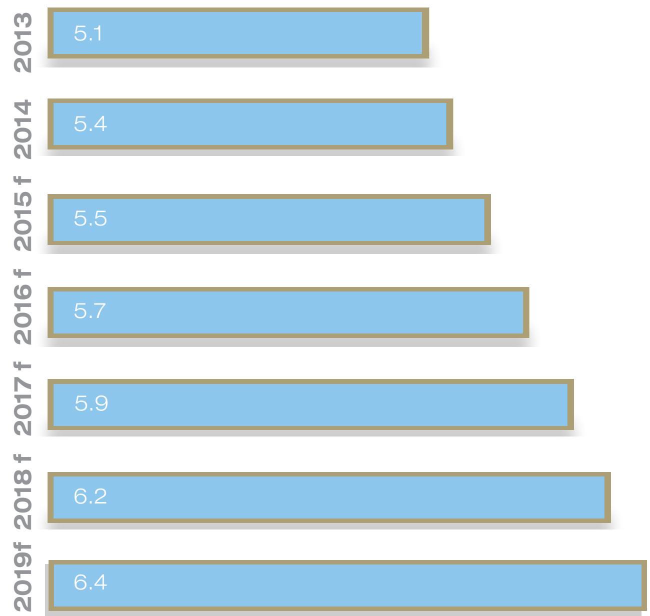
2.5: Healthcare

OPPORTUNITY OVERVIEW

Kuwait recorded the third largest total healthcare expenditure across the GCC region after UAE and Qatar and demand for healthcare is expected to rise significantly in the near term. Kuwait's evolving healthcare industry is characterized by a large public sector infrastructure and a growing private sector. The Government has spent approximately USD 5.1 Bn in 2013 on healthcare and is expected to spend over USD 6.4 Bn in 2019.

Private sector investments are expected to increase from USD 0.9 Bn in 2013 to USD 1.3 Bn by 2019 indicating the potential growth and rising share of private sector as part of the overall healthcare landscape.

Healthcare expenditure in Kuwait - 2013-2019, (USD Bn)



LIFESTYLE MEDICAL CLINICS

There is an increasing demand for lifestyle clinics which follow a proactive approach to health and wellness, with the objective of enhancing the quality of life and improving individual health and lifestyle. Kuwait has one of the highest rates of obesity and diabetes globally with over half of the female population and two-fifths of males reported obese, highlighting the growing need for lifestyle related disease treatment.

SPECIALTY HOSPITALS

Concentrated efforts by the Government to ensure availability of quality treatment for high-end healthcare specialties is expected to stimulate market demand for specialty hospitals.

Private sector hospitals in Kuwait offer multiple specialities. This trend is likely to grow further, especially in tapping opportunities to reduce treatments performed overseas and develop inbound medical tourism market by developing high end speciality hospitals.

KUWAIT HEALTH ASSURANCE COMPANY

The Government established the Kuwait Health Assurance Company in 2011 as a public-private partnership initiative to manage the healthcare needs of expatriates in Kuwait by developing a dedicated healthcare system.

Planned healthcare expenditure in 2019

USD 6.4 Bn

Stable economic growth, increasing population, high per capita expenditure on healthcare and Government support will drive the overall development of the healthcare sector and specialities treatments

Source: Business Monitor International

2.5.1: Speciality Hospitals

OPPORTUNITY OVERVIEW

Most private hospitals in Kuwait offer multiple specialties. Increasing private sector participation is likely to help foster growth in this segment through development of infrastructure and expertise to provide specialty healthcare treatment in Kuwait, reducing the need for outbound medical tourism.

Private sector OPD has rapidly emerged during the last 5 years, with the introduction of specialties such as gastroenterology and neurosurgery that did not exist earlier in the private sector.

Specialty hospitals in Kuwait (2013)

Hospital Name	Speciality	No. of Beds Current (new)
Al-Razi	Orthopaedic Surgery	290 (240)
Physical Med. & Rehabilitation (PPP model)	Physical Med & Rehabilitation	75
Maternity Hospital (Al Sabah)	Maternity	441 (617)
Chest Diseases Hospital	Chest Diseases	329
Infectious Diseases	Infectious Diseases	173 (255)
Psychological Medicine	Psychiatric	764
Ibn Sina Hospital	Spinal Surgery	364
Kuwait Cancer Control Centre	Cancer	199 (618)
Allergy Centre	Allergies	36

- Kuwait's population reached around 4.2 Mn by June 2015 and is expected to grow annually at nearly 3% to reach 4.8 Mn by 2019. This represents potential demand for healthcare facilities and infrastructure, especially given the high incidence of lifestyle related diseases and treatment.
- Insurance coverage is one of the key demand drivers for healthcare. Public health insurance is mandatory for all expatriates, while multinational corporations in Kuwait provide private healthcare insurance as part of the compensation package. Increasing level of insurance penetration drives the demand for specialty medical procedures and treatments within the country.

Obstetrics, gynecology, cardiology, are amongst the fastest growing specialties in the healthcare sector in Kuwait and present opportunities for establishment of specialty hospitals and clinics catering to lifestyle diseases.

To address the growing demand, the Government is investing in capacity expansion at existing hospitals as well as constructing new hospitals.

Insurance coverage is one of the key demand drivers for healthcare.

Source: MOH Kuwait and EIU

2.5.2: Lifestyle medical clinics

OPPORTUNITY OVERVIEW

Lifestyle clinics include spas, alternative medicine, nutrition and diet solutions, preventive and personalized healthcare, solutions for lifestyle related diseases such as hypertension and obesity, beauty and anti-aging and weight loss and fitness solutions.

A combination of an indoor, sedentary lifestyle and poor diet habits is leading to a high incidence of lifestyle related diseases including diabetes and cardiovascular ailments in Kuwait, highlighting the growing need for lifestyle disease treatments and a greater demand for advanced treatment services.

- Increased life expectancy and rapid population growth (projected to grow annually at 3% to reach 4.8 Mn by 2019) are expected to lead to increased demand for lifestyle clinics.
- Rising health awareness is driving the demand for personalized healthcare programs at lifestyle clinics to address high incidence of obesity and other lifestyle diseases.

Lifestyle clinics in Kuwait are predominantly Government-owned. The private sector is highly fragmented with a number of private lifestyle clinics present across governorates in Kuwait. Opportunity exists for specialized healthcare providers to set up a chain of lifestyle medical clinics catering to the growing demand for high quality inpatient and outpatient services.

"The private sector is highly fragmented with a number of advanced private clinics in various areas. Consequently, there is an opportunity for specialized health care providers to set up a series of advanced medical clinics that meet the growing demand for healthcare services in Kuwait.

Source: MOH Kuwait and EIU