

Drug inventory management system

1. Introduction

Managing pharmaceutical stock is a critical aspect of health service delivery, especially in hospital clinics and pharmacies, inadequate drug inventory control can lead to shortages, overstocking or the use of expired medicines all of which endanger patients' health and increase operational costs [1],[5]. The project proposes the development of a drug inventory management system designed to automate and properly streamline the process of managing drug inventory in a health facility.

2. Problem statement

Many clinics and pharmacies in a resource-limited setting rely on a manual or semi-automated methods for inventory tracking and management. These methods are prone to human error, and real-time updates, and are inefficient in alerting the responsible about critical issues like stock depletion or expiration [2],[3]. The proposed system aims to resolve these challenges by offering a digital solution that improves efficiency, reliability and safety.

3. Objectives

- To develop a web-based application for managing drug inventory in a health facility
- To implement features for tracking stock levels, expiry dates and generating alerts for expiring drugs and low stock.
- To enhance data accuracy and accessibility through a user-friendly interface
- To ensure clear demonstration of OOP principles i.e. encapsulation, inheritance, abstraction and polymorphism

4. Methodology

The system was developed using an agile software development approach to enable iterative progress. Continuous feedback and flexibility in addressing user requirements.

The key technologies and tools used include:

Frontend: HTML and CSS

Backend: python with flask

5. System Architecture

Components within the system

- `app.py` :this acts as the main application controller
- `models/` : this houses classes for drugs, users and inventory
- `templates/` : this holds the html templates for the user interface

6. implementation

front end: this has the login form simulating user access, the dashboard to view drug inventory and also forms for adding drugs, stocking in and viewing low stock drugs

backend: this handles drug registration and management, stock in/out operations, expiry date validation low stock filtering and user role simulation using OOP

Key classes:

- **Drug:** attributes include name, type, batch number, expiry date and quantity. This demonstrates encapsulation and abstraction
- **User and pharmacist** this demonstrates inheritance and polymorphism through methods like `get_role()`
- **Inventory:** this manages drug in memory; supports add, retrieve and list operations

Results

The system allows

- Drug registration and inventory updates
- Expiry and low stock alerts
- Simulation of pharmacist roles
- Efficient use of object concept and clean python code

Back end implementation was done using flask shown below

Drug.py

```
1  from datetime import date
2
3  class Drug:
4      def __init__(self, name, drug_type, quantity, batch_number, expiry_date):
5          self.name = name
6          self.drug_type = drug_type
7          self.__quantity = quantity
8          self.batch_number = batch_number
9          self.expiry_date = expiry_date
10
11     def stock_in(self, amount):
12         self.__quantity += amount
13
14     def stock_out(self, amount):
15         if amount <= self.__quantity:
16             self.__quantity -= amount
17         else:
18             raise ValueError("Insufficient stock")
19
20     def is_expired(self):
21         return date.today() > self.expiry_date
22
23     def is_low_stock(self):
24         return self.__quantity < 10
25
26     def get_quantity(self):
27         return self.__quantity
28
```

Inventory.py

```
1  class Inventory:
2      def __init__(self):
3          self.drugs = {}
4
5      def add_drug(self, drug):
6          self.drugs[drug.batch_number] = drug
7
8      def get_drug(self, batch_number):
9          return self.drugs.get(batch_number)
10
11     def all_drugs(self):
12         return list(self.drugs.values())
13
```

User.py

```
1  class User:
2      def __init__(self, username):
3          self.username = username
4
5      def get_role(self):
6          return "User"
7
8      class Pharmacist(User):
9          def get_role(self):
10             return "Pharmacist"
```

Flask app implementation

The main logic of the system is in app.py which routes requests to the appropriate functions and views

For example, a route for /add_drug

```

33 @app.route('/add_drug', methods=['GET', 'POST'])
34 def add_drug():
35     if not current_user:
36         return redirect('/login')
37
38     if request.method == 'POST':
39         name = request.form['name']
40         drug_type = request.form['type']
41         quantity = int(request.form['quantity'])
42         batch = request.form['batch']
43         expiry = datetime.strptime(request.form['expiry'], "%Y-%m-%d").date()
44         drug = Drug(name, drug_type, quantity, batch, expiry)
45         inventory.add_drug(drug)
46         return redirect('/')
47
48     return render_template('add_drug.html', user=current_user)
49

```

/stock_out

```

52 @app.route('/stock_out', methods=['POST'])
53 def stock_out():
54     batch = request.form['batch']
55     amount = int(request.form['amount'])
56     drug = inventory.get_drug(batch)
57     if drug:
58         try:
59             drug.stock_out(amount)
60         except ValueError as e:
61             return str(e)
62     return redirect('/')
63

```

Below is how the system functions in the front end

Login in screen

FXM DRUG managemrnt system

Username:

Select Role:

Pharmacist ▼

Login

Adding new medicine

add new stock

drug Name:

drug type:

ert

drug quantity:

drug batch Number:

drug expiry date:

Add Drug


Added stock

Add New Drug						
Name	Type	Quantity	Batch	Expiry	Status	Stock Out
Lutafa	boster	100	123	2025-04-24	OK	<input type="text" value="Qty"/> Stock Out
Fluoxetine	ert	100	234	2025-04-22	Expired	<input type="text" value="Qty"/> Stock Out

Add stock in to already existing

Stock In Drug

Select Drug (Batch Number):

Lutafa (123) 

Quantity to Add:

100

Stock In

[Back to Inventory](#)

Viewing medicine with low sock after giving out some

Low Stock Drugs					Logged in as: Pharmacist (Emmanuel)
Name	Type	Quantity	Batch Number	Expiry Date	
Fluoxetine	ert	1	234	2025-04-22	

Up fluoxetine has been deducted by 99

Below is where stock is given out and it also shows the expired stock

Name	Type	Quantity	Batch	Expiry	Status	Stock Out
Lutafa	boster	200	123	2025-04-24	OK	<div><input type="text" value="100"/></div> <div>Stock Out</div>
Fluoxetine	ert	1	234	2025-04-22	Expired	<div><input type="text" value="Qty"/></div> <div>Stock Out</div>

Stock In Drug

View Drugs with low stock

Expiry	Status	Stock Out
2025-04-24	OK	<div><input type="text" value="100"/></div> <div>Stock Out</div>
2025-04-22	Expired	<div><input type="text" value="Qty"/></div> <div>Stock Out</div>

When you observe the above 2 figures you see that fluoxetine is expired

Also, in the last column is where stock outs are made.