Drug dispensing software requirements

# Drug dispensing objectives

Dispensing a drug means preparing it and giving it to a patient who is the client, ensuring that the drug is pharmaceutically and therapeutically suited for the intended recommendation, and finally following up on the use of the drug by the patient.

# Process of drug dispensing

In the process, each entity involved must perform only its suited actions. One entity must not, in whatever case, perform an action reserved for another one. For instance, a nurse must not be able to perform an action reserved for a doctor such as prescribing a drug.

A pharmacist must:

1. Ensure the therapeutic and pharmaceutic suitability of a prescribed drug.
2. Review the intended use of a drug.
3. Assess if the patient is allergic to any prescribed drug; if he or she has the age for taking a drug; if any other additional check has to be performed using a patient’s additional information.
4. Ensure that the prescribed drug might not have any medication interaction effect, contraindication, or therapeutic duplication, update the physician who prescribed the drug about these in case.
5. Document an allergy of a patient as soon as he discovers one.
6. Assess a potential problem that might be associated with the use of a prescribed drug an
7. Confirm if a prescribed drug can be used by a patient.

A nurse:

1. must ensure the proper use of a currently used drug; he or she has to use some data and measurements to achieve this; This is more of a follow-up.
2. can review the pharmaceutical and therapeutic suitability of a prescribed drug in the event that a pharmacist is not present, especially for drugs like painkillers and antibiotics.
3. check if the medication has not expired and update a pharmacist in case.
4. label a currently used drug and document a patient’s medication history with information about:

* the client’s name and identifier
* drug name, dosage, route, and strength
* date dispensed
* direction for use
* amount dispensed
* initials of the dispensing nurse
* name, address, and phone number of the dispensing agency
* name and designation of either the prescribing physician or the healthcare provider
* any additional information

A physician or an accredited healthcare provider can prescribe a drug to a patient with information about the dosage, amount dispensed, route, strength, direction, and intention.

# Items involved in the process of drug dispensing

1. Patient
2. Physician or accredited healthcare provider
3. Pharmacists
4. Nurse
5. Drugs
6. General administrator (pharmacists)

# Resources

<https://www.bccnm.ca/RN/learning/medication/Pages/dispensing.aspx#:~:text=Dispensing%20includes%20preparing%20and%20giving,the%20involvement%20of%20a%20pharmacist>.