

Chapter 13

Trends and Prospects of the Moroccan Health System: 2010–2030

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ABSTRACT

This chapter looks at the current situation of health deficits and shortages in Morocco with a focus on the role of medical education. The trends and prospects in health care, medical staffing, and medical education are analyzed. The attained results from both trend description and simulations of patterns show major shortages relative to the needs. The existence of these trends appeals for further cooperation in the areas of health care through emphasis on medical education and research. These outcomes appear to be promising for the pursuit of satisfying the needs of a growing population and demand for healthcare. Further cooperation can lead to the acceleration of a mutual win-win collaborative process between Northern and Southern economies with no room for brain drain in the case of medical doctors. This chapter introduces the health system of Morocco to the reader and helps in better perceiving the survey conducted with medical doctors in Morocco and that is analyzed in the following chapter.

INTRODUCTION

The objective of this paper is to show how the findings underlined in the previous chapter and that relate to cooperation can be linked to the inputs and outputs of the Moroccan health system. It also shows the main features that characterize the health system in Morocco. The present chapter provides also background information for the following chapter that deals with the derivation of the perception of medical doctors, through a survey of physicians in Morocco.

The current chapter starts with the characterization of the situation of Morocco in terms of health and medical education indices. This characterization is established through the identification of different variables related to the emigration of medical doctors and the determination of the principal trends observed. Health statistics are largely used from different sources and comparisons are made with other countries of the North African region. This characterization is followed by simulations of the major stocks and flows mainly in relation to the needs and to the decision of increasing the per year number of graduates from medical schools.

There are laws established by the Ministry of Health that ensure the effective use of the national health instruments and that improve the influence of medical education on the Moroccan economy. There is also research that allows better progress in this field and provides well-trained doctors that could have an impact on the national economy through migration. In addition, the health needs in Morocco are studied in terms of supply and demand to discuss the emigration patterns of medical doctors. Economic issues are also reviewed along with regulation issues to depict the general health picture in Morocco. So, what are the implications of health and medical education on the Moroccan economy?

Health professions are regulated by a number of laws that are all listed on the Ministry of Health web site. Thus, there are regulations for doctors and auxiliary medical personnel such as nurses and

other paramedical personnel. Therefore, exercising a medical profession is regulated by law 10-94 and its decrees of implementation, doctors' code of conduct reorganized by May 7th, 1949 decree, Dahir 1-84-44 related to the establishment and functioning of the national order of medical doctors and decree 2-84-780. The pharmacist profession, on the other hand, is regulated by Dahir 1-06-151 of 22 November 2006 bearing promulgation of law 17-04, bearing code of drug and pharmacy, pharmacists' code of conduct which was reorganized, approved and implemented by decree 2-63-486 of 26 December 1963, Dahir 1-06-151 of 22 November 2006 related to pharmacists order and decree 2-75-863, and the regulation of the pharmacy inspection (Ministry of Health, 2010). Concerning dental practice, it is regulated by the 1960 Dahir and implementation decrees, the national order of dental doctors and the code of conduct of the dental profession (Ministry of Health, 2010). As for the nurses' profession, it is regulated by decree 1-57-008 of 19 February 1960. The other paramedical professions are also regulated by decree such as the midwife occupation and herbalist profession that are regulated by decree 1-59-367 of 19 February 1960 (Ministry of Health, 2010).

The present chapter is composed of two major parts. The first one looks at the characterization of the Moroccan health system. The second part focuses on modeling the future Requirements for Medical Doctors in Morocco: Dealing with Economic Developments and Needs.

PART I: CHARACTERIZATION OF THE MOROCCAN HEALTH SYSTEM

The paper describes the situation of healthcare in Morocco. This includes the description of health expenditures, the part allocated for the pharmaceutical sector and the budget distribution among health organizations and products. It is concluded from the 2006 health report "Comptes Nationaux

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