

## SUPPLEMENTARY FILE 4

## INTERVIEW PROTOCOL FOR HOSPITAL AND COMMUNITY PHARMACIST

Discussion Topics	Examples of Specific probes																									
<b>A. <u>General information</u></b>	1. Name: _____ 2. Gender: _____ 3. Age: _____ 4. Years of medicine related work experience: ____																									
<b>1. How do you understand the term “medicine shortage”?</b>																										
<b>2. List specific names of drugs in shortage (generic name, brand name, strength and dosage form) during last 12 months in your hospital or pharmacy</b>	<table border="1" data-bbox="719 913 1343 1111"> <thead> <tr> <th>No</th> <th>Generic Name</th> <th>Brand Name</th> <th>Strength</th> <th>Dosage form</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	No	Generic Name	Brand Name	Strength	Dosage form	1					2					3					4				
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4																										
<b>3. What are the effects of medicines shortages on patients?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Financial consequences</li> <li>✓ Clinical consequences</li> </ul>																									
<b>4. What are the reasons of medicines shortages?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ What are the reasons of medicines shortages from the perspectives of medicine manufacturers?</li> <li>✓ What are the reasons of medicines shortages from the perspectives of pharmaceutical distributor or wholesaler?</li> <li>✓ What are the reasons of medicines shortages from the perspectives of healthcare institute?</li> <li>✓ Are there any other reasons causing medicines shortages?</li> <li>✓ Among those causes above mentioned, what are the three most important ones in your opinion?</li> </ul>																									
<b>5. How to solve the medicines shortages problem in your opinion?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ What the governmental authorities could do to manage medicines shortages?</li> <li>✓ What the drug manufacturers could do to deal with medicine shortages?</li> <li>✓ What the distributors or wholesalers could do to</li> </ul>																									

	<p>deal with medicines shortages?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ What the healthcare institutions could do to deal with medicines shortages?</li><li>✓ Are there any other solutions to manage this problem?</li><li>✓ Among those solutions, what are the three most important ones in your opinion?</li></ul>
<b>6. Which type of factors contributes to the shortage of particular brand of medicines?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ What are the reasons for particular brand shortage in your opinion?</li><li>✓ What are the possible of solutions for particular brand shortage in your opinion?</li><li>✓ Why patients ask for specific brand of drug when equally comparable formulation is available?</li><li>✓ Why medical doctors keep on prescribing a brand whose supply is limited in market?</li></ul>

