AN EVALUATION ON THE IMPACT OF LOGISTICS MANAGEMENT ON LEAD TIME. A CASE OF HARARE HOSPITAL

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ABSTRACT

The study sought to address the impact of logistics management on lead time at Harare Hospital. The research objectives were to establish the effect of logistics management on lead time, to critically analyze the logistics factors that influence lead time, to determine the effect of lead and to establish ways to overcome challenges in logistics so as to reduce lead time. This research was carried using descriptive research and the research findings were obtained from twenty (20) respondents. The researcher made use of questionnaires to collect the primary data. The questionnaires consisted of two parts. The first part contained bio data of the respondent and the second part contained questions on the objectives of the study. Closed ended questions were used to collect the data. The questionnaire was administered through drop and pick later method. The respondents mainly constituted procurement officers and in some cases administrators who implemented procurement functions. The analysis indicated that logistics management is influenced by four main factors. These are poor flow of information; poor transportation networks; ordering costs; and bureaucracy in government. The study also found out that inefficient scheduling of products, poor logistics management, uncoordinated order shipping and poor order planning affect lead time. The study also found out that changes in lead time results in stock outs, excessive inventories and inventory shortages at Harare Hospital. The study also found out that for the Hospital’s to function well orders should be made almost daily. The major recommendations found from this study were that the Hospital needs to refine its transport so as to reduce lead time and improve their overall supply chain and information flow issues should be managed so that lead time can be drastically reduced.