



intravenous immunoglobulin, albumin, heparin, chemo protocols, high alert medications, and electrolyte management guidelines).

MM.7.5.10 Initiate and/or direct drug use evaluation programs and studies, review the results of such activities, and make appropriate recommendations to optimize drug use.

MM.7.5.11 Advise the pharmaceutical care department in the implementation of effective drug distribution and control procedures.

MM.7.5.12 Disseminate information on its actions and approved recommendations to all staff.

MM.7.5.13 The committee conducts an annual review of its hospital formulary based on safety and efficacy information (e.g., Saudi FDA warnings, international medication safety alerts, hospital-based adverse drug reaction reports, and drug utilization evaluation studies).

Standard Intent:

Inappropriate use of medicines wastes resources and seriously undermines the quality of patient care. A pharmacy and therapeutics (P&T) committee can significantly improve drug use and reduce costs in hospitals. The P&T committee is an important medical staff advisory group. As the primary, formal communication link between the pharmacy and medical staff, the P&T committee is of particular importance to the department of pharmacy services. The committee is responsible for managing the formulary system. The evaluation of medications requires significant expertise and time commitment and a rigorous, transparent approach. Documented evidence for the efficacy, safety, quality and cost of all drugs under consideration for inclusion in the formulary list must be examined.

P&T committee is composed of actively practicing physicians, other prescribers, pharmacists, nurses, administrators, quality improvement managers, and other health care professionals and staff who participate in the medication-use process. The P&T committee is responsible for overseeing policies and procedures related to all aspects of medication use within an institution. Other responsibilities of the P&T committee include medication-use evaluation, adverse-drug-event monitoring and reporting, medication-error prevention, and development of clinical care plans and guidelines.

MM.8 The hospital has an updated, structured, and well organized drug formulary.

MM.8.1 The hospital has a structured and well organized formulary that is updated annually.



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- MM.8.2 Healthcare professionals involved in prescribing, ordering, dispensing, administering, and patient monitoring processes are involved in developing, evaluating, updating and maintaining the hospital formulary.
 - MM.8.3 The hospital formulary is accessible to all those involved in medication management.
 - MM.8.4 The hospital formulary is properly indexed (alphabetical index for generics and trade names of drugs), and properly classified using therapeutic classification.
 - MM.8.5 The hospital formulary includes short drug monographs that illustrate the generic drug name, strength, and dosage form(s), indication(s), adverse drug reactions, and prescribing information.
 - MM.8.6 The hospital formulary provides guidance on antibiotics use (both prophylactic and therapeutic uses).
 - MM.8.7 The hospital formulary provides a list of approved prescribing abbreviations.
 - MM.8.8 The hospital formulary provides a list of prohibited prescribing abbreviations.
 - MM.8.9 The hospital formulary provides appendixes on important policies, therapeutic guidelines, drug safety in pregnancy and lactation, and dose adjustment in organ failure.
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Standard Intent:

The formulary process is the cornerstone of good medication management and rational drug use. It consists of preparing, using and updating a formulary list of essential medications. A hospital formulary manual provides adequate information on all essential medications that should be available all the time in the hospital in a properly indexed, easily accessible format. Formulary medications are selected on the basis of the standard treatment guidelines or protocols that have been developed or adapted for use in the hospital. Periodic review by multidisciplinary healthcare professionals is necessary because of changing costs and indications, new information on safety, and the emergence of new medicines. Hospital formulary supports clinical staff choosing the most appropriate therapies and selecting the most cost-effective good-quality drugs according to the standard treatment guidelines to ensure provision of better quality of care and more efficient, equitable use of resources. Antimicrobials are amongst the most expensive of all drugs, often consuming most of a hospital's drug budget. In addition to the normal hazards of drug use, the use of antimicrobials contributes to the development of antimicrobial resistance, and poor infection control contributes to the spread of resistant pathogens. Therefore, P&T committees should publish antimicrobials use guidelines to ensure its appropriate and safe use. In addition, the formulary shall include important scientific appendixes and important policies and procedures.