China Medical Market Overview and Opportunities

Sherman Li Sr. Commercial Specialist U.S. Consulate General Guangzhou

Market Data

Market Trends

Market Opportunities

Market Data

Medical Devices

A fast growing market (Numbers estimated by CAMDI)
 Annual sales reached \$22.9 bn in 2007
 Annual growth rate of 23% during 2004-2007.

-- 12,600 local manufacturers produce \$27 billion worth of medical products.

-- During 2004-2007, imports rose from \$3.1 bn to \$4.3 bn with annual increase of 12%. Exports from \$4.14bn to 8.47bn, up 35% annually.

-- Over 80% of high-end medical equipment relies on imports. Exports are mainly low-end medical products.

--- Major buyers: 19,852 hospitals, 80,500 urban & rural health centers, and 3,585 CDCs.

 An average of 322 new hospitals were built each year during 1990 - 2007. This number is expected to go up to 400 annually in the next 10 years.

-- About 30% of total investment in these new hospitals is used for purchasing of medical equipment.

 Over 140,000 registered medical device distributors, including retail stores, throughout China, but only about 5% of them have trans-regional distribution capability.

 Highly competitive market with major overseas players from the United States, European countries, and Japan. (e.g. GE Healthcare, Siemens, Philips, Johnson & Johnson, Beckman Coulter, Medtronic, Abbott, Baxter, BD, Tyco, Roche, Drager, Ausculp, Zeiss, Hitachi, Toshiba, Shimadzu, Olympus, etc.) Health Expenditure and Insurance
Total health expenses increased by 14 times from \$10.7 bn in 1990 to \$149.8 bn in 2007.

-- Healthcare service still enjoys a tremendous room for growth as health spending accounts for 4.7% of the national GDP, much lower than 8-15% in many western countries.

-- 50% of overall health expenses are covered by Individual residents out of their own pockets.

-- Government's share of health spending dropped from 36% in 1980 to 18% in 2006.

-- 40% of Chinese residents living in urban areas have access to 80% of medical resources, while 60% of residents in rural areas only share 20%.

 Among1.3 bn people (500 m urban residents and 800 m rural) in China, 176 million of urban employed residents, and 730 million rural farmers have joined some kind of medical insurance programs.

-- Reimbursement rate is still at a low level with rural residents paying 80% from their own pockets.

 Market driven healthcare systems implemented in 1980s and 1990s resulted in a sharp rise of medical costs, leading to 50 times increase of per capita health spending from 1978 to 2004.

-- Government decided to introduce new Healthcare Reform Plan which is forecast to go into effect early 2009.

Market Trends

China's new Healthcare Reform Plan is expected to result in the following trends:

-- Provide basic medical insurance for all urban and rural residents by the year of 2020.

-- Key emphasis placed on major diseases & in-patients.

-- Greater efforts to control and treat chronic diseases.

-- Prevention as the primary for healthcare service.

-- Priority given to improving healthcare infrastructure in rural and remote areas.

-- Higher importance placed on developing community health centers for urban residents.

Market Opportunities

Preventative healthcare services

- -- 300 million overweight, including 40 million obese patients.
- Women & infant's health (1.2 million infants with birth defect per year, 42% of married women with infection of the reproductive system, 48% with menses disorder, etc.)
- -- 27 types of infectious diseases tracked (3.6 million new cases/year); To date, more than100 million hepatitis B and 5 million TB patients
- -- Food and cosmetic safety (Incidence of food poisoning cases: 200,000- 400,000 cases/year)
- -- Health problems caused by unhealthy lifestyles and environmental pollution (350 million smokers)
- -- Market size for health check-up services: up to \$14 bn/year

Rehabilitation services for chronic & major diseases

- -- Chronic diseases rank the highest in morbidity rate (15%) and total medical costs of over \$21.4 billion/year.
- Top 8 chronic diseases (hypertension, CVD, diabetes, IHD, chronic gastroenteritis, chronic obstructive pneumonia, cholelithiasis, rheumatoid arthritis)
 - -- 300 million (sleeping disorder)
 - -- 170 million (hypertension)
 - -- 100 million (arthritis)
 - -- 70 million (oesteoporosis)
 - -- 40 million (diabetes)
 - -- 20 million (asthma)
 - -- 16 million (mental disease)

-- Annual incidence of cancer patients - 2.5 million with treatment costs of \$14.3 billion per year.

Demand for new hospitals and CDCs

-- 400+ new hospitals are expected to be built annually in the coming years.

-- Of 3,585 CDCs nationwide at and above the county level, majority of them need to be rebuilt, relocated, or expanded.

-- More new hospitals are expected to be built, rebuilt, or expanded at the county level in the next 10 years.

 Township health centers will also receive more attention to upgrade their facilities and equipment.

For information, please feel free to contact: Shuquan (Sherman) Li, CS Guangzhou at Shuquan.li@mail.doc.gov