D.PHARM • SECOND YEAR

Community Pharmacy & Managem

CHAPTER 1

Community Pharmacy Practice



ENGLISH CHAPTER NOTES

DIPLOMA IN PHARMACY

COMMUNITY PHARMACY PRACTICE

Definition

Community Pharmacy, also called Retail Pharmacy or Dispensing Pharmacy, involves direct interaction between a pharmacist and the public in a community setting.
It is an accessible healthcare service that supplies medicines and supports safe, effective medicine use.



1. Dispensing

supply prescription and permitted non-prescription medicines correctly.

2. Patient counselling

explain medicine use and support medication adherence.

3. Medicine safety

check drug interactions and adverse drug reactions (ADRs).

4. Preventive care

offer health checks and authorized services such as vaccination, within local scope.

5. OTC guidance

help patients choose suitable self-care or seek medical assessment.

6. Rational use

encourage appropriate medicines, doses and duration.

7. Public health

support health education, disease prevention and community programmes.

HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNITY PHARMACY

Global/International History

Ancient period

Mesopotamia

- Mesopotamia, about 2600 BC: clay tablets recorded remedies.

Egypt

- Egypt, about 1500 BC: the Ebers Papyrus described over 700 remedies and formulas.

Hippocrates and Dioscorides

- Hippocrates, about 400 BC, and Dioscorides, first century AD: important contributions to medicine and medicinal-plant knowledge.

Middle Ages

- During the Islamic Golden Age, pharmacy developed as a distinct profession.
- Early apothecaries appeared in the Arabic world, including Baghdad.
- Apothecary practice later spread in Europe, including Italy, France and Germany.

Renaissance to 19th century

- Licensed apothecaries prepared and supplied medicines.
- Pharmacists worked as compounders and dispensers.
- Pharmacy schools and pharmacopoeias supported professional standards.

20th century onwards

- Industrial manufacture shifted much work from compounding to dispensing.
- Counselling, health promotion and authorized vaccination expanded.
- Chain pharmacies, e-pharmacies and integrated services developed.

HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNITY PHARMACY IN INDIA

Early development

- Before independence, regulation and trained staff were limited. Medicines were often supplied by merchants or untrained dispensers.
- Formal pharmacy education had already begun at BHU in 1932.

Major milestones

- 1940 : Drugs and Cosmetics Act regulated drug quality and supply.
- 1945 : Drugs and Cosmetics Rules provided detailed requirements.
- 1948 : Pharmacy Act created the framework for pharmacy education, professional regulation and Pharmacy Councils.
- 1960s–1970s : Diploma and degree education expanded.
- 1980s : Greater attention to qualified pharmacists and medicine safety.
- 1990s–2000s : Retail chains expanded.
- 2010s : Digital health, e-pharmacies and community outreach grew.
- 2015 : Pharmacy Practice Regulations emphasized professional and patient-care responsibilities.

Later development

- Later development includes clinical services, telepharmacy and better access in rural areas.

Note: the 1940 and 1945 milestones occurred before independence.

INTERNATIONAL SCENARIO OF COMMUNITY PHARMACY PRACTICE

Developed Nations

United States

- Pharm.D. is the usual current entry-level professional degree.
- Services include Medication Therapy Management (MTM), immunization, health screening and chronic-disease support.
- State Boards regulate practice. FDA regulates medicines. Prescribing authority depends on state law.

United Kingdom

- Usual route: 4-year MPharm, foundation training and registration assessment.
- GPhC regulates pharmacists and pharmacies in Great Britain. Community pharmacies provide NHS services.
- Examples: New Medicine Service, minor-illness care, emergency supply and smoking-cessation support.
- Medicines Use Reviews ended in England in March 2021.

Australia

- Emphasis on Quality Use of Medicines (QUM).
- Home Medicines Review, vaccination and chronic-disease support.
- Pharmacy Board of Australia regulates pharmacists.

Canada

- Licensing and scope depend on the province or territory.
- Services may include prescription renewal/adaptation, vaccination and laboratory-test ordering.
- Pharmaceutical care and collaboration guide patient services.

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