



Key background information: country health system

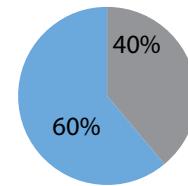
About the data

We could not collect many responses in this country. Thus, the information presented below is based mainly on a review of the literature and exchanges with the national diabetes association.

Healthcare expenditure profile (2011)²

Total health expenditure per capita: **USD 71.3**

Proportion of government expenditure on health: **11.6%**



- Public expenditure
- Private expenditure
- Out-of-pocket expenditure represent 85% of private spending on health

Health system overview

- The government defines and guarantees a package of services: primary healthcare is free to all citizens, other services require co-payments. Exemptions exist for specific groups or certain conditions. The mandatory health insurance system also covers a share of co-payments for people with insurance. The provision of services is the responsibility of regional authorities.³
 - Since 2006, people with diabetes are entitled by law to a list of benefits, including free treatment.^{5,3}
- Diabetes medicines included on the national list of essential medicines and the medical devices covered by the national program are purchased centrally through public tenders. Individual health facilities can procure additional stock on their own budget. Other products are provided by private actors,^{1,3,5,6,7} which is subjected to the Ministry of Health's regulation³. However, as of 2011, legislation did not comply fully with international standards of good practice.^{3,7}
- Quality control is carried out prior to distribution but no system exists to report quality issues.^{6,7}

Diabetes prevalence (2011)¹

IDF Atlas	National Data
4.9 % of 20-79 year-olds	Official registry: below 1% (comprising 93% type 2 diabetes, 7% type 1 diabetes)

Diabetes care procedure

- Prescriptions are provided by endocrinologists and family practitioners.^{5,6}
- Doctors and, in rural areas, nurses are the main points of diabetes information and advice on treatment.⁶
- Diabetes products are dispensed at either healthcare centres or pharmacies, depending on the product.⁶

Key diabetes data

Availability

Presence of products at national level

- Only medicines included on the list of essential medicines seem to be authorised for sale in Kyrgyzstan (human insulin, insulin analogues, metformin, sulphonylureas, repaglinide, glucose tablets).^{5,6,8} All medical devices except pumps seem to be authorised for sale and present in the country.^{1,5,6} The status of ketones test strips could not be determined.

Guidelines and specific prescription criteria

- Guidelines for diabetes treatment exist, based on European and US standards but their implementation is constrained by lack of resources, medicines and medical devices.⁵
- Prescription and use are conditioned by the criteria for financial coverage (see below).
- In 2008, about 8% of people with diabetes registered with the Ministry of Health were on insulin.⁵

Accessibility**Access to treatment**

- Lack of [education](#) and diabetes knowledge about their condition seem to remain a major issue.^{1,6}

Stock and shortages

- The supply of medicines and medical devices has improved.^{5,6} nowadays, most areas receive insulin, syringes and at least one type of oral medication.
 - Gaps may remain between people's needs and the quantity supplied.
 - The treatment regimen has to be adapted to supply rather than the other way around.^{1,5}

Affordability

- Financial access to treatment remains a major issue throughout the country.³ diabetes care is no exception.^{5,6}
 - Elderly people (who represent 70-80% of people with type 2 diabetes)⁶ and people living in rural areas³ are particularly affected.
 - This is due to poverty but also high prices.^{4,5,6}
 - An estimate of [out-of-pocket expenditure](#) could not be made from this survey. However, according to a 2009 study, people estimated spending an average of USD 33 per month – USD 396 per year.⁵
- Although low-priced options are available, the public [procurement](#), prescription and dispensation process seem to favour more expensive products.^{4,5,6}
- The Ministry of Health has announced action to tackle conflicts of interest in the pharmaceutical and medical sectors but any achievements made to date are unknown.⁶

Financial coverage

The State defines what diabetes supplies it should provide for free but gaps remain between this list and reality. For example, all medications on the essential medicines list are supposed to be provided free of charge. Until this year, glucose monitoring devices were supposed to be covered by the national programme but were not.^{5,6} These supplies have been withdrawn from the national programme this year.⁶

Insulin	Free ^{1,5,6}
Anti-diabetes medication	Two types of oral medication are free ⁹ Others are paid for entirely by the person with diabetes ⁶
Medication for hypoglycaemia	Unknown
Pens and related supplies	Only children get these for free Otherwise, not covered – 100% of expense paid for by the person with diabetes ⁶
Syringes and related supplies	Free ^{1,6}
Pumps and related supplies	N/A
Blood glucose test strips and meters	Not covered – 100% of expense paid for by the person with diabetes Some people receive donations through associations ⁵
Ketone test strips	Unknown
<i>Please note that the information provided above only present a summary of the reimbursement system and may not apply to individual cases.</i>	

Looking ahead

The regulatory framework for diabetes care seems to be in place but lacks the necessary resources for full implementation.⁶

References

- 1 EURADIA, FEND, IDF, & PCDE. (2011)
- 2 Global health observatory data repository. (2013)
- 3 Ibraimova, A., Akkazieva, B., Ibraimov A, Manzhieva E, Rechel B. (2011)
- 4 HAI Global. (2005b).
- 5 Beran, D., Abdraimova, A., McKee, M., Balabanova, D., Akkazieva, B., & Yudkin, J.S, (2012)
- 6 Dr. Satarov N. (personal communication) (2013)
- 7 International expert (personal communication) (2013)
- 8 List of Essential Medicines – Kyrgyzstan (2009)
- 9 Diabetes and Endocrinological Association of Kyrgyzstan (personal communication) (2013)