



competencies are required for pharmacy staff working in intravenous admixture, total parenteral nutrition, chemotherapy, drug information services, and quality coordination activities. Staff orientation, competency assessment and continuous professional activities are essential for provision of safe and quality services.

MM.4 The pharmaceutical care and medication use in the hospital are well planned and comply with laws and regulations of relevant authorities and the Saudi Food and Drug Authority (SFDA).

MM.4.1 Organization and management of medications throughout the hospital (procurement, storage, prescribing, preparing and dispensing, administration, and monitoring) are guided by clear multidisciplinary plan or policy.

MM.4.2 Policies and procedures are developed in collaboration with relevant staff, such as medical, nursing, and management staff.

MM.4.3 Updated policies and procedures manual is readily accessible to all healthcare professionals involved in medication use.

MM.4.4 Appropriate sources of drug information are readily available to all healthcare professionals involved in medication use. (e.g., books, manuals, CDs/DVDs, online subscription to drug information resources).

MM.4.5 The pharmaceutical care services are provided twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week for inpatients and emergency patients.

MM.4.6 There is a pharmacist on-call whenever the inpatient pharmacy is closed.

Standard Intent:

Medications must be organized and managed effectively and efficiently. Medication management is not only the responsibility of the pharmaceutical service alone, but also of managers and health care professionals utilizing multidisciplinary plan and hospital policies and procedures. In addition, compliance with the country related laws and regulations is an essential element for safe and appropriate use of medication in any healthcare organization. These laws and regulations were initially put in place by the health authorities to ensure safe, secure, consistent and efficient use of medication for all patients in the country. All disciplines involved in the medication use process shall be aware of their related Saudi laws that govern their functions and activities. To fulfill their professional obligations, appropriate resources of drug information are made available to healthcare providers at all times.

MM.5 The hospital has a system for the safety of high-alert medications.



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- MM.5.1 There is a written multidisciplinary plan for managing high-alert medications and hazardous pharmaceutical chemicals. It includes identification, location, labeling, storage, dispensing, and administration of high-alert medications.
- MM.5.2 The hospital identifies an annually updated list of high-alert medications and hazardous pharmaceutical chemicals based on its own data and national and international recognized organizations (e.g., Institute of Safe Medication Practice, World Health Organization). The list contains, but is not limited to, the following:
- MM.5.2.1 Controlled and narcotics medications.
 - MM.5.2.2 Neuromuscular blockers.
 - MM.5.2.3 Chemotherapeutic agents.
 - MM.5.2.4 Concentrated electrolytes (e.g., hypertonic sodium chloride, concentrated potassium salts).
 - MM.5.2.5 Antithrombotic medications (e.g., heparin, warfarin).
 - MM.5.2.6 Insulins.
 - MM.5.2.7 Anesthetic medications (e.g., propofol, ketamine).
 - MM.5.2.8 Investigational (research) drugs, as applicable.
 - MM.5.2.9 Other medications as identified by the hospital.
- MM.5.3 The hospital plan for managing high-alert medications and hazardous pharmaceutical chemicals is implemented. This includes, but is not limited to, the following:
- MM.5.3.1 Improving access to information about high-alert medications.
 - MM.5.3.2 Limiting access to high-alert medications.
 - MM.5.3.3 Using auxiliary labels or computerized alerts if available.
 - MM.5.3.4 Standardizing the ordering, transcribing, preparation, dispensing, administration, and monitoring of high-alert medications.
 - MM.5.3.5 Employing independent double checks.
- MM.5.4 The hospital develops and implements standard concentrations for all medications administered by intravenous infusion.
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Standard Intent:

High-alert medications are drugs that bear a heightened risk of causing significant patient harm when used in error. Errors may not be more common with these than with other medications, but the consequences of errors may be devastating. Several worldwide organizations had identified a list of High Alert medications such as WHO and ISMP. Hospitals shall have a plan for the safe use of these medications and develop their own annually updated list of high alert medications with the related safety