Devolution and Health Sector

Rose B. Osoro
Commissioner

Commission on Revenue Allocation

Devolution and Health
Consultative Meeting
24th October, 2012
Nairobi, Kenya

Highlight of Issues across key health system areas

Human Resources

- Secondment
- Optimal use of scarce expertise

Pharmaceuticals

What will be the working relationship between KEMSA and county governments?

Information Systems

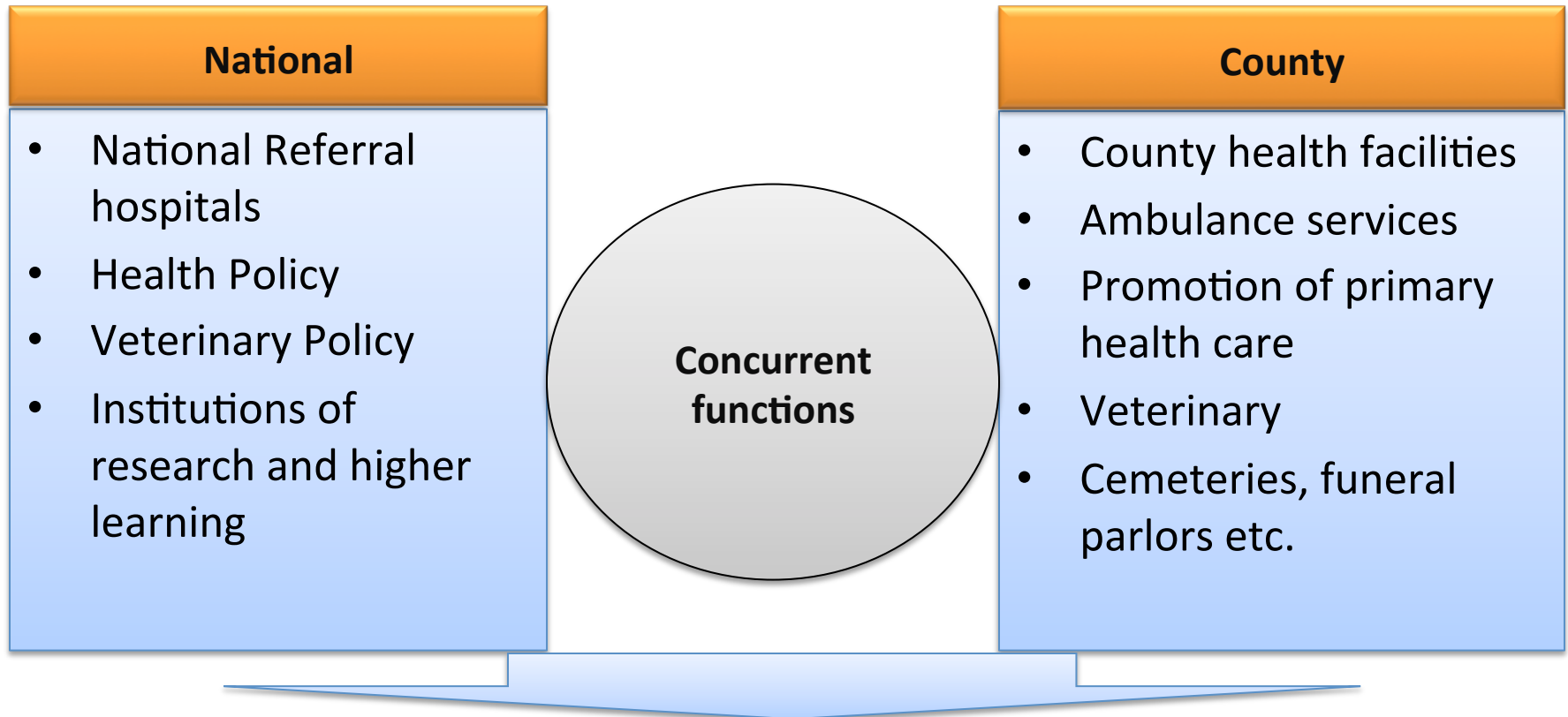How does the national system interlink with the county information system?

National Lab

Is this a concurrent function?

Other concerns

- Local authority health services left out in most health policy and budgetary decisions
- What is the mechanism of taking care of the extra cost of providing services to people outside the county?
- How do we capture the contribution of development partners in the health sector disaggregated by counties?
- What will happen to devolved funds? What happens to existing structures?

Assignment of functions-Fourth Schedule

National

- National Referral hospitals
- Health Policy
- Veterinary Policy
- Institutions of research and higher learning

Concurrent functions

County

- County health facilities
- Ambulance services
- Promotion of primary health care
- Veterinary
- Cemeteries, funeral parlors etc.

- Each of the above functions is a cost driver
- Service delivery functions assigned to counties are significant cost drivers

Devolved Health and Cost Drivers

Note: Health service is a fundamental right of every Kenyan

Possible areas for increased costs

- Case of emergency-who ultimately bears the cost?
- Health personnel cost is a significant cost driver

Possible areas for cost savings

- Merger of the two ministries
- Institutional overhead costs

Moving forward

- Need for a strong center (policy formulation, setting of norms and standards, regulation)
- Devolution is here to stay-need to embrace change
- Need for transition champions to guide the process to deal with the what, where, when, who, and how of devolution process
- Participation of the public
- CRA open for discussion, consultation

Thank You