

Bhutan



Country indicators

Population (000s)*	754	Life expectancy at birth (years) ^a	68	World Bank income group ^β	Lower-middle
Internet users (%) ^γ	29.9%	Per capita total health expenditure (PPP Int \$) ^δ	253	GNI per capita (US\$) ^ε	2'330



National policy on health technology

Health technology (medical device) national policy: Yes, and it is part of the National Health Program/Plan or Policy

Web site: —

Language(s): —

MOH responsible for health technology policy implementation: —



Regulatory agency

Authority responsible for implementing and enforcing regulations in your country: No

Name of principal institution: —

Web site: —



National health technology assessment unit

Unit/department: Essential Medicine & Technology Division

Web site: www.health.gov.bt



National health technology management units

National health technology unit(s): Yes

Development of technical specifications for procurement process:

Unit/department: Biomedical Engineering Division

Web site: —

Other: Planning of medical equipment allocation/Acquisition

Unit/department: Drug Vaccine and Equipment Division

Web site: —

Other: Planning of medical equipment allocation/Quality of equipments/Procurement

Unit/department: Quality Assurance and Standardization Division

Web site: —



Medical device nomenclature system

Official nomenclature system for medical devices: Yes Type: Nationally developed Use: Not specified

Nomenclature system name: — Web site: —



Medical device incorporation

Procurement

Policy or guideline: Yes

Web site: <http://www.mof.gov.bt/>

National level procurement: Yes

Web site: <http://www.health.gov.bt/dms/dved/procurementProc.pdf>

Donations

Policy or guideline: Yes

Web site: —

Technical specifications

Technical specifications to support procurement or donations: No

Web site: —

Medical device incorporation comments^λ:

All medical devices are procured by the MoH following the Procurement Rules and Regulations of the Min of Finance Bhutan (see: [procurementmanual1.pdf](#)). Drug Vaccine and Equipment Division (DVED) is the agency in the MoH that does the procurement of drugs and medical devices for the whole country.



Inventory and maintenance

Type of inventories available: National inventory for medical equipment

Comments: Biomedical Engineering Division under the Department of Medical Services has maintained an Inventory of equipments above Rupees 25,000 only.

Medical equipment management unit: Yes

National level = 1

Regional level = 0

Hospital level = —

Management software: No

Software and comments^λ: —



Lists of medical devices

Lists of approved Medical Devices for public procurement or reimbursement:

Lists available: Yes

Unit: Health Care Diagnostic Division, Department of Medical Services

Web site: —

National lists of Medical Devices for Different types of healthcare facilities or specific procedures: Lists available: For different healthcare facilities

Web site - facilities: —

Web site - procedures: —

National list for Diseases and situations:

Lists available: No list available

Web site: —

Types: Communicable diseases Non-communicable diseases Injuries Public health emergency situations

Lists comments^λ:

We don't have national lists of recommended medical devices but we are now developing a standard list of Equipments and non drug items for each level of health facilities in Bhutan (all levels). The standard list of equipments will be based on the standard services that will be provided at each level of health center. The standard list will be available soon. We have a list for



Healthcare facility

Healthcare facility	Public sector	Private sector	Total	Density per 100,000 population
Health post	192	n/a	192	25.466
Health centre	12	n/a	12	1.592
District hospital	10	n/a	10	1.326
Provincial hospital	2	n/a	2	0.265
Regional hospital	1	n/a	1	0.133



Medical equipment

Medical equipment	Public sector	Private sector	Total	Density per 1,000,000 population
Magnetic Resonance Imaging	1	0	1	1.326
Computerized Tomography Scanner	1	0	1	1.326
Positron Emission Tomography Scanner	0	0	0	0.000
Nuclear medicine	0	0	0	0.000
Mammograph*	0	0	0	0.000
Linear accelerator	0	0	0	0.000
Telecobalt unit (Cobalt-60)	0	0	0	0.000
Radiotherapy	0	0	0	0.000

* Density per 1,000,000 females aged from 50-69 old.

Additional information and comments^λ:

Concerning Section Infrastructure: We have 1 National Referral Hospital with 350 beds, 2 Regional referral hospitals with 150 beds each, we have 10 district hospitals with 60 to 40 beds. We have 12 district hospitals with 20 beds. Out of our 192 health posts 18 are Basic Health Unit grade I with 10 beds, and the remaining 174 health centres with 2 to 5 beds are Basic Health Unit grade II.

* UNPD as of 1 July 2012 (2013 update)

α WHO 2012 data

β WB 2014 classification

γ WB 2013 data (2014 update)

δ WHO 2012 data

ε WB 2013 (2014 update)

n/a not applicable

λ The full text can be found at www.who.int/medical_devices/countries/full_text.xls