

Ellis Nkandu, pharmacist at Lewanika General Hospital in Mongu, shares his experiences with the electronic Logistics Management Information System (eLMIS)

Now that the pilot phase is underway, eLMIS is being rolled out to health facilities across Zambia. Ellis Nkandu, a pharmacist who has been working with eLMIS for just over two months, spoke about his early experiences in switching from a paper-based to an electronic logistics system.



What do you like most about the eLMIS?

The system is fast and it has reduced the workload. With the old system, we had challenges when making reports. We spent a lot of time, up to a week, working on reports. With eLMIS, I have no problems. Data is entered quickly and accurately. To send a report, all I have to do is click.

You did not attend the full eLMIS training but received on-the-job training, was it still easy for you to use the system?

It was very easy. I experienced some problems but I consulted colleagues who were trained to help with the minor problems that I had. It was important to have people nearby to assist me in that way.

Having worked with the system for two months, what are your general views of it? How well do you think it can be successfully rolled out throughout Zambia?

It has been a good experience. I think that eLMIS will be successfully rolled out nationally once all the equipment is in place and all the users are correctly trained. I think they're looking forward to working with it.

Making the switch from a paper-based to an electronic logistics system is already positively impacting the work of Ellis and other eLMIS-trained staff around Zambia. Errors that were made when transposing data from page to page have been eliminated. Now, accurate data can move quickly throughout the country, helping decision makers plan and reducing stock outs. We will keep you updated as we continue to roll out throughout the country.