Hospital Pharmacy

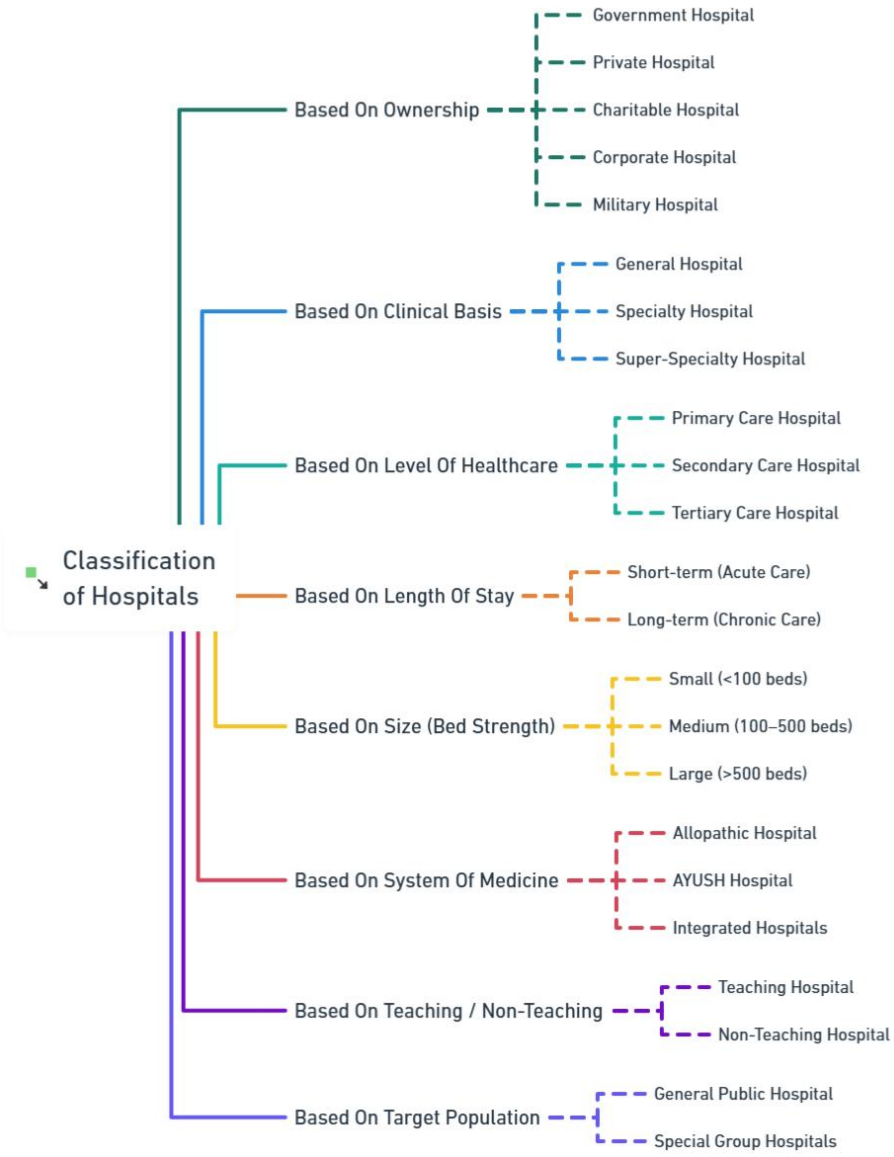
Hospital – Introduction

Definition of a Hospital

- A hospital is a healthcare institution that provides comprehensive medical, surgical, and nursing care to individuals who are acutely ill or injured.
- Hospitals may be general or specialized, and they operate with the objective of diagnosing, treating, and preventing diseases.
- In the context of Hospital Pharmacy, the hospital provides the environment and structure within which the pharmacy operates.
- The pharmacy supports medical and nursing services by ensuring safe, effective, and rational use of medications.

Classification of Hospitals

Hospitals can be classified based on **different criteria** such as ownership, objectives, level of care, size, and more.



1. Classification Based On Ownership

Type	Description
Government Hospital	Funded and run by central/state/local governments. E.g., AIIMS, District Hospitals
Private Hospital	Owned by individuals or organizations; run for profit
Charitable Hospital	Non-profit hospitals managed by trusts or NGOs; often provide free/low-cost treatment
Corporate Hospital	Run by companies/corporations; for-profit and well-equipped
Military Hospital	Managed by the defense services; provides care to armed forces personnel

2. Classification Based On Clinical Basis

Type	Description
General Hospital	Offers treatment for a wide range of diseases (Medicine, Surgery, Gynecology, Pediatrics, etc.)
Specialty Hospital	Focuses on a specific medical area (e.g., Cardiology, Cancer, Orthopedics)
Super-Specialty Hospital	Offers advanced and highly specialized care (e.g., Neurosurgery, Transplants)

3. Classification Based On Level Of Healthcare

This is **especially important** in the public health and hospital pharmacy context.

Level	Description
Primary Care Hospital	First contact care; e.g., Primary Health Centres (PHC); basic outpatient and preventive services
Secondary Care Hospital	Referral from primary; includes district hospitals, CHCs; provides specialist services
Tertiary Care Hospital	Advanced care with specialized equipment and personnel; teaching and research hospitals fall under this

4. Classification Based On Length Of Stay

Type	Description
Short-term (Acute Care)	For acute illnesses or surgical treatment (usually less than 30 days)

Long-term (Chronic Care)	For rehabilitation or long-standing diseases (e.g., TB hospitals, mental health institutions)

5. Classification Based On Size (Bed Strength)

Type	Description
Small	< 100 beds
Medium	100–500 beds
Large	> 500 beds

Pharmacy planning (drug inventory, staff) depends on hospital size.

6. Classification Based On System Of Medicine

Type	Description
Allopathic Hospital	Based on modern medicine
AYUSH Hospital	Ayurveda, Yoga, Unani, Siddha, Homeopathy
Integrated Hospitals	Combine modern and traditional medicine practices

7. Classification Based On Teaching / Non-Teaching

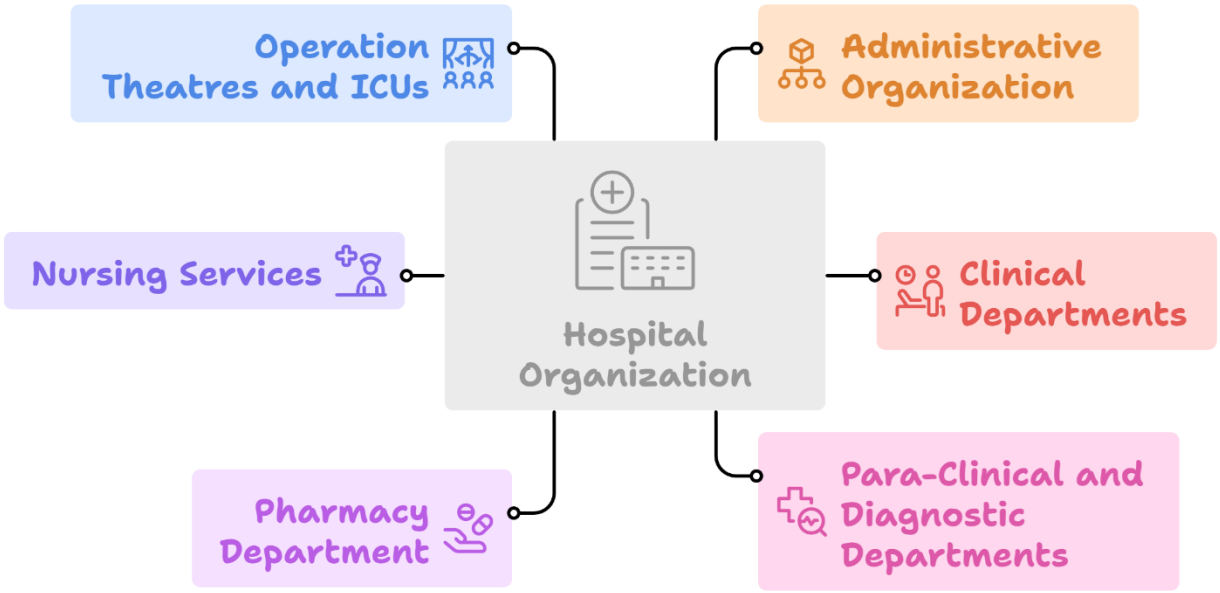
Type	Description
Teaching Hospital	Attached to medical or pharmacy colleges; provides education and research facilities
Non-Teaching Hospital	Primarily focused on patient care; not affiliated with academic institutions

8. Classification Based On Target Population

Type	Description
General Public Hospital	Open to all
Special Group Hospitals	Cater to specific populations, e.g., Railway Hospitals, ESI Hospitals, Military Hospitals

Organization of a Hospital

- Hospitals are typically organized into departments and units based on specialization and administrative requirements.
- The structure may vary depending on the type, size, and ownership (government, private, teaching, etc.) of the hospital.



A. Administrative Organization

- This includes top-level management and departments responsible for overall functioning:

1. **Hospital Administrator / Director / CEO**
   - Oversees entire operations
   - Coordinates with clinical and non-clinical departments
2. **Medical Superintendent**
   - Responsible for medical staff and clinical operations
3. **Nursing Superintendent**
   - Manages nursing services across departments
4. **Finance and Accounts Department**
   - Handles billing, procurement, salaries, and budgeting
5. **Human Resources (HR)**
   - Recruitment, training, and welfare of hospital staff
6. **Support Services**
   - Maintenance, security, housekeeping, laundry, transport, etc.

B. Clinical Departments

- These include all departments involved in **direct patient care**.
  - **Outpatient Department (OPD)**: For non-admitted patients needing consultations.
  - **Inpatient Department (IPD)**: Includes general wards, special rooms, and ICUs for admitted patients.
  - **Emergency Department (Casualty)**: Handles accidents and critical conditions 24/7.
  - **Operating Theatres (OTs)**: For surgeries.

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