

# Briefing

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## Deploying Electronic Pharmaceutical Management within Hospitals in Uganda

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## 1. Introduction

This document is a short brief about deployment of an electronic pharmaceutical management tool in hospitals in Uganda (result area 3.1). For detailed information please refer to the documents which are organized as follows:

1. RxSolution
  - a. System Selection
  - b. System Piloting
  - c. System Upscaling
  - d. Training Concept
  - e. Support and maintenance

## 2. RxSolution

Hospitals, as major consumers of EHMS, are keen to implement new technology that can facilitate and support commodity management at their stores and pharmacies. In Year 2, SURE helped the Pharmacy Division select and test RxSolution software and develop a national plan to computerize hospitals. RxSolution supports supply chain management by tracking budget/price information, commodity availability, consumption, and inventory management functions, such as determining reorder levels. Hospitals will be able to order online to NMS or JMS when they develop online capacity.

Several arguments for choosing this architecture:

- Module based:
  - Stock management
  - Dispensing
  - Financial management
- Development which makes it not 'yet another vertical system' next to the already existing systems.

## 3. eHealth Moratorium

On December 16<sup>th</sup> 2011 MoH, the Director General of Health Services (DGHS) issued a moratorium on all ICT/eHealth/mHealth developments supported by partners. Despite the promise that the pending initiatives were going to be evaluated "within weeks" by a Technical Working Group for go-ahead or cancellation we are still in limbo (16 months after the directive was issued). All the requested documentation was provided and meetings were held to present the concept of the PIP.



#### **4. Lessons learnt - recommendations**

- Make sure a plan/structure is made for maintenance and support of remote facilities.
- Get support from the top, the level we are working at does not have enough mandate/power.
- Make sure to add ample time for tasks that (have to) involve head office.