

pharmacy and therapeutics committee(PTC)

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Definition

- The pharmacy and therapeutics committee(PTC) is an advisory group of the medical staff and serves as the organizational line of communication between the medical staff and the pharmacy department.
- The committee is composed of physicians, the pharmacist and the other health professionals selected with guidance of the medical staff.
- This committee assists in the formulation of broad professional policies regarding the evaluation, selection, procurement, distribution, use, safety procedures and other matters relating to drugs use in the hospital.

Composition of PTC:

At least three physicians

A pharmacist

A representative of the nursing staff

A hospital administrator or his/her designated person and ex-officio member of the committee

The physician may be appointed as the “ Chairman ” of P.T.C.

The pharmacist is designated as the “ Secretary ” of the committee.

Responsibility

- Ensure safety medication to patients
- The preparations of a hospital formulary,
- Publishing of a pharmacy educational bulletin,
- The establishment of automatic stop orders for dangerous drugs,
- The supervision of investigational use drugs,
- The development of a program for reporting and investigating adverse drug reactions and
- Assisting in the preparation of emergency kits or carts for medical emergencies.

Objectives of PTC:

Advisory:

- The committee recommends the adoption of (or) assists in the formulation of the broad profession policies regarding evaluation, selection and therapeutic use of drugs in the hospital.
- The committee serves in an advisory capacity to medical staff and hospital administration in all matters pertaining to the use of drugs including the investigational drugs.

Objectives of PTC:

Educational:

- The committee recommends or assists in the formulation of functions, designed to meet the needs of the professional staff, the physicians, nurses, pharmacists and other health care practitioners, for the complete current knowledge of the matters related to drugs and their uses.
- The committee studies the problems related to the distribution and administration of medication.
- It establishes or plans suitable educational scheme for the hospital professional staff on the matters related to the use of drugs.

Objectives of PTC:

Drug Safety and Adverse Drug Monitoring:

- As the therapeutic agents are increasing, the scope, knowledge and responsibility of the hospital pharmacist is also increasing.
- The safety aspects are more or less taken for granted by pharmacy, medical and nursing staff.

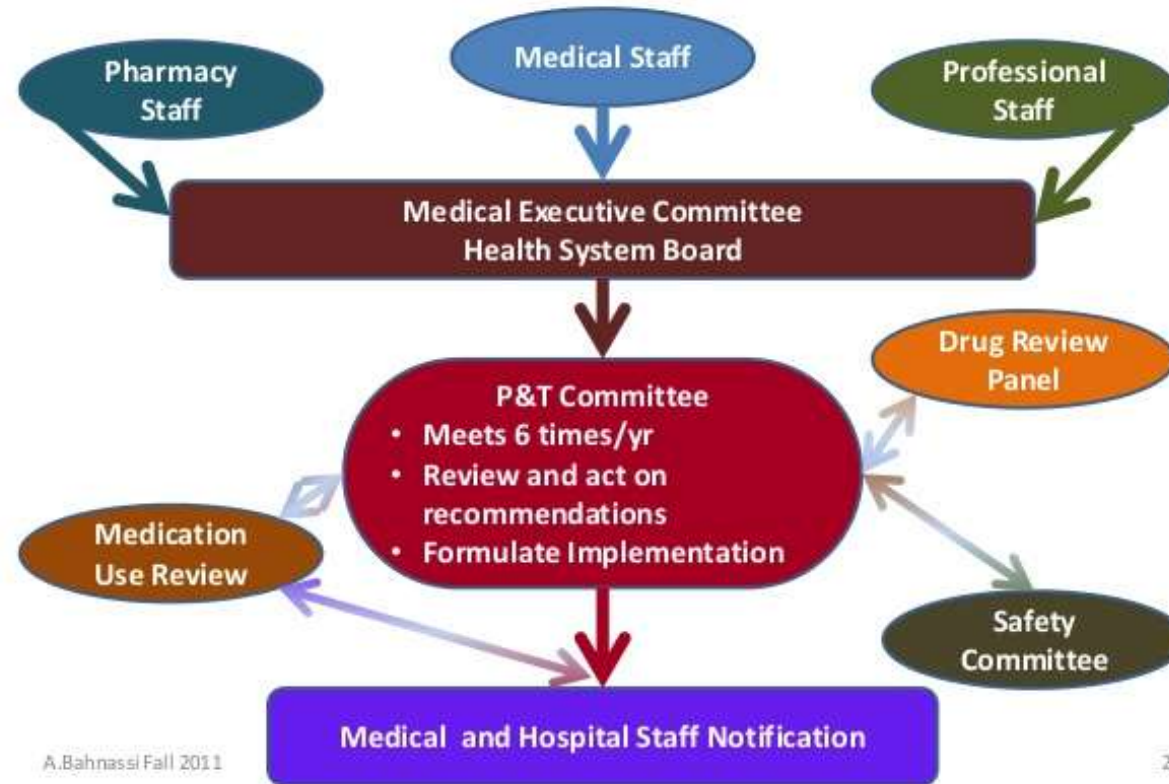
Organization and Operation

- Operation PTC should meet regularly at least six times in an year and also as and when necessary.
- The committee can invite its meetings and persons within or outside the hospital who can contribute specialized or unique knowledge and skilled judgment.
- The agenda and the supplementary materials should be prepared by the secretary and furnished to the committee members sufficiently in time before the meeting.
- The pharmacy and therapeutics committee should be composed of at least three physicians, a pharmacist, a nurse and an administrator.



Management process of PTC

Formulary Management Process



Committee membership

According to the approved statement by the American Hospital Association and the American Society of Hospital Pharmacists provides for a membership of not less than three physicians and the pharmacist, the majority of the large hospitals list committees which often include representatives of the following groups:

- Surgery
- Medicine
- Pharmacist
- Administrator
- Nurse



Committee Agenda

- Minutes of the previous meeting.
- Review of a specified of the Formulary for up-dating and deletion of products.
- New drugs which have become commercially available.
- Investigational use of drugs currently in use in the hospital.
- Review of adverse drug reactions reported in the hospital since the last meeting.
- Drug safety in the hospital.
- Slow moving medication.

Role of PTC in drug safety:

- Drug safety is the moral, legal and professional obligation of pharmacist .
- It includes responsibility from dispensing of drugs to drug administration .
- Following guidelines may sub serve the committee in ascertaining the adequate safety factor of hospital pharmacy.
- The hospital must employ a qualified, at least, a registered pharmacist with at least B. Pharm degree as 'Chief pharmacist' and the rest are may be at least diploma holders in pharmacist.

Committee's role in the adverse drug reaction program

- A consequence of recent advances in drug therapy is the proportionate increase in drug reactions. Reaction caused by blood and plasma products need to be reported unless a chemical agent other than the basic substance is responsible.
- An adverse Drug Reaction(ADR) Report Form, should be prepared by the PTC and made available on every nursing station.
- Every case of adverse drug reaction must be reported by the attending doctor to the clinical pharmacologist, if one is available, otherwise to the chairman of PTC.
- The completed ADR form of any having adverse drug reaction, will remove from the medical record and forward to the chairman or clinical pharmacologist, after discharge of the patient.

Functions of PTC

- Preparation of hospital drug formulary.
- Selection of manufacturer and supplier, mode of procurement.
- Addition of new drugs, deletion of old drugs.
- Drugs to be supplied in OPD.
- Policy formulation for pharmacy and monitoring
- Budget demand for pharmacy
- Developing Drug Information System
- Checking of pharmacy records and drug quality
- Maintenance of drug standard and quality control
- Disposal of Expiry Drugs