

HOSPITAL FORMULARY

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The hospital formulary is a continuously revised compilation of pharmaceutical dosage agents and their forms etc. which reflects the current clinical judgement of the medical staff.

It is a method by which professionals working in hospital (doctors, pharmacist etc.) perform an important task of evaluating and selecting drugs to be used in the hospitals from the currently available large number of drugs present in the market, keeping in mind the goal of giving best possible care to the patient in lowest possible cost.

- Such selected drugs are only available through hospital formulary. Formulary system provides the guidelines for procuring, prescribing, dispensing and administering of drug in hospital.

Definition: - It is an important document of hospital containing a collective list of drugs, the compilation of selected preparation used by medical staff in a hospital is called hospital formulary.

OBJECTIVE OF THE FORMULARY: -

- To provide the hospital staff with,
- Provides Basic therapeutic information
- Information of hospital policies & procedures governing the use of drugs.
- special information regarding drug, dosage, schedule, Hospital approved abbreviation and special information about drugs.

PROCEDURE FOR DEVELOPMENT OF HOSPITAL FORMULARY: (2)

- Addition of drug in formulary is a complex decision and it is not taken by committee members alone.
- Many times expertise from outside is invited. The PTC frames policy guidelines for entry or deletion of drug in formulary.
These guidelines are carried in printed version of formulary.

Following criteria is used to take a decision of entry or deletion of a drug:

- Medical staff based on their experience consider appropriate clinical value.
- Selected drugs may have been included in the official book (IP/USP, in the N.F)
- Selected drug is manufactured by a licensed party with records.
- Any preparation whose formula is not disclosed does not qualify to enter the formulary.
- No drug preparation containing many drugs shall be admitted if similar therapeutic effect can be obtained by the use of single ingredient preparation.
- The medical staff is consulted & informed about the decision of entry or deletion of drugs at each stage.

Significance of Hospital formulary system? (3)

1. **Therapeutic:** Therapeutic aspect of formulary system provides greatest benefits to the patient and physician
only most efficient products are listed and available.
2. **Economic:** Economic aspect also has a double benefit in that formulary eliminates duplication thus reducing inventory duplication and opportunity for volume purchasing means lower charges to the patient.
3. **Educational:** Educational benefits are also significant for the resident staff, nurses & medical students because many good formularies contain various prescribing tips and additional drug information in respect to improve the educational value.

Guiding Principles While using a formulary:

- # The formulary is framed by the medical staff upon the recommendations of PTC.
1. It acts as a specialized guide to pharmacist, nursing staff and physicians.
 2. The PTC advises & guides the pharmacist regarding the purchases & the procedures of purchases.
 3. It guides on selection, procurement and storage.
 4. The policies and procedures guide on distribution safe and rational use.
 5. The labeling should follow an adopted form.

6. Generic prescription through encouraged (4) physicians should have the freedom to prescribe by brand names.
7. When there is no formulary, the pharmacist has to obey a physician's prescription into, he can consult the physician when the prescribed brand is not available.

Contents of Hospital Formulary:

1. Information on hospital policies
2. Information on drug product
3. Special information
4. Index

1. Information on Hospital Policies:-

- Various policies & procedure in framed for drugs uses & restrictions on drug use.
- Brief discussion of PTC including its membership responsibilities etc.
- Policies and procedure for procurement, prescribing, dispensing and administration of drugs.
- Information on using the formulary including how the formulary & the entries are arranged procedure for entry of drug.

2. Information on drug products:-

"Heart of formulary" entries for each item to facilitate its use.

Entries in formulary:

- (i) Generic name of basic drugs
- (ii) Common names (The brand names)

- iii) Dosage forms strength, packaging ⑤
- iv) Formulation (Name of active ingredients with formulation of the product)
- v) Adult / pediatric dose
- vi) Route of administration
- vii) Main indications (Diseases and conditions for which drug is given)
- viii) Pharmacology
- ix) Contraindications
- x) Precautions
- xi) Side effects
- xii) Dosage schedule
- xiii) Instructions and warning
- xiv) Drug interactions
- xv) Cost

3. Special Information

The information of material to be included in this section vary from hospital to hospital but it should be useful to the hospital staff and should be readily available.

- (1) Metric units
- (2) Adverse drug reaction reporting form
- (3) Nutrition products list
- (4) Equivalent dosage of similar drug
- (5) List of hospital approved abbreviations
- (6) Guidelines for calculating pediatric dosage

Indexes to the drug product listing: ^⑥
Included at the beginning or the end of the section to facilitate the use of forwarding

(i) Generic name/brand name:

proper page no. should be given for reference particular product.

(ii) Therapeutic or pharmacological Index

This index is according to the therapeutic category

- analgesic drugs, anti-histaminic drug
- antiemetic drugs etc.