

A photograph of a tipped-over pill bottle with a yellow and orange rim, spilling a large quantity of colorful, round tablets onto a reflective surface. The pills are in various colors including red, yellow, blue, green, and white. The background is a plain, light grey.


FAKE DRUGS IN REGIONS OF CONFLICT

48th MEMA

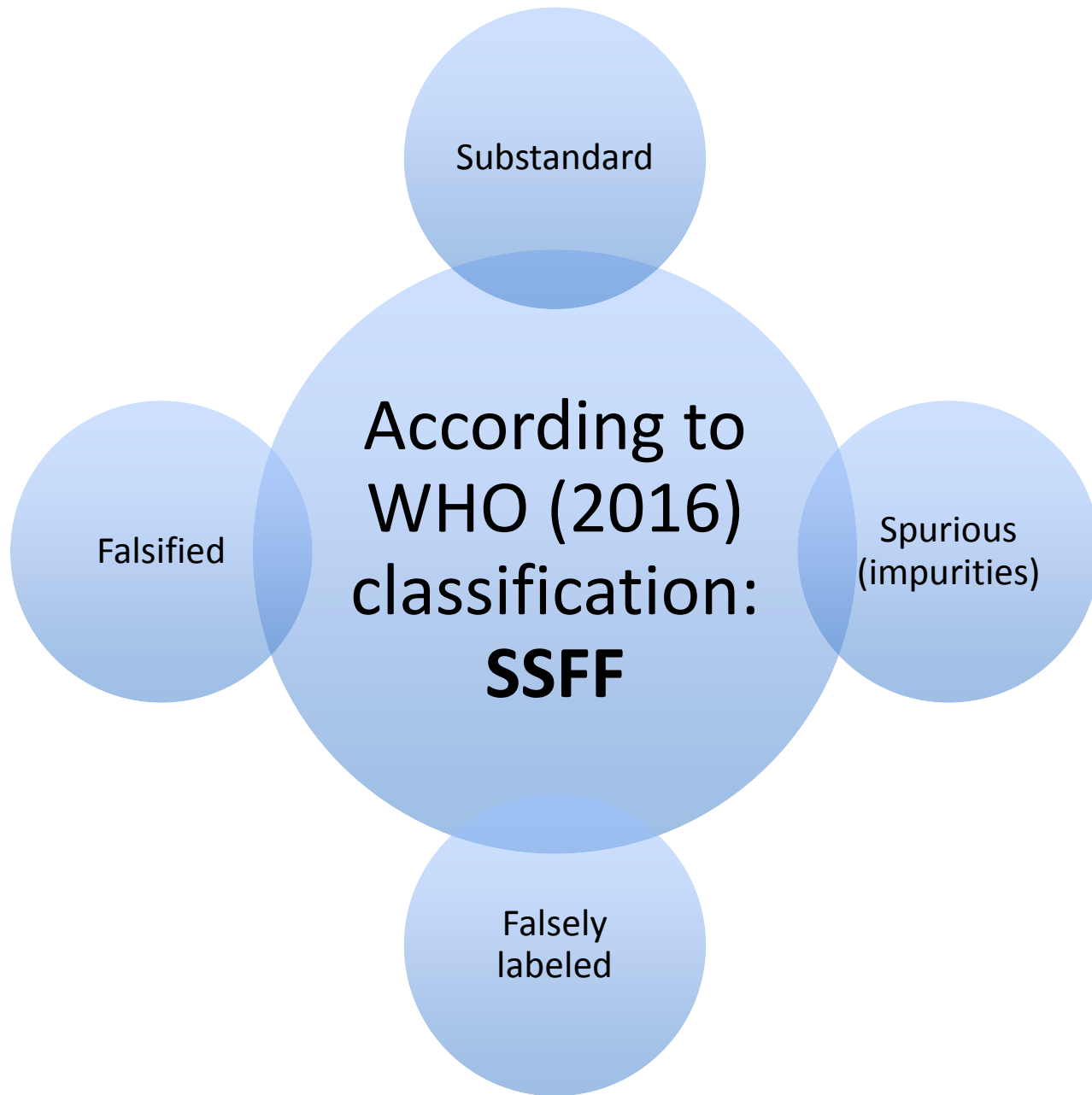
May 2017

Ismail Sukkariyyah , MD

CONFLICT MEDICINE

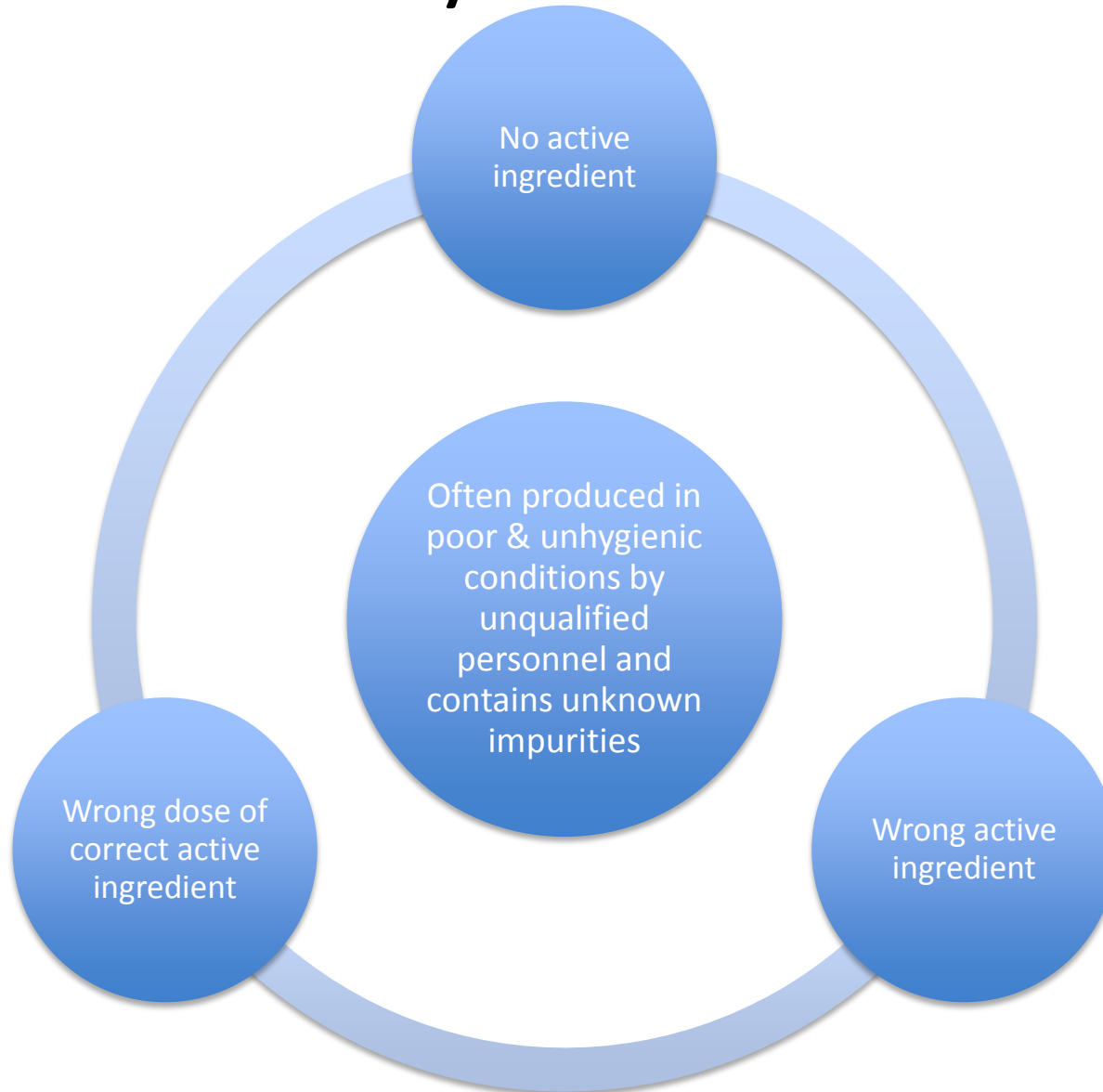
- 
- Great title for a greater challenge dealing with the “hot flammable” aspect of social health
 - Forming the vertebral column of building a “health strategy”.. A strategy that touches “social-political-economical-environmental” issues of health
 - *The word “conflict” also applies to weak corrupted regimens with continuous socio-political conflicts, typically applied to Lebanon

Fake Drugs in Regions of Conflict

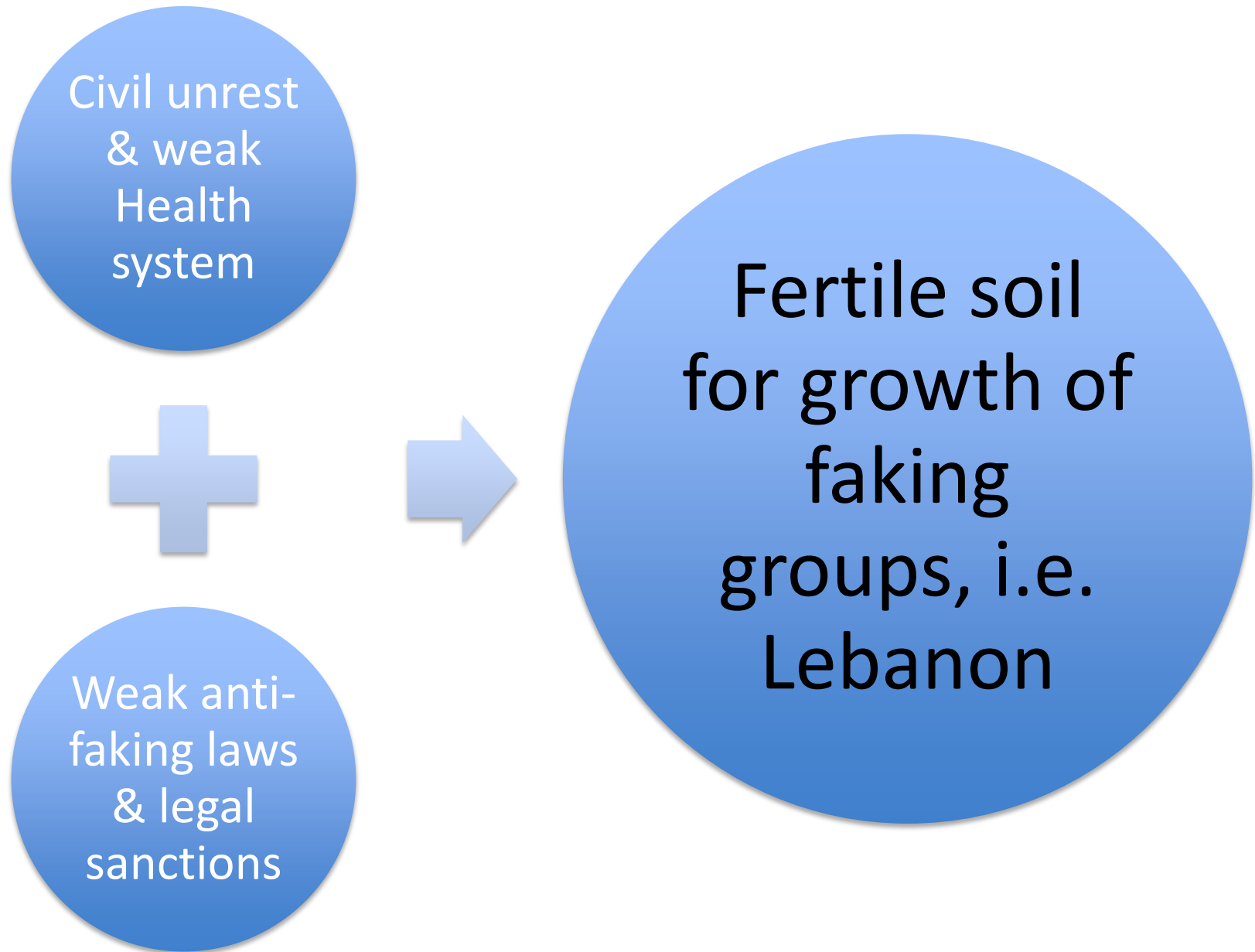


Fake Drugs in Regions of Conflict

May contain:



Fake Drugs in Regions of Conflict



Universal

1% in industrial
countries



40 M out of 4 B prescriptions in USA

10-30% in developing
countries



up to 50% in mid-Africa & Nigeria



especially “substandard anti-malarial &
anti-HIV patent drugs sent to Africa
(poor market & unrewarding financially)

Universal

Includes all
therapeutic
categories

Medicines

Vaccines

In-vitro diagnostics

Medical devices: Lenses,
Condoms, Silicone
breast implants, etc

Both generic
& innovators
are falsified

including very
expensive products

i.e. Cancer drugs

Effects

Prolong Illness

Increase Bacterial
Resistance

Cause Death

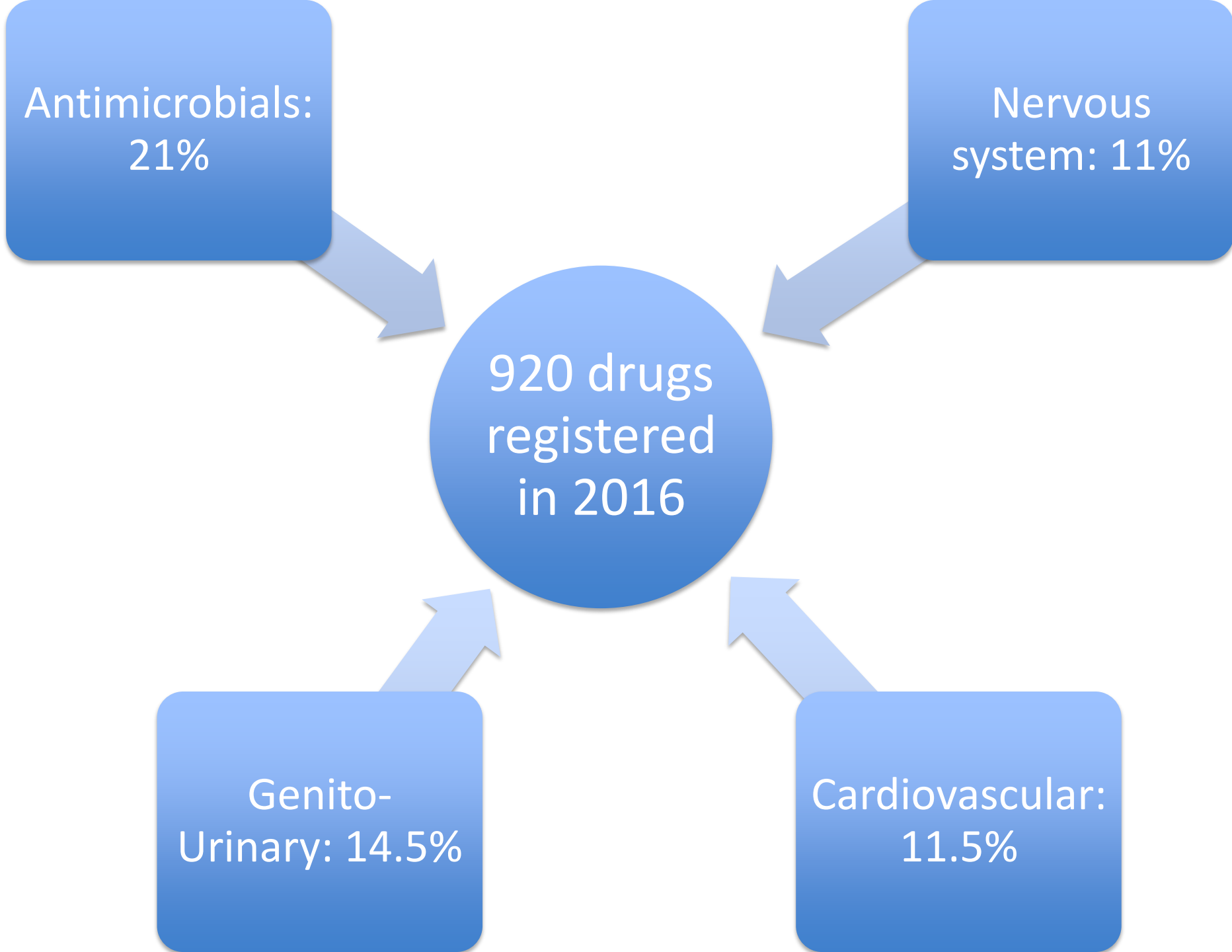
Antimicrobials:
21%

Nervous
system: 11%

920 drugs
registered
in 2016

Genito-
Urinary: 14.5%

Cardiovascular:
11.5%



Universal

Great
challenge to
big industries

- especially after 2012 “off patency” of 18 out of the 20 best selling drugs universally with an estimated loss of 100B \$
- N.B.: it takes 15 years & 1 B \$ to innovate a drug

Fake drugs
have

- Huge resources
- International & skilled labors & materials
- Profit attractions: 60 \$ for 1 kg of Sildenafil (Viagra) in China sells 50 mg packaged tablets in USA for a sum of 300K \$



They could enter the legitimate “chain supply”

SSFF universal market : 200 B \$ among which 75B\$ sold online

Universal market: 1T \$

Only way to detect fake drugs is by lab testing

LEBANON

Continuous conflict with political & civil unrest

Always linked to & affected by regional conflicts

Hosted by a fake political system & a polluted political atmosphere with a culture of corruption

Rank 136 out of 176 countries in terms of corruption

A major source of fake drugs hitting its citizens and the region

“Drug Piracy” continues in Lebanon under legal coverage

Drug Policy and Market in Lebanon



No national political will to formulate a national drug policy since independence

Dominance of importers power, over “stake-holders” policies (MOH Ali Khalil: “Some pharmaceutical companies are stronger than MOH in Lebanon” on Feb 16, 2013)

Approached by a “profiting business minds” that influence legislation to serve its purposes. President Nabih Berri assured it in a parliament general assembly meeting on July 30, 2000. by saying : This “political-importer-cabinet” MAFIOSO TRIAD aborted all trials of parliamentary reforms .

Drug Policy and Market in Lebanon

11 importers control
80-90% of the
Lebanese drug market

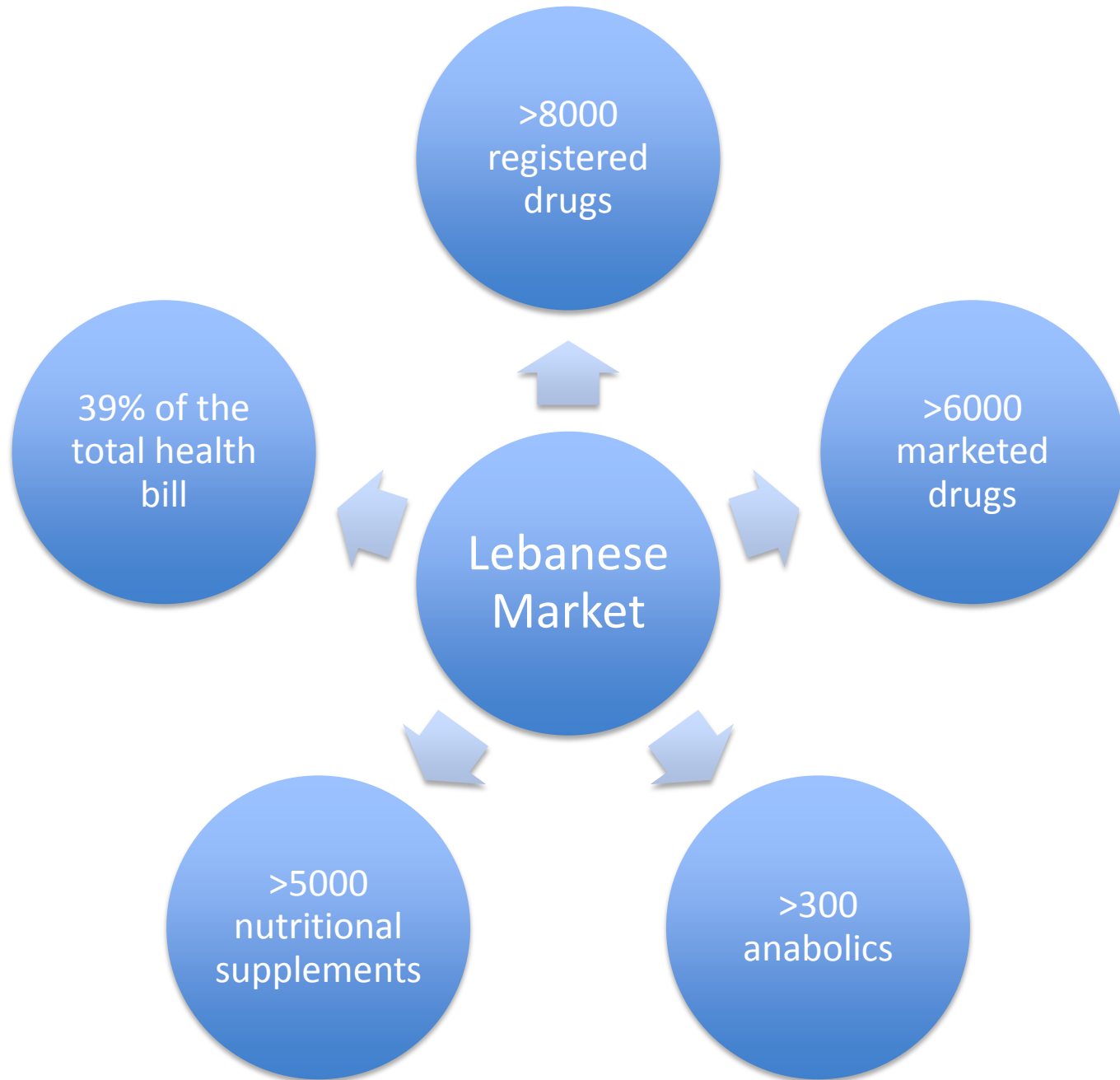


As an MP, I used the term “MAFIA”
for the first time on May 28, 1997



President Berri confirmed this term

Drug Policy and Market in Lebanon



Pharmaceutical Expenses

1.2B \$ (2010)

1.2B \$ (2011)

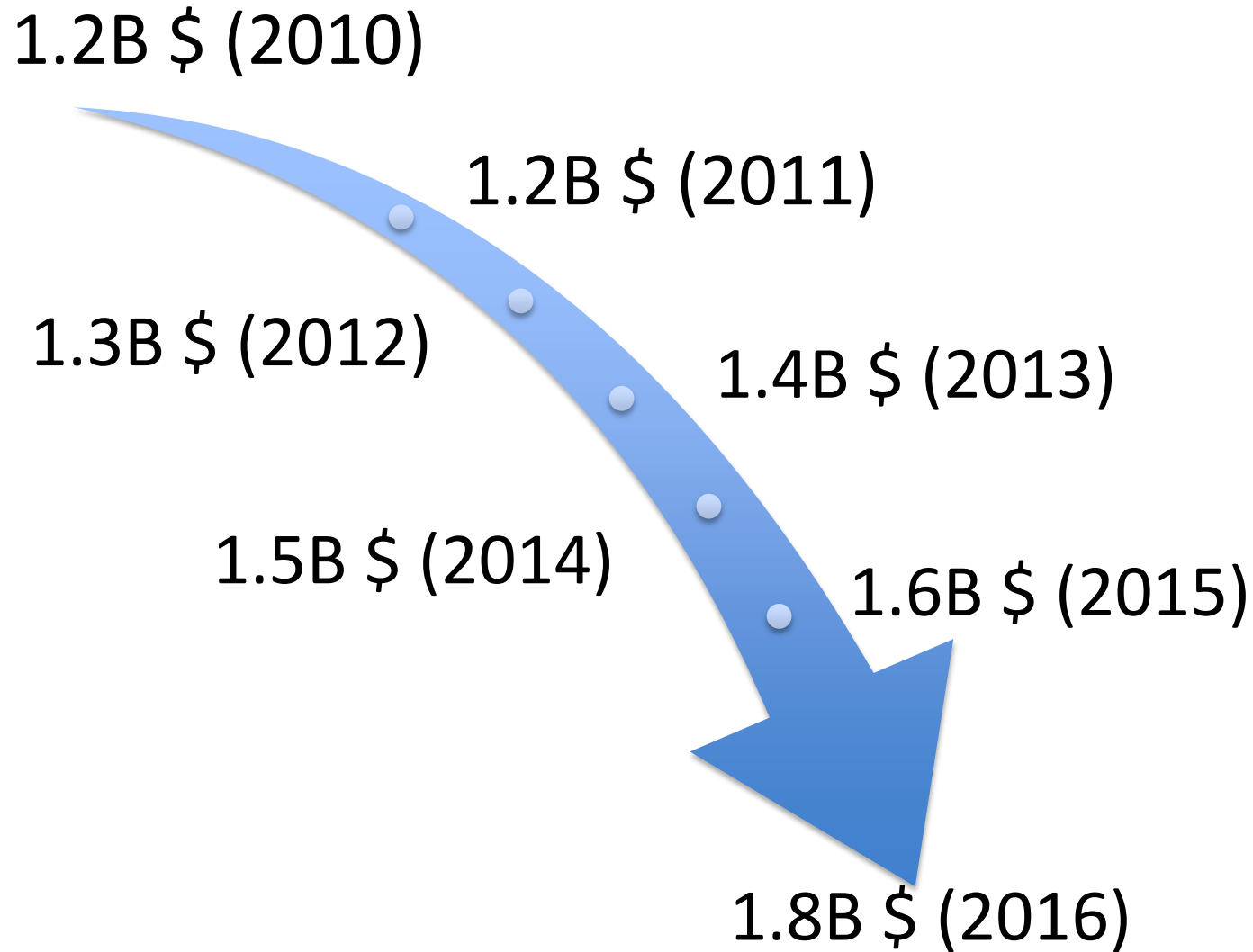
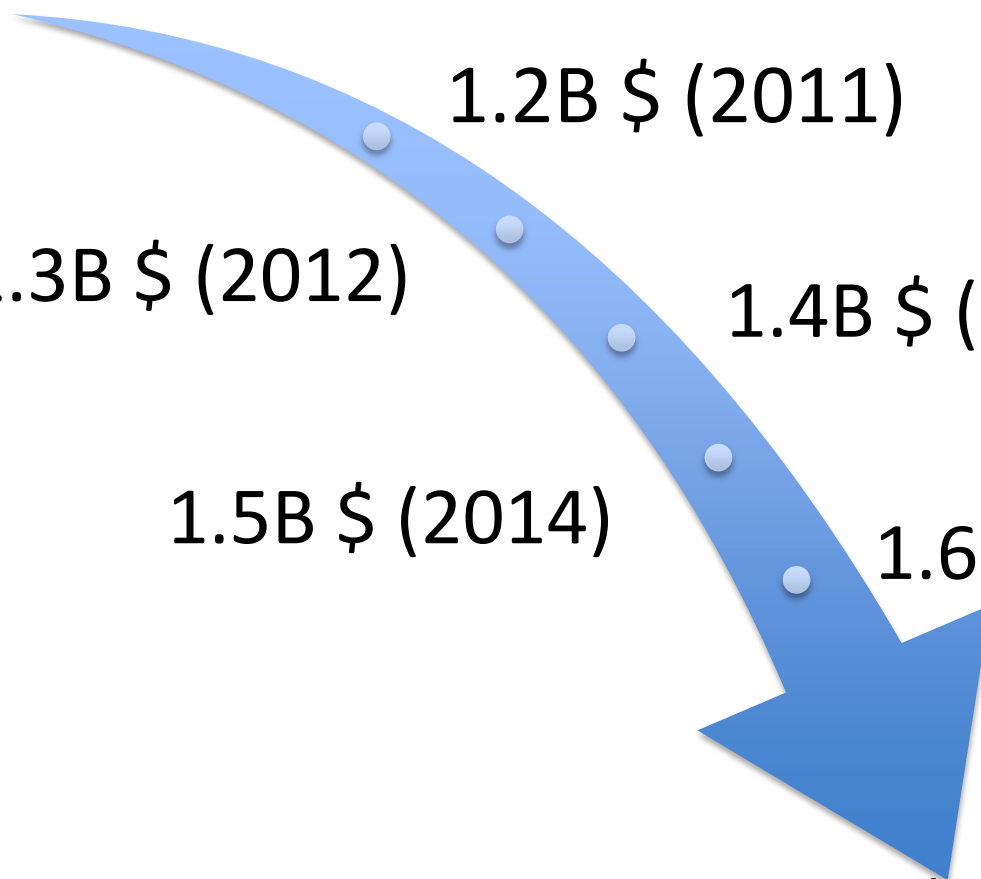
1.3B \$ (2012)

1.4B \$ (2013)

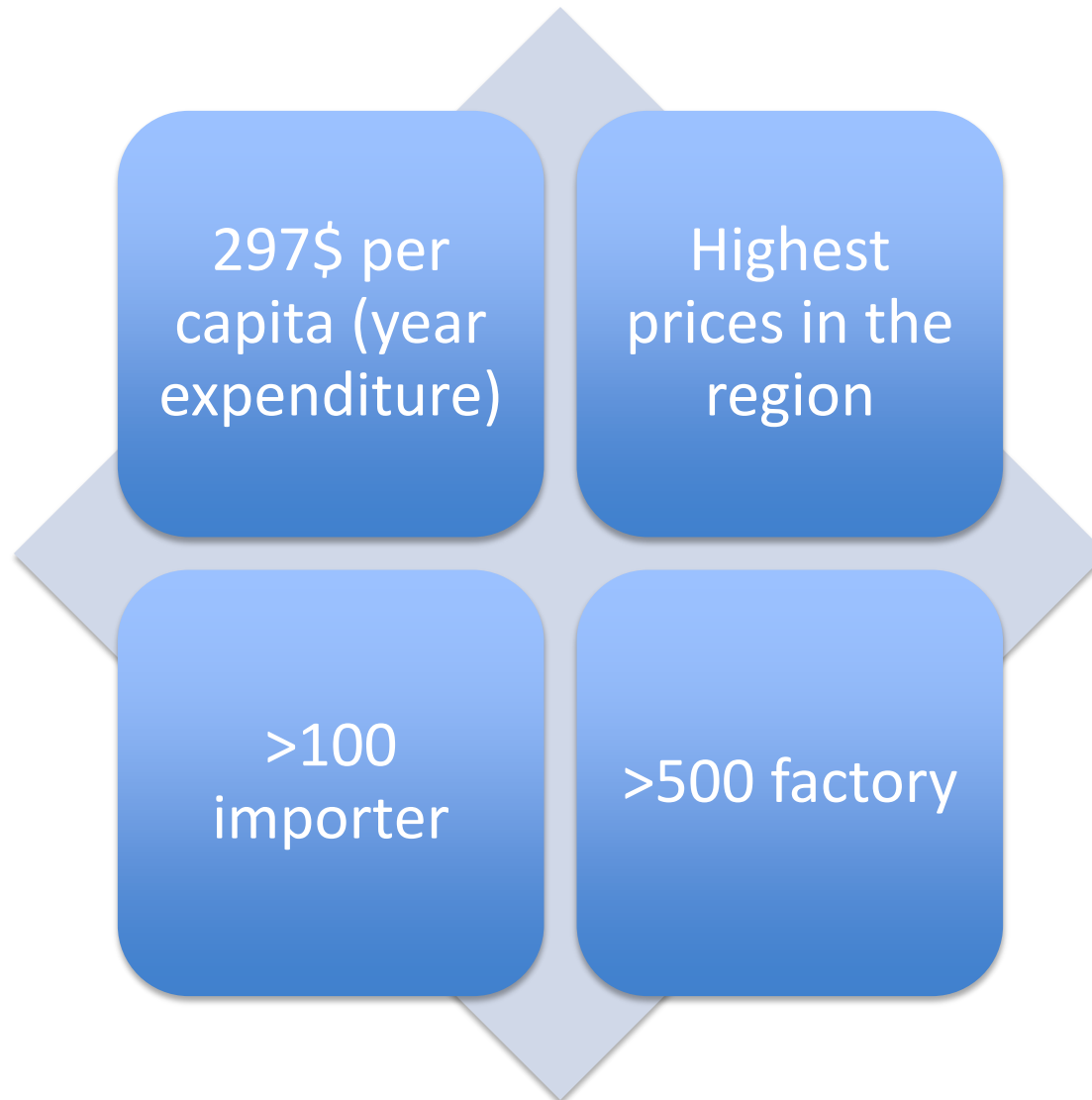
1.5B \$ (2014)

1.6B \$ (2015)


1.8B \$ (2016)



Drug Policy and Market in Lebanon



Drug Policy and Market in Lebanon



23 claimed
academic
hospitals

Only 7 are truly
academic

16 exploit the academic title to abuse free
drug import, claiming clinical research for
money making

PERSONAL EXPERIENCE

I questioned the government through the parliament on 55 health issues, mainly drugs

13 inadequate government responses were transformed to investigations +7 judicial sessions

Most dangerous was the 6/6/98 investigation that contained 1200 drug documents

It resulted in a “night break in” of the palace of justice by the drug mafia on may 27 1999 and the 6/6/1998 report was stolen!!


And blocking my return to parliament on 2000 (Typical Mafioso action)

PERSONAL EXPERIENCE

As an MP, I presented a draft law for controlling drug market in Lebanon on 12/8/1998

A large, light blue downward-pointing arrow with a subtle gradient, indicating the flow from the first step to the second.

It bypassed the parliament health committee and still awaits parliamentary action

A large, light blue downward-pointing arrow with a subtle gradient, indicating the flow from the second step to the third.

Among the 6/6/98 contents, 100s of fake & withdrawn drugs from the world market from all therapeutic types: Plavix, Taxoter, Pregnyl, Methergine, etc..

PERSONAL EXPERIENCE

Some local
factories
import blister
tablets &
package
them in
Lebanon
(Indian-
Chinese)

522 fake
drugs of
different
kinds
approved by
a local
university lab

Lead & mercury in
37 types of herbs
(poisonous effect
of 7 slim herb for
loosing weight)

In addition to
contents of my 2
books on drugs &
health rights

SYRIA

Pumping of all kinds
of fake drugs to the
Syrian community
through the
uncontrolled
Lebanese-Syrian
borders

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graph TD; A((Pumping of all kinds of fake drugs to the Syrian community through the uncontrolled Lebanese-Syrian borders)); B[Eruption of Syrian volcano] --> A; C[Syrian brokers] --> A; D[Lebanese drug market players] --> A;
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The diagram illustrates the factors influencing the distribution of fake drugs in Syria. A central blue circle contains the text 'Pumping of all kinds of fake drugs to the Syrian community through the uncontrolled Lebanese-Syrian borders'. Three blue rectangular boxes point towards this central circle: 'Eruption of Syrian volcano' on the left, 'Syrian brokers' on the right, and 'Lebanese drug market players' at the bottom.

Eruption of
Syrian
volcano

Syrian
brokers

Lebanese
drug market
players

SYRIA

On top of which is the “Captagon” that is easily & hugely manufactured to fuel the Syrian war & keep fighters on their feet & generating 100 Ms USD for more weapons

First 3 years, 90 % of the Lebanese Captagon were transferred to Syria.

Now, Syria is locally satisfied & the Lebanese export dropped to 10% - to Saudi Arabia

IRAQ

2003-2016

140K new cancer cases
(depleted Uranium)

Since the
besiege of
Iraq (1991)

The Lebanese & Syrian
“merchants of death”
welcomed gladly the new
big needy market for all
kinds of unqualified drugs

& created “storing
satellites” mainly in
Kurdistan

Abx of 10-
20% active
ingredients

sent repeatedly to Iraq
from Lebanon & Syria

IRAQ

26/9/2000: A British pharma company exported respiratory drugs via Lebanon to Iraq according to “food & medicines in return for oil treaty”

Instead, they were sold in the Lebanese market. This caused death of >10K Iraqi pulmonary patients*

Currently: a Billion USD/year business

- Flooding Iraqi pharmacies (mainly Chinese , Indian)
- Aided by governmental corruption

EGYPT

WHO: “Are Fake Drugs related to Bioterrorism issues?”

International Pharmaceutical Companies

PASTEUR MARIEUX incident

Lebanese MOH Response

Isn't it a stark model of bioterrorism ??!!

EGYPT

For the last decade, Egyptian drug industry retreated as for quality standards due to corruption & economic difficulties, politically supervised factories & weak monitoring

Saudi Arabia

- Since 1980s, Saudi Arabia's pharmaceutical market has been targeted by makers of fake products from numerous sources

- The Captagon enigma intrudes mainly from Lebanon according to Saudi health resources

I would like to thank Dr. Nazareth Papazian , for his plastic touch

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