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## MM.9 The hospital has a system for procurement of medications that are not on the hospital's formulary (non-formulary medications).

- MM.9.1 There is a policy and procedure for selection, approval, and procurement of non-formulary medications within an acceptable time frame.
  - MM.9.2 A patient-specific non-formulary drug request form is readily available.
  - MM.9.3 There is proper handling of non-formulary drug requisition within an acceptable time frame.
  - MM.9.4 There is a regular review of non-formulary drug requests by the pharmacy and therapeutics committee or an equivalent multidisciplinary body.
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### **Standard Intent:**

Occasionally, hospitals may encounter some clinical conditions where formulary medication(s) are ineffective or may be contraindicated. Treating physician may also believe it is appropriate to continue therapy for a patient who had been stabilized on a non-formulary medication before admission to hospital and where changing to another medication is considered detrimental. Hospitals should establish a process for procurement of patient specific non-formulary medications within an acceptable time frame. A register of all non-formulary medication requests should be kept by the pharmacy and periodically reviewed by the pharmacy and therapeutics committee to evaluate prescribers' adherence to the formulary list and to help in deciding whether or not to add drugs onto the formulary.

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## MM.10 The hospital has a system for handling out of stock, shortage and disaster needs of medications.

- MM.10.1 The hospital implements a policy and procedure on proper communication of medication shortage and outage to prescribers and other healthcare professionals involved in medication management and obtaining medications in the event of a disaster.
  - MM.10.2 The pharmacy and therapeutics committee develops and approves medication substitution protocols in the event of medication shortage or outage.
  - MM.10.3 There is implementation of the hospital approved medication substitution protocols and staff awareness.
  - MM.10.4 There is a plan for emergency preparedness to respond to the special and large demand of medications during internal and external disasters. The plan is tested for effectiveness and integrated with the general hospital plan.
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### **Standard Intent:**

Hospitals are experiencing a rapidly increasing frequency of drug shortages, which have caused numerous difficulties for clinicians and patients. Drug shortages are caused by many factors and adversely affect patient care. Management strategies need to be developed for handling out-of-stock medications to ensure continuity of patient care. This includes timely communication with clinicians, development and approval of