

Hospital Pharmacy: Organization Functions and Role in Patient Care

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Editorial

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ABSTRACT

Hospital pharmacy is a vital component of healthcare systems that ensures the safe, effective, and rational use of medications within hospitals. It integrates clinical pharmacy services with drug distribution and patient care. Hospital pharmacists collaborate with healthcare teams to optimize therapy, prevent medication errors, and improve clinical outcomes. This article discusses the organization, functions, and clinical importance of hospital pharmacy in modern healthcare.

Keywords

Hospital Pharmacy, Clinical Pharmacy, Medication Safety, Drug Distribution, Patient Care

INTRODUCTION

Hospital pharmacy is a specialized branch of pharmacy that deals with the procurement, storage, preparation, dispensing, and monitoring of medications in a hospital setting. It plays a critical role in ensuring patient safety and effective therapeutic outcomes. With the advancement of clinical pharmacy, hospital pharmacists are now actively involved in patient care and decision-making processes [1].

ORGANIZATION AND FUNCTIONS OF HOSPITAL PHARMACY

Hospital pharmacy is organized to ensure efficient drug management and patient safety. It includes drug procurement, inventory control, storage, and dispensing systems. Pharmacists ensure that medications are available, stored under appropriate conditions, and distributed accurately [2]. In addition, hospital

pharmacies provide drug information services and participate in policy-making for medication use. Effective organization helps reduce medication errors and improves healthcare delivery.

ROLE OF HOSPITAL PHARMACISTS IN PATIENT CARE

Hospital pharmacists play a significant role in clinical settings by collaborating with physicians and nurses [3]. They are involved in medication review, therapeutic monitoring, and prevention of adverse drug reactions. Participation in ward rounds allows pharmacists to optimize drug therapy and ensure rational drug use. Studies have shown that pharmacist involvement improves patient outcomes and reduces hospital mortality rate [4].

CHALLENGES AND ADVANCEMENTS IN HOSPITAL PHARMACY

Hospital pharmacy faces several challenges, including medication errors, drug shortages, and increased workload. Lack of trained professionals and limited resources can also affect service quality. However, advancements such as automated dispensing systems, electronic prescribing, and clinical decision support tools are improving efficiency and safety. These innovations are transforming hospital pharmacy into a more patient-centered practice [5].

CONCLUSION

Hospital pharmacy is an essential part of modern healthcare systems, ensuring the safe and effective use of medications. The role of hospital pharmacists has expanded from traditional dispensing to active participation in patient care. Despite challenges, technological advancements and clinical integration are enhancing the quality of pharmaceutical services. Strengthening hospital pharmacy practices will continue to improve patient safety and therapeutic outcomes.

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CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

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