OBJECTIVES

Healthcare reforms in the last decade have resulted in improved access to healthcare services and pharmaceuticals in Turkey. As a result of this, several measures were taken to control the increasing healthcare expenditures. In recent years, the government has focused on the burden of imported drugs on the Turkish economy and has declared increasing R&D activities and supporting local production as the main objectives of the 10th Development Plan. In this respect, the government has targeted to meet 60% of the national pharmaceutical need in terms of value through local production. The process will be completed in five phases and pharmaceutical companies will be invited to invest for local production of their products. This study aimed at outlining the local production policies in Turkey.

METHODS

A literature analysis was made to explore the local production policies in Turkey. A thorough analysis of the de-listing document published by the Turkish Medicines and Medical Devices Agency’s (TITCK) web site in April 2017 was made. The list covers 48 products that will be delisted from the reimbursement list as of February 8, 2018. This list was analyzed by using RxMedia® and Social Security Institution’s (SSI) lists showing the prices and discounts of the products. Other relevant data for the study were obtained from the Turkish Medicines and Medical Devices Agency’s presentations.

RESULTS

A literature analysis was made to explore the local production policies in Turkey. A thorough analysis of the de-listing document published by the Turkish Medicines and Medical Devices Agency’s (TITCK) web site in April 2017 was made. The list covers 48 products that will be delisted from the reimbursement list as of February 8, 2018. This list was analyzed by using RxMedia® and Social Security Institution’s (SSI) lists showing the prices and discounts of the products. Other relevant data for the study were obtained from the Turkish Medicines and Medical Devices Agency’s presentations.

CONCLUSION

The emphasis on controlling pharmaceutical expenditures has reached another stage in Turkey with more emphasis and policies towards local production of products. It is expected that apart from savings on the public budget, there will be an impact on R&D activities, on technology transfer and on decreasing current deficit. The Ministry of Health and SSI are working on additional incentives for licensing, pricing and reimbursement policies of these locally produced drugs as well.