Hospital Formulary and Drug Management

Hospital Formulary Guidelines and Its Development

Definition

- A **Hospital Formulary** is an officially approved list of medicines that can be used in a hospital.
- It helps doctors, pharmacists, and nurses select appropriate medicines and promotes **safe, rational, and cost-effective drug therapy**.

Objectives of Hospital Formulary

- Promote rational use of medicines.
- Ensure availability of essential medicines.
- Control drug expenditure.
- Standardize drug therapy.
- Reduce medication errors.

Objectives of Hospital Formulary

- Rational use of medicines is encouraged.
- Availability of essential medicines is ensured.
- Drug expenditure can be controlled effectively.
- Standardization of drug therapy is achieved.
- Medication errors can be reduced.

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Advantages of Hospital Formulary

- Prescribing practices become more uniform.
- Inventory management becomes easier.
- Drug procurement can be planned efficiently.
- Healthcare professionals receive reliable drug information.
- Patient care quality is improved.

Contents of a Hospital Formulary

- List of approved medicines.
- Generic and brand names of medicines.
- Dosage forms and strengths.
- Therapeutic classifications.
- Prescribing guidelines.

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- Special precautions and restrictions.
- Drug interaction and safety information.

Formulary Development Process

1. Formation of Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee

- The Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee supervises formulary development.
- Members evaluate medicines based on scientific evidence.

2. Collection of Drug Information

- Information regarding efficacy, safety, and cost is gathered.
- Available treatment alternatives are reviewed.

3. Evaluation of Medicines

- Medicines are assessed according to therapeutic value.
- Clinical effectiveness and adverse effects are considered.

4. Selection of Medicines

- Suitable medicines are approved for inclusion.
- Unnecessary duplication of drugs is avoided.

5. Preparation of Formulary

- Selected medicines are organized systematically.
- Drug information is included for easy reference.

6. Periodic Review

- The formulary is updated regularly.
- New medicines may be added after evaluation.
- Obsolete medicines may be removed.

Advantages of Hospital Formulary

- Encourages rational drug use.
- Improves medication safety.
- Reduces treatment costs.
- Simplifies procurement and inventory management.
- Supports evidence-based prescribing.

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Developing Therapeutic Guidelines

Definition

- Therapeutic guidelines are systematically developed recommendations that help healthcare professionals choose the most appropriate treatment for specific diseases.
- They are based on **scientific evidence and clinical experience** and help ensure consistent patient care.

Objectives of Therapeutic Guidelines

- Promote appropriate treatment choices.
- Reduce variations in prescribing practices.
- Encourage evidence-based medicine.
- Improve patient outcomes.
- Control healthcare costs.

Importance of Therapeutic Guidelines

- Clinical decision-making becomes easier.
- Rational use of medicines is encouraged.
- Treatment quality becomes more consistent.
- Medication-related problems can be minimized.

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Principles for Developing Therapeutic Guidelines

- Recommendations should be based on scientific evidence.
- Guidelines should reflect current clinical practice.
- Patient safety should be a primary consideration.
- Cost-effectiveness should be taken into account.
- Guidelines should be practical and easy to implement.

Steps in Developing Therapeutic Guidelines

1. Identification of Disease Conditions

- Common diseases requiring standardized treatment are identified.
- Priority health conditions are selected.

2. Collection of Scientific Evidence

- Current research findings are reviewed.
- Clinical studies and treatment recommendations are evaluated.

3. Expert Consultation

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- Opinions from specialists and healthcare professionals are obtained.
- Clinical experience is considered during development.

4. Draft Preparation

- Treatment recommendations are prepared.
- Drug selection and dosage guidelines are included.

5. Review and Approval

- The draft is evaluated by experts and committees.
- Necessary revisions are made before approval.

6. Implementation

- Guidelines are distributed to healthcare professionals.
- Training and awareness programs may be conducted.

7. Periodic Revision

- Guidelines are reviewed regularly.
- Updates are made according to new evidence.

Components of Therapeutic Guidelines

A. Disease Information

- Definition and classification of disease.
- Signs and symptoms.

B. Diagnostic Criteria

- Required investigations.
- Methods for confirming diagnosis.

C. Treatment Recommendations

- First-line treatment options.
- Alternative therapies when needed.

D. Monitoring Parameters

- Assessment of treatment effectiveness.
- Monitoring of adverse effects and patient response.

Benefits of Therapeutic Guidelines

- Improves quality of patient care.
- Promotes rational medicine use.

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- Enhances treatment effectiveness.
- Reduces medication-related problems.
- Supports clinical decision-making.

Drug Procurement Process

Definition

- Drug procurement is the process of purchasing medicines and pharmaceutical supplies required by a hospital.
- It ensures the availability of **quality medicines in the right quantity, at the right time, and at a reasonable cost**.

Objectives of Drug Procurement

- Maintain continuous supply of medicines.
- Obtain quality pharmaceutical products.
- Utilize financial resources efficiently.
- Prevent drug shortages.

Principles of Drug Procurement

- Medicines should meet quality standards.
- Procurement should be cost-effective.
- Reliable suppliers should be selected.
- Delivery should occur within the required time.

Steps in Drug Procurement Process

1. ### Assessment of Drug Requirements
   - Medicine requirements are estimated based on patient needs.
   - Previous consumption records are reviewed.
2. ### Preparation of Purchase List
   - Required medicines are listed systematically.
   - Quantities and specifications are clearly mentioned.
3. ### Selection of Suppliers
   - Approved suppliers are identified.
   - Supplier reliability and product quality are evaluated.
4. ### Invitation of Quotations or Tenders

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