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ANALYSIS OF THE CURRENT STATE OF THE PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY IN THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

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ABSTRACT

The article examines the development and current state of the pharmaceutical industry in the Republic of Uzbekistan, increasing the competitiveness of domestic enterprises, as well as government programs aimed at developing the industry in the country.

KEYWORDS: *Pharmaceutical Industry, National Economy, Production Modernization, GMP Standards, Competitiveness Of Enterprises, Production Localization.*

INTRODUCTION

As world practice shows, the pharmaceutical industry is one of the strategically important and rapidly developing sectors of the economy of any modern state. This industry is characterized by stable and high rates of production growth. Pharmaceuticals are considered high-tech and science-intensive production processes due to the fact that it is the level of provision of the population with medicines that is the main indicator of the social development of society and an indicator of well-being.

The advantages of the pharmaceutical industry for the national economy are:

- Reducing healthcare costs;
- Improving the quality of life related to health,
- Increasing the value of all economic production,
- Maintaining existing employment and creating new jobs,
- Enhancing long-term economic growth and international competitiveness (through innovation that is the result of "targeted production of technological knowledge").

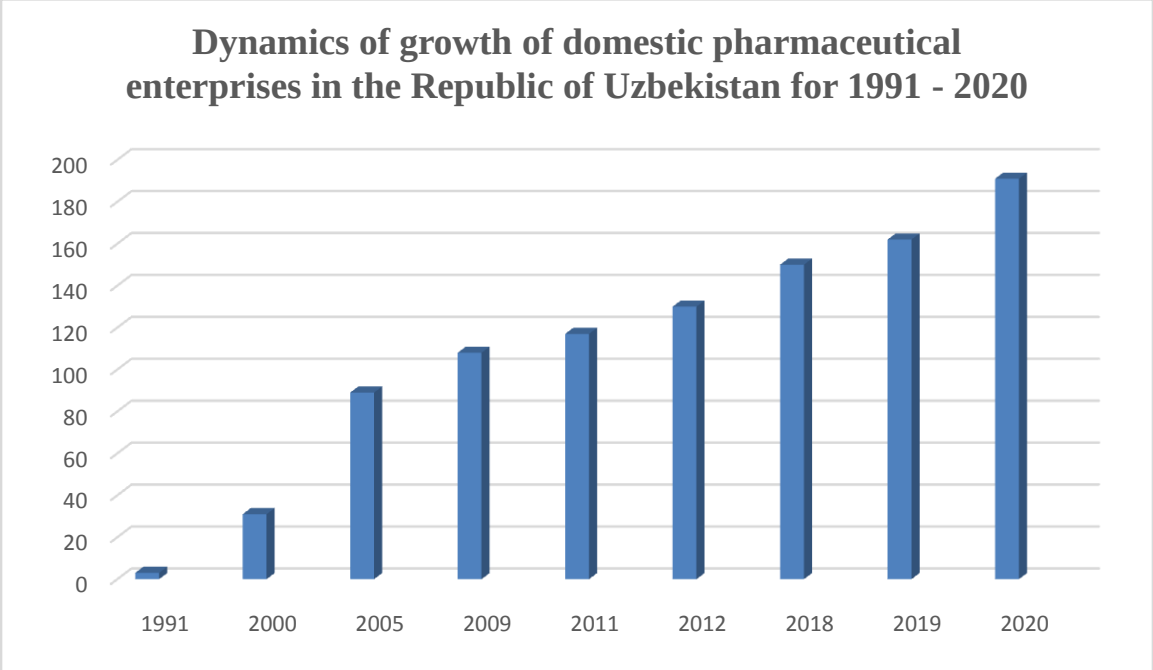
Thus, the pharmaceutical industry is an important sector for the growth and competitiveness of national economies. At the end of 2017, sales amounted to $ 789 billion. In the period 2018–2024. the Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of the global prescription drug market will be 6.4%. Sales will reach $ 1.2 trillion by 2024. **[1]**

MAIN PART

The pharmaceutical industry occupies a special place in the economy of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Recently, much attention has been paid to reforming this industry: modernizing

industrial capacities, innovative development, localizing finished products, expanding export potential, developing new types of pharmaceutical products, ensuring the quality of pharmaceutical products in accordance with international standards, training highly qualified specialists, attracting investment and advanced technologies into the industry. Also, comprehensive measures are being taken to improve the system of medicines, medical devices and medical equipment, all favorable conditions have been created for the further development of the activities of pharmaceutical enterprises. By the Decree of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan (No. 993 dated February 18, 2017), the Agency for the Development of the Pharmaceutical Industry under the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Uzbekistan was created, which is responsible for the well-being of the entire pharmaceutical industry of the country as a whole. In Uzbekistan, relevant legislative and regulatory acts have been adopted, which contribute to the development of pharmaceutical activities. Free-economic zones "Nukus-farm", "Andijan-farm", "Kosonsoy-farm", "Bustonlik-farm", "Parkent-farm", "Zomin-farm", and "Boysun-farm", "Sirdaryo" -pharm ".

Today, 191 domestic enterprises for the production of pharmaceutical products operate in the Uzbek market . Of these, 95 enterprises specialize in the production of various types of medicines, 62 - medical products and 11 enterprises produce both medicines and medical products, 23 - medical equipment**.**



Source: Agency for the Development of the Pharmaceutical Industry under the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Uzbekistan

The Main Problems Of The Domestic Pharmaceutical Industry

Analysis of the current state of the pharmaceutical industry in the republic indicates that the pharmaceutical industry is “catching up” in relation to the global industry and has a number of main problematic aspects:

- Inability to meet the needs of citizens in medicines (drugs);
- Unstable state of the process of development, production and promotion of pharmaceutical products;
- Its inadequacy to changes in the internal and external environment. the presence in the portfolio of domestic manufacturers of a large number of obsolete, as well as low-margin reproduced drugs;
- Lack of investment in research programs and a small number of developments of new innovative drugs;
- Insufficient organization of work on the implementation of international standards at domestic enterprises;
- Shortage of highly qualified personnel in the domestic pharmaceutical industry.

These problems hinder the development of the domestic pharmaceutical industry and determine its unstable state at the present stage.

Analysis of the production of medicines by form of release shows that the share of domestic manufacturers is about 45% of the total market volume (for the production of tincture - 100%, ampoules - 85%, solution - 80%, liquids - 60%, concentrate - 51%, suppositories - 41%, syrup - 40%, ointments - 38%, capsules - 33%, suspensions - 29%, tablets - 24%, drops - 23%, powders - 20%, and gels - 4%).

At the same time, anti-inflammatory and diagnostic agents, drugs used in toxicology, gynecology, obstetrics, immunology, hematology, oncology and dentistry are practically not produced (less than 10%).

Today, one of the pressing problems for domestic manufacturers is the transition to GMP standards. The introduction of GMP standards is an important aspect of the development of healthcare, since it solves the problems of drug interchangeability, public procurement, drug insurance, pricing policy in the field of drug provision. To date, 10 out of 95 domestic pharmaceutical companies producing medicines have implemented the requirements of good manufacturing practice - GMP.

Insufficient organization of work on the implementation of international standards at domestic enterprises, including the requirements of good manufacturing practice (GMP), good pharmacovigilance practice (GVP) and ISO 13485, which regulate the quality and safety management system at pharmaceutical enterprises, limits the possibility of producing an efficient and safe pharmaceutical products that are competitive in the foreign and domestic markets. The transition of the pharmaceutical industry to GMP standards will lead to the formation of a market for high-quality drugs, the improvement of the pharmaceutical industry as a whole and movement to the world level in terms of the quality and range of manufactured drugs.

Also important is the introduction of good pharmaceutical practices (GxP) aimed at regulating the quality and safety management system of medicines during distribution (GDP), preclinical (GLP) and clinical trials (GCP), in general, ensuring the effectiveness and safety of products throughout its entire life cycle.

The system of training, retraining and advanced training of workers in the pharmaceutical industry requires further improvement, in particular in such important areas as biotechnology of drugs, chemical technology of drugs, technology of finished drugs and phytopreparations, management and economics of pharmacy, pharmaceutical chemistry and microbiology. **[2]**

State Support And Prospects For The Development Of The Domestic Pharmaceutical Industry:

State regulation of the pharmaceutical market is implemented through the adoption of laws and regulations that establish rules and regulations in the field of drug circulation, as well as through state supervision and control of their implementation. In order to effectively operate pharmaceutical activities and provide the country's population with high-quality medicines and medical products, the following legislative acts were adopted that regulate pharmaceutical activities in the republic:

1. Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On certification of products and services" (December 28, 1993)
2. Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On Protection of Consumer Rights" (April 26, 1996)
3. Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On standardization" (August 29, 1996)
4. Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On Metrology" (August 29, 1996)
5. Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On the protection of citizens' health" (August 29, 1996)
6. Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On Medicines and Pharmaceutical Activities" (April 25, 1997)
7. Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On Advertising" (December 25, 1998)
8. Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances" (August 19, 1999)
9. Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On licensing certain types of activities" (May 25, 2000)

The Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan views healthcare as an integral part of the national development program aimed at creating a society where all citizens will lead a healthy lifestyle. Medicines are an important element in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of diseases, and therefore providing the population with safe and effective medicines is one of the important tasks of public health. In this regard, on May 30, 1999, the national drug policy of the Republic of Uzbekistan was approved. The main goal of which is: ensuring the availability of effective, high-quality and safe medicines for the population, their rational prescription and correct use. The main objectives of the state drug policy are as follows:

- ❖ Ensuring the availability of effective, high-quality and safe medicines for the population;
- ❖ Creation of a unified state system for quality control and registration of medicines;
- ❖ Development of the domestic pharmaceutical industry, job creation in the pharmaceutical sector;
- ❖ Ensuring the rational use of medicines;
- ❖ Improvement of professional training of pharmaceutical personnel **[3].**

The modernization of the pharmaceutical industry is one of the priority directions in the republic. The reform of the pharmaceutical industry is designed to help ensure the country's drug safety, modernize the pharmaceutical sector, create new science-intensive and high-tech industries, increase the export of pharmaceutical goods and services, stimulate advanced scientific and technical developments and minimize dependence on foreign markets. In this regard, the regulatory and legal framework is constantly being improved, the decrees of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated December 30, 2019 No. PP-4554 "On additional measures to deepen reforms in the pharmaceutical industry of the Republic of Uzbekistan" were approved, the concept for the development of the pharmaceutical industry of the Republic of Uzbekistan in 2020 - 2024 (hereinafter - the Concept), Resolution of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated January 28, 2020 No. PP-4574 "On the creation of an innovative research and production pharmaceutical cluster" Tashkent pharma park ", the main goal of which is the transition of the pharmaceutical industry to an innovative development model, as well as organization of stable activities of the pharmaceutical industry aimed at ensuring a high level of quality and efficiency of pharmacotherapy and prevention of diseases of the population, and ultimately contributing to an increase in the duration and improvement of the quality of human life. The main expected results of the implementation of the Concept are as follows:

- An increase in the share of domestically produced pharmaceutical products in the domestic market up to 50% in value terms;
- Expansion of the range of production of drugs produced in the republic, including an increase in the share of innovative drugs in the portfolios of local manufacturers up to 50% in value terms;
- Attracting additional direct investments in the pharmaceutical industry in 2020 - 2024 in the amount of USD 100 million;
- An increase in the export of pharmaceutical products by 3 times compared to 2019;
- Application of international experience in the field of personnel training, equipping training centers, developing accreditation and standardization, creating modern laboratories equipped with the latest equipment. **[4]**

The state also initiates the creation of free economic zones "Nukus-farm", "Andijan-farm", "Kosonsoy-farm", "Bustonlik-farm", "Parkent-farm", "Zomin-farm", and "Boysun-farm" "," Sirdaryo-farm ". The adoption of the Decree, first of all, will contribute to the development of the pharmaceutical industry, support of manufacturers of medicines and medical devices, saturation of the domestic market of medicines with high-quality local drugs.

The Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan has taken measures of preferential taxation, in particular, drug manufacturers are exempt from paying all taxes for a period of 5 years. Companies implementing projects for the creation of new production facilities and the reconstruction of existing ones are exempted from paying all customs duties when importing technological equipment.

The state regulates the activities of subjects of production and distribution, applying mechanisms such as licensing of pharmaceutical activities and production of medicines, registration of medicines and regulation of prices for pharmaceutical products. In addition, state control in the

circulation of medicines is carried out by checking compliance with the rules of preclinical and clinical trials, laboratory practice, and organization of production and quality control of medicines, wholesale trade in medicines, dispensing medicines, storage and destruction of medicines. **[5]**

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, it is worth noting that the existing capacities of domestic manufacturers cover only about 27% of the needs of the population and medical institutions for medicines and medical products. At the same time, in developed foreign countries such as the USA, Germany and France, the share of the domestic pharmaceutical industry in the total pharmaceutical market of these countries is more than 75%. Comprehensive, large-scale work is underway in the republic to raise the pharmaceutical industry to a new level of development and create conditions for its transition from an investment to an innovative development model. Along with free economic zones, one of the promising areas of strategic development of the pharmaceutical industry is the creation of clusters that allow organizing a full cycle of drug production on a certain territory, as well as increasing the scientific and human potential of the industry. The Concept “On the creation of an innovative scientific and production pharmaceutical cluster“ Tashkent Pharma Park ”, adopted within the framework of the Presidential Decree, is aimed at creating a system for the development of educational, research potential in the country's pharmaceutical industry, education and training in the field of pharmaceuticals based on the best foreign educational programs. creation of new science-intensive and high-tech industries.

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