D.PHARM • SECOND YEAR

Hospital & Clinical Pharmacy

CHAPTER 2

Hospital Pharmacy Committees



ENGLISH CHAPTER NOTES

DIPLOMA IN PHARMACY

PHARMACY AND THERAPEUTICS COMMITTEE

DEFINITION

The Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee (P&T Committee) is a multidisciplinary hospital body that guides safe, effective and economical medication use.
It connects pharmacy, medical staff, nursing and administration.

MAIN OBJECTIVES

- Develop and maintain the hospital formulary.
- Promote rational and evidence-based medicine use.
- Create medication policies for selection, procurement, storage, prescribing, dispensing and administration.
- Evaluate new medicines for efficacy, safety, quality and cost.
- Review ADRs, medication errors and medication-use risks.
- Support antimicrobial stewardship and staff education.



TYPICAL MEMBERS



- Chairperson or senior physician
- chief / clinical pharmacist
- physicians from relevant specialties
- nursing representative
- hospital administrator
- microbiologist or pathologist
- quality or risk manager

Composition varies with hospital size and services; members contribute complementary expertise.

FUNCTIONS OF THE P&T COMMITTEE

1. FORMULARY MANAGEMENT
Approve, restrict or remove medicines; review therapeutic alternatives.

2. DRUG EVALUATION
Compare efficacy, safety, dosage forms, quality, availability and total cost.

3. POLICY AND PROCEDURES
Develop rules for high-alert, high-cost, restricted and emergency medicines.

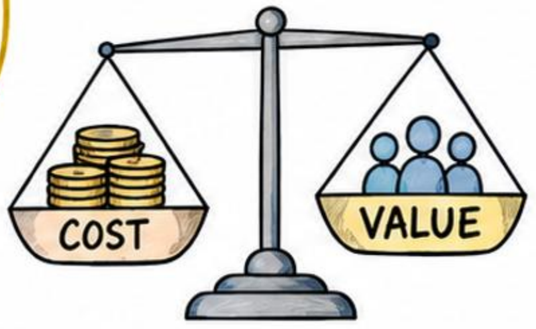
4. DRUG USE EVALUATION
Conduct Drug Utilization Review (DUR), prescription audits and guideline-compliance checks.

5. MEDICATION SAFETY
Analyse ADRs, medication errors and near misses; recommend preventive action.

6. EDUCATION
Issue drug bulletins and train staff about formulary changes and safe use.

7. VALUE AND ACCESS
Use generic or therapeutic alternatives when clinically appropriate; balance patient need, evidence and resources.

EVIDENCE FOR DECISIONS
- Literature
- Guidelines
- Safety data
- Utilization data
- Cost information



DECISION PRINCIPLE

Clinical benefit and patient safety come first; cost is considered with—not instead of—quality.

DEVELOPMENT OF A HOSPITAL FORMULARY

DEFINITION

A hospital formulary is an official, continually updated list of approved medicines and related information selected for a particular hospital. Selection is based on efficacy, safety, quality, patient need and cost-effectiveness.



Careful evaluation leads to better choices.

DEVELOPMENT STEPS

1. Constitute the P&T Committee and define responsibilities.
2. Evaluate medicines using evidence, clinical need, safety, quality, availability and cost.
3. Classify selected medicines by therapeutic group.
4. Define prescribing levels, restrictions, substitution and non-formulary procedures.
5. Draft the document with generic name, dosage form, strength, route, indications, key precautions and important adverse effects.
6. Obtain review and approval from the authorized hospital body.
7. Publish, communicate, monitor use and update regularly.

A formulary is a living medication-policy tool—not merely a purchasing list.

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