SAFEmed and the Affordable Medicines Program in Ukraine: Reducing inequities in medicine access

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**Context**

Achieving health equity in Ukraine has been a significant challenge due to limited access to essential medicines, high out-of-pocket costs, and inefficient healthcare systems. The Affordable Medicines Program (AMP) has been instrumental in addressing these inequities by ensuring that medicines are accessible and affordable to all.

**Activity Impact**

**Activity Description**

The Affordable Medicines Program (AMP) was launched in Ukraine in 2010 with the aim of increasing access to essential medicines. The program was designed to reduce the out-of-pocket costs of these medicines, making them more affordable for the population. The program operates under a single-payer system, with the national payer responsible for managing the program and controlling the alignment of prices.

**Evidence**

A sharp decrease in prices...

Increased access to essential medicines has led to a significant decrease in prices. This has been accompanied by an increase in the consumption of medicines, indicating improved access and affordability.

**Facilitators**

**Challenges**

**Lessons Learned**

The Affordable Medicines Program in Ukraine is a prime example of how a well-designed program can address health inequities. The program's success can be attributed to its focus on reducing out-of-pocket costs, ensuring broad patient access, and encouraging the private sector to participate.

**Geographic Access**

The program was implemented in multiple regions of Ukraine, with varying levels of success. The success of the program was largely dependent on the availability of medicines and the ability of the program to adapt to the evolving healthcare landscape.

**Design/Implementation Transitions**

The program faced multiple transitions, including changes in leadership and funding sources. These transitions required careful planning and coordination to ensure the continuity of services and the maintenance of program goals.