Climacteric medicine is a very new branch of healthcare in Mongolia due to its poor economic structure and dated public sector. The population of Mongolia has reached 2.71 million and a little over 12% of them are women aged 50 and over (Mongolian population Census of 2010). The average life expectancy for Mongolian women was proven to be 65.7 years in the Census of 2000 and has since, slightly increased up to 67.3 years (Health Indicators 2005), which is still less than the jump in other neighbouring countries. Although the numbers and proportion of postmenopausal women are increasing, there is little or no understanding about the menopause in Mongolia as information about the determinants of menopausal symptoms is very limited.

The present economic situation in Mongolia and its current pharmacological legislation does not comply with international standards and is unable to implement IMS recommendations regarding HT and post-reproductive health management guidelines. Therefore, the findings from other countries cannot be applied to Mongolia, simply because of the differences in economy, lifestyle, culture, geography and severe weather conditions.

The prevalence and severity of menopausal symptoms among middle-aged Mongolian women imply that menopausal aid is an important health issue and requires immediate intervention. Here at MMAS, we believe that a strategic and well-prepared project about menopausal health will have a direct, positive and long-term impact that will improve the health care of middle-aged Mongolian women and increase knowledge on the menopause where it is needed, especially among rural and poorly educated women.

enkhees@mmas.mn