Appendix 1. Policy Options

Stakeholder	Factors Leading to Prescribe/Use of Injectable Medicines	Policy Options	Effect	Cost	Durability	Feasibility	Final Decision		
							Low	Medium	High
Doctors	Lack of knowledge	Continuous Medical Education	Low	Low	Mid term	High	8	54	38
		Developing evidence-based clinical guidelines containing recommendations for appropriate prescribing	Medium	Low	Mid term	Medium	0	23	77
	Trying to keep the patient for economic reason	Removing doctor-patient financial relation by capitation payment	High	High - Medium	Long term	Low	54	38	8
		Placement and redistribution of doctors (Family physician)					46	54	0
		Modifying the pharmaceutical list of Family physician					77	23	0
	Lack of time during patient visits (persuading the patient, right diagnosis)	Removing doctor-patient financial relation by capitation payment	High	Medium	Long term	Low	62	31	8
		Implementation of the accreditation standard for visits					38	54	8
	Peer pressure	Intervention, evaluation, and feedback	Low/Medium	Low	Mid term		62	23	15
	Economic and financial problems that drive them to make financial relation with injection units	Performance assessment via monitoring units	Medium	Medium	Mid term	Medium	69	23	8
	Pressure of injection units on doctors for prescribing injectable medicines	Establishment of integrated injection units under supervision of healthcare networks	High	Medium	Long term	Low	100	0	0
		Prohibiting the establishment of independent injection units in the office of physicians	High	High	Long term	Low	92	0	8
Pharmacy	Providing injectable medicines without prescription	Boosting effectiveness of monitoring	Medium	Medium	Mid term	Low	69	0	31
		Enforcing the regulations for dispensing of non-prescription medicines	Medium	Low	Mid term	Low	23	31	46

Stakeholder	Factors Leading to Prescribe/Use of Injectable Medicines	Policy Options	Effect	Cost	Durability	Feasibility	Final Decision		
							Low	Medium	High
FDO	Improper financial relationships between physicians and pharmacists	Strengthening the legal mechanism of action for financial transactions between prescriber and pharmacy	Medium	Medium	Long term	Medium	54	46	0
	Pharmaceutical companies incentives to purchase excessive injectable medicines	Elimination of financial incentives in sale of prescribed medicines, particularly injectable medicines	Medium	High	Short term	Low	62	8	30
	Limited effectiveness of interventions	Revision of existing interventions based on evidence	Medium	Medium	Mid term	Medium	38	31	31
	Limited enforcement of interventions	Enactment of some instructions for improving effect of interventions	High	High	Long term	Medium	38	47	15
People and patients	Lack of knowledge regarding side effects of injection	Using mass media to increase public awareness of regarding side effects of injection	Low	Medium	Mid term	Medium	0	31	69
	Existing wrong beliefs regarding the fast and better effect of injectable medicines	Education through schools	Low	High	Long term	Low	0	54	46
	Patient demand for receiving injectable medicines	Interventions to change public attitude towards reducing injectable medicines demand	Low	Low	Low	Medium	23	31	46
Insurance organization	Lack of coordination between the insurer and monitoring activities	Increasing coordination between the insurer and MoH monitoring activities	High	High	Long term	Medium	38	23	39
		Insurance coverage of injectable medicines (with regulatory standards)	Medium	High	Long term	Low/ Medium	47	38	15
		Changing the policy of auditing the number of medicinal items in each prescription to the content of prescriptions (interactions, effectiveness, relevance)	High	Medium	Long term	Medium	23	23	54

Stakeholder	Factors Leading to Prescribe/Use of Injectable Medicines	Policy Options	Effect	Cost	Durability	Feasibility	Final Decision		
							Low	Medium	High
Pharmaceutical organization	Advertising and marketing to encourage pharmacies to buy more injectable medicines	Improving marketing methods	High	High	Long term	Low	54	23	23
	Lack of production planning that lead to the economic threat and making them to advertise more injectable medicines	Taking into account the production planning in order to avoid excessive production and the use of injectable medicines	Low	Medium	Mid term	Medium	38	54	8
Media	Failure on the public awareness of injection side effect	Making policies regarding Increasing awareness of economic and clinical side effect of injectable medicines	High	Medium	Long term	Medium	0	54	46
Universities' deputy chancellor of health	Inadequate monitoring of the performance of injection units	Increased monitoring of the injection units	High	Medium	Mid term	Low	62	23	15
	Existing several outpatient injection units	Integrated performance monitoring of outpatient injection units by public sector	High	High	Long term	Low	46	31	23
	Inadequate training of personnel of injection units	Training of outpatient injection units' Personnel	Low	Medium	Short term	Low	46	31	23
Ministry of health's deputy chancellor for health	Lack of clear guidelines regarding injection	Developing clear guidance for use of injectable medicines in outpatient settings	Low	Medium	Long term	High	15	38	47
School of medicine	Lack of educational topics in the field of injection in the curriculum	Developing appropriate curriculum regarding injection in medical schools	Medium	Medium	Long term	Medium	0	54	46
School of pharmacy	Lack of educational topics in the field of injection in the curriculum	Developing appropriate curriculum regarding injection in pharmacy schools	Medium	Medium	Long term	Medium	0	54	46

Abbreviation: FDO, Food and Drug Organization.