



SNS COLLEGE OF PHARMACY AND HEALTH SCIENCES

Sathy Main Road, SNS Kalvi Nagar,
Saravanampatti Post, Coimbatore - 641 035,
Tamil Nadu.



HOSPITAL FORMULARY

The hospital formulary system is a method whereby the medical staff of a hospital with the help of pharmacy and therapeutic committee selects and evaluate medical agents and their dosage form which are considered to be most useful in the patient care.

Hospital formulary reduces the inventory cost of the drugs. It regulates the number of medicines by improving the procurement and inventory management. It improves the quality assurance and easier dispensing.

PREPARATION OF FORMULARY

Formulation is an essential part of hospital pharmacy.

- It has been a focal point for improving drug therapy in hospitals.
- Effectiveness of formulary system depends on the abilities of the pharmacist involved with it.
- Although the majority of formulary decisions are made by Pharmacy and Therapeutic Committee but well planned system provides both structure and flexibility and encompasses both selection of drugs and criteria for drug use.
- These special features allow for standardization to reduce errors, wastage and required personnel time.

ADVANTAGES

- To discourage the use of “less than optimal drug therapy”, and
- To provide generic product list.
- Generic product selection policies stimulate bio-equivalency comparison which prevents the unnecessary stocking of less than optimal products.
- Formularies must include cost to provide relative cost data for similar drug products that are generically equivalent.
- Today new drugs and drug therapies are more complex, so formulary system will rely more upon ‘recommended for use’ criteria for many drugs.

- A drug that has specific advantages in a small number of patient will be included in the formulary.

SIZE/SHAPE OF FORMULARY:

- The initial step in the preparation of a formulary for any hospital is its size of formulary.
- Although the physical appearance and structure of the formulary play an important influence on its use but
- Elaborate and expensive art work in formulary is of no use, as it is meant for professional use,
- So it should be visually pleasing, easily readable with
- Proper grammar, correct spelling and with neat designing
- It is the main point for improving drug therapy in hospitals and is totally depend on the abilities of pharmacist.

CONTENT OF FORMULARY

A typical formulary must have the following composition;

- 1) Title page
- 2) Names & titles of the members of the PTC
- 3) Table of contents
- 4) Information on hospital policies & procedures concerning drugs
 - a. The pharmacy and therapeutic committee of hospital
 - b. Objective and operation of the formulary systems
 - c. Hospital regulations and procedures for prescribing and dispensing drugs.
 - d. Hospital pharmacy services and procedures.
 - e. How to use the formulary
- 5) Products accepted for use at hospital
 - a. Items added and deleted from the previous edition.
 - b. Generic, Brand name cross reference list.
 - c. Pharmacologic/therapeutic index with relative cost codes.
 - d. Descriptions of formulary drug products by pharmacological therapeutic class.
- 6) Appendix
 - a. Central service equipment and supply list
 - b. Guidelines for calculating pediatrics doses
 - c. Schedule of standard drug administration.

Preparation of formulary is a painstaking effort of any hospital to channelize its prescribing efforts. The selected generic drug guides the prescriber and offers comparison with other drugs.

DISTRIBUTION OF FORMULARY&REVISION OF FORMULARY

- Hospital formulary is an important written document which contains the list of preparations including important information's which reflects the current clinical views of medical staff.
- Formulary is the painstaking effort of any hospital so as to guide medical and paramedical staff.
- The formulary is very educative and useful to the members of "Health Care Team" and
- Hence copies of formulary should be placed at each patient care unit, including clinics, out-patient care areas and emergency room.

REVISION OF FORMULARY

- Selected drugs are entered in the formulary but the entry of a new drug is a complex procedure, the members alone are not competent to evaluate each therapeutic agent.
- Committee take help from various experts for inclusion of specialized drug and
- Any formulation whose formula is not disclosed cannot be entered in the formulary.
- The PTC makes certain guidelines for inclusion or deletion of drug in the formulary with the consultation of medical staff.

SIGNIFICANCE OF HOSPITAL FORMULARY

- Any prescription either generic/chemical or proprietary name written by the physician is the legal permit to dispense a particular drug.
- When formulary adopted continuous prescription system, the pharmacist has to obey the prescriber and dispense only the brands prescribed.
- If the prescriber is not aware about the prescription written in the formulary, the pharmacist should inform him about the same and explain him about the use of drugs from the formulary.