of alternative drugs to increase production or imports.
- Publishing information on drug shortages and their alternative drugs.
- Initiating solicitations for importing or manufacturing alternative drugs when necessary.

Standard Procedure

 Clinical impact and alternatives of drug shortage

Evaluate

- Publish on the website
- Inform relevant associations

Announce



Investigate

 The supply situation of drugs

Take action

- Encourage the supply of alternatives
- Grant special permission to manufacture or import if necessary

Follow up

- Resupply date
- Supply situation of alternatives.



Information transmission

Information of drug shortages

- Drug information
- Reason of shortage
- Supply situation and shortage period
- Alternative drugs



Drug Supply Management System (website)



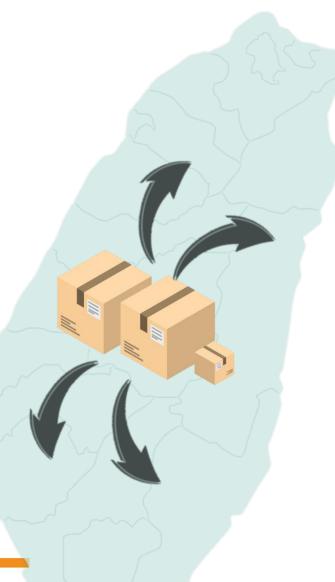
Inform relevant associations



Open data files



Proper Pharmaceutical Distribution



Strengthening Drug Supply Monitoring.

Enhancing Distribution drugs to pharmacies.

- To establish a distribution and allocation mechanism for medications between pharmacies.
- Monitoring the supply of drugs at mid- and downstream vendors.
- Reserve a certain percentage of drugs for clinics and pharmacies.



Healthcare Professional Education



- 1 How to report a drug shortage?
- 2 How to check for medicine shortages?
- 3 How to find alternative medicines?
- 4 How to communicate with patients?

Pharmaceutical Industry Education

TFDA advocate for pharmaceutical companies to:





Importing drugs:

- 1. Track the production and supply of drugs from foreign.
- 2. Increasing domestic safety stock levels.



Domestic drugs:

Stockpile APIs for at least 6 months.



Regularly review domestic medication demands.



To strengthen internal information sharing and establish a dedicated drug shortage reporting window.

Public Education

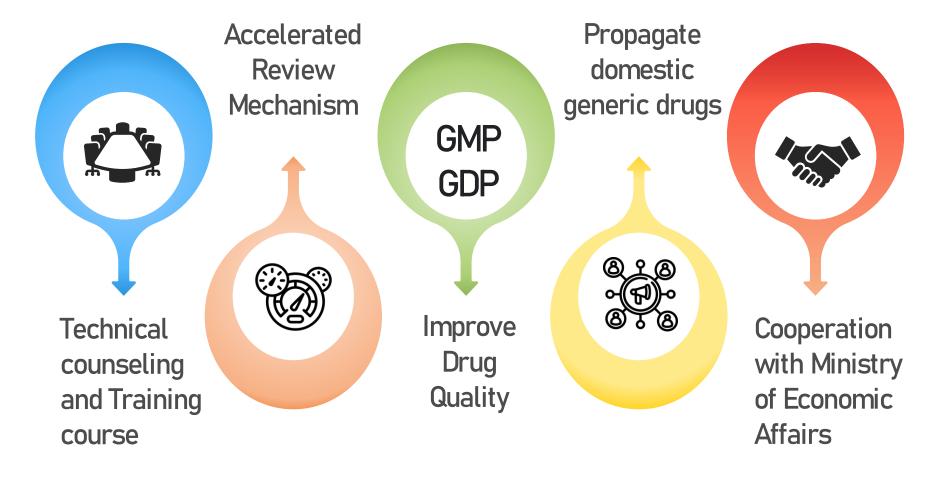
Promotional leaflets



Drug Supply Management System (website) _____



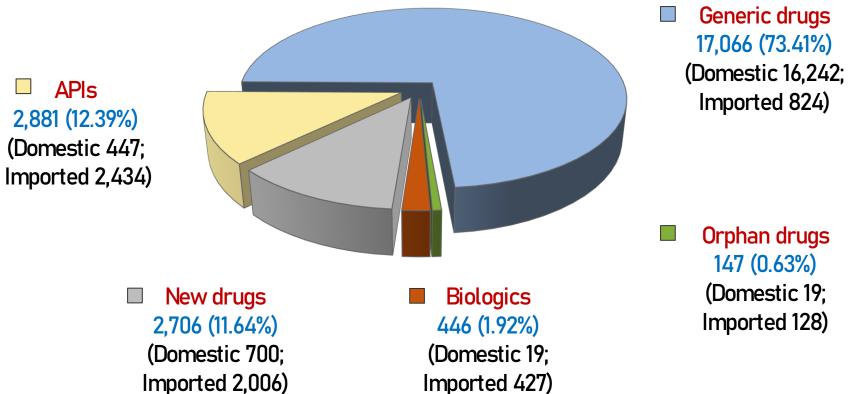
Encourage the Development



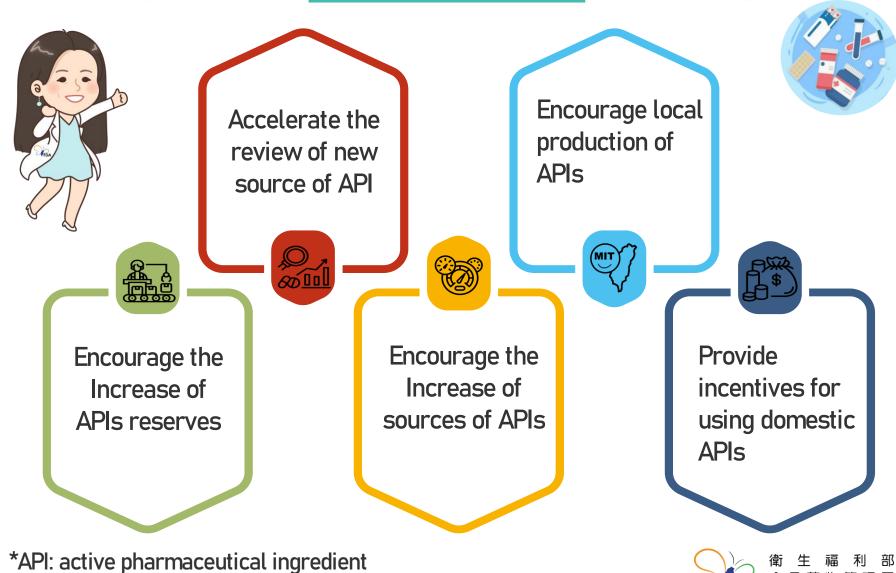
Domestic Drugs and Manufacturers in Taiwan

- 286 Manufacturers of drug products
 15055 Domestic drug products
- 32 APIs manufacturers

447 Domestic APIs



Ensure the Supply



衛生福利部 食品藥物管理署 Taiwan Food and Drug Administration

Forecast

Licensed pharmaceutical holder





Review and revise the Pharmaceutical Affairs Act § 27-2 [10 10]

Trace and track system of medicinal products

Supply chain stability

Pharmaceutical wholesaler





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Taiwan's National Health Insurance







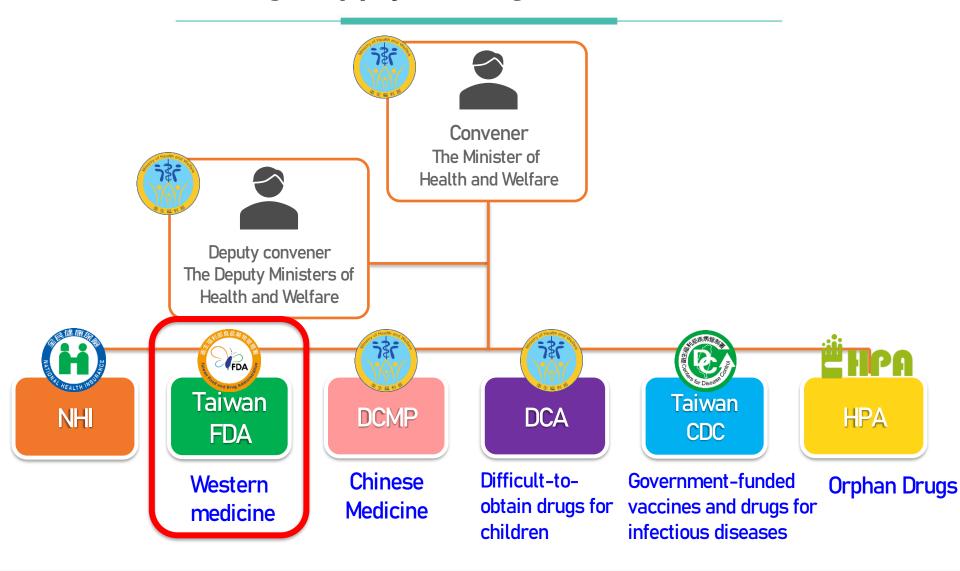
Thanks for your attention





衛生福利部 食品藥物管理署 Taiwan Food and Drug Administration

Drug Supply Management Center



- DCA: Department of Medical Affairs
- DCMP: Department of Chinese Medicine and Pharmacy

- NHI: National Health Insurance Administration
- HPA: Health Promotion Administration

Strategies to Prevent Drug Shortages



Develop domestic pharmaceutical industry



Enhance Drug Shortage Management



03 Ensure the supply of APIs