

**REVIEW ARTICLE ON NOVEL OPERATING POLICIES, PURPOSES AND
PROCEDURES FOR THE STANDARD PHARMACY PRACTICE FOR INDIAN
HOSPITALS**Syed Akmal Shah Qadry*¹, Pankaj Sharma² and Amarjeet Singh³¹Research Scholar, Apex University, Jaipur.²Professor & Dean Apex University, Jaipur.³Professor & H.O.D. Innovative College of pharmacy, Greater Noida.

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ABSTRACT

Health and socioeconomic developments are so closely interrelated that it is impossible to achieve one without the other. Although economic development in India has been gaining momentum over the past decade, our health system is at crossroads. Even though government initiatives in public health have recorded some remarkable success over time, the Indian health system is ranked 118 among 191 WHO countries on the health programme. The vision and mission statement of an organization is to help it in preparing the policies and guidelines for its smooth operation. The vision and mission statements need to be published and popularized among the staff and the public as guiding principles for the optimum functioning. The hospital pharmacy should function within the administrative and financial policy of the hospital. Nevertheless, the pharmacy can have its own policy and planning majors to improve the quality and efficiency in service.

KEYWORDS: pharmacy practice; hospital pharmacy; policies, counseling.**INTRODUCTION**

A hospital, in the modern sense of the word, is an organization utilizing combinations of complex, specialized scientific equipments and functioning through a group of trained persons educated to meet the challenges of modern medical science. These are all blended together with the common objective of restoration and preservation of good health. A hospital is an institution that provides facilities by trained personnel to facilitate the work of the physician in his/her primary position relating to care of the patient, who is central to all activities performed in all hospitals. The medical and the para-medical staff including nurses, pharmacists, laboratory technicians and dieticians is the most important in providing quality services to patients. Hospitals has been assuming increasing responsibility for programs of prophylactic medicines to serve as the medium of many communities through which expert staff and official health agencies direct their activities for improvement of public health.^[6]

Hospital offers means and methods by which persons can work together in groups with the purpose of care of hospital department, patient and community. It enhances the value of law and general principles of medical practice. It provides a common link between the general public and policy makers. It lowers the frequency of disease through early detection and treatment. It participates in and conducts safely and infection control

programs.

Realizing that a new hospital must have immediate organization and guidelines for interdepartmental, cohesiveness and mutual understanding, these proposed policies are more general in scope than of a more mature hospital. As all policies develop with broader scope and responsibility as the hospital assumes more programs (e.g. Clinical Pharmacy) and expertise, so will the new policies of operations. Understanding the desire of India to furnish and provide its people with the very best in medical care, the proposed policies and procedures will develop with this goal as its own.^[9,10]

The main objective will be to provide the most accurate and efficient methods of providing medications and intravenous solutions to the patients by the implementation of a total Unit Dose Drug Distribution system and an Intravenous Admixture Program, a Drug Information Center for the information and the most up to date and current publications on Drugs and Drugs Therapy.

Health Care in India

Currently there are over a million pharmacists in India with around 55 % of them in community, 20 % in hospital, 10 % in industry & regulatory & 2 % in academia In India, formal pharmacy education leading to a degree began in 1937, with the introduction of a 3-

-year industry oriented Bachelor of Pharmacy course. To meet the varying needs of the profession at different levels the following pharmacy programs are offered in India today: Diploma in Pharmacy (D.Pharm.), Bachelor of Pharmacy (B.Pharm.), Master of Pharmacy (M.Pharm.), practice based Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm. D.) ,and Doctor of Philosophy in Pharmacy (Ph.D.).^[3,4] To practice as a pharmacist in India, one needs at least a diploma in pharmacy, which is awarded after 2 years and 3 months of pharmacy studies & practical training. These diplomas trained pharmacists are currently the main stay of pharmacy practice in India. Every year nearly 20000 D. Pharm., 30,000 B. Pharm., 6000 M. Pharm., and 700 Pharm. D. students graduate in the country. Pharmacy Council of India (PCI) is the statutory body established in 1949, for regulating pharmacy education and practice of pharmacy profession in India. PCI is actively working towards strengthening and upgrading the curriculum to produce competent work force that is able to meet the growing demands of the industry & community.^[1,2]

Indian Pharmaceutical Association once again, with the support of the leaders of the pharmacy profession presented the roadmap to Pharma vision 2020 at the 58th Indian Pharmaceutical Congress held in December 2006 at Mumbai. The themes of the subsequent Congresses in the country have been centred on Pharma vision 2020.

Pharmacists are currently the fourth most trusted profession, according to the annual Reader's Digest

Trusted Brands Survey for 2013 (12 European countries surveyed, UK not included). Their trust rating of 80 per cent was higher than that for doctors (76 per cent) and only beaten by firefighters (92 per cent), airline pilots (86 per cent) and nurses (82 per cent). The General Pharmaceutical Council "Standards of conduct, ethics and performance" states that, as a pharmacy professional, you must "be honest and trustworthy".^[6,7]

Major objectives of hospital pharmacy

- To provide an effective pharmaceutical and clinical service in an organized manner.
- To promote the understanding of hospital pharmacy practice by public, government, pharmaceutical industry and other health care professionals.
- To provide benefits and remunerations commensurate with pharmacists' responsibilities and contributions to patient care.
- To implement the decisions of the pharmacy and therapeutics committee (PTC)
- To coordinate and cooperate with other departments of hospital.
- To participate in clinical and pharmaceutical research program.

METHODOLOGY

The methodology illustrated in figure 1 is going to be used to implement the proposed guidelines and procedures. In figure 2 plan of work has been explained.

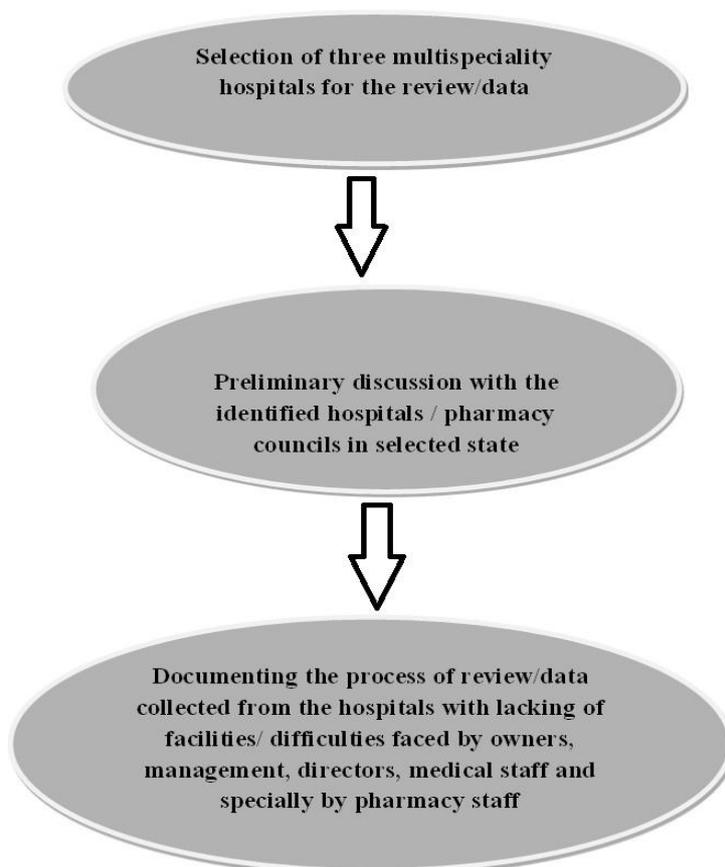


Figure 1: Methodology to be used to implement the proposed guidelines and procedures.

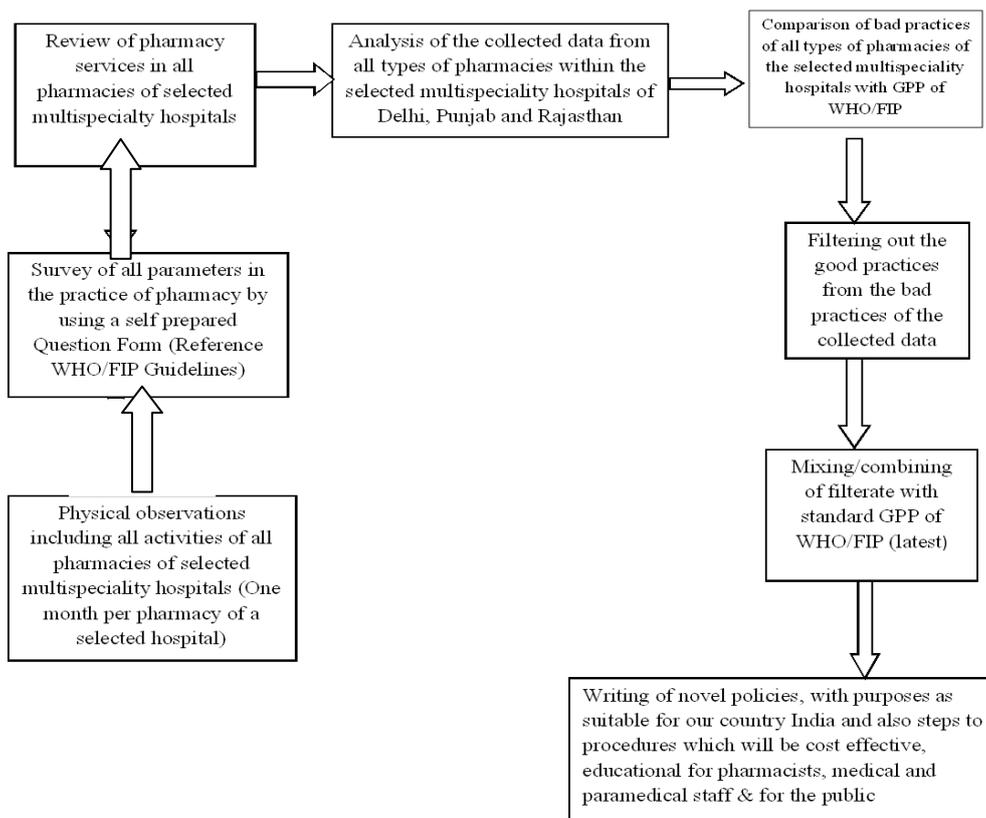


Figure 2: Plan of work.

Table 1: Survey manual and excel based data analysis tool.

S. No.	ITEMS	HOSPITALS		
		Hospital No. i	Hospital No. ii	Hospital No. iii
1	No. Of Beds			
2	Total No. of pharmacies			
3	Location of each pharmacy			
4	Name of each pharmacy			
5	Timing of each pharmacy			
6	Total No. of Pharmacists (M.Pharm. or B.Pharm.)			
7	Total No. of Asstt Pharm.(D.Pharm.)			
8	Total No. of Pharmacy Assistant (10 th passed)			
9	Any Guidelines for Pharmacy operation			
10	Total number of computers in each pharmacy			
11	Are computers connected centrally with concerned ward			
12	Area of each pharmacy			
13	Enclose area diagram of each pharmacy			
14	Are all pharmacies airconditioned			
15	Lighting in each pharmacy			
16	Sanitation in each pharmacy			
17	Quality of furniture in each pharmacy			
18	Washroom & sanitation of each pharmacy			
19	Space for coffee & lunch in each pharmacy			
20	Types of machines being used for dispensing, label making, stamps in each pharmacy			
21	Review of records of each pharmacy			
22	Interview of each staff of pharmacy			
23	Contents & language to be validated from the guide / co- guide / chief pharmacist			
24	P&T Committee			

25	Arrangement Of Drugs & Store (Alphabetically)			
26	Drug Formulary			
27	Drug Information (Internet/Books/Printer)			
28	Infection Control Committee			
29	Incharge of Narcotics & Controlled drugs			
30	Unit dose Drug distribution System			
31	I.V Drug Admixture Programme			
32	Patient Medication Profile			
33	In-service Education (Separate Room)			
34	Proper Labeling On Drugs			
35	Code Blue Box (Emergency Drugs Box)			
36	Aseptic Room (For I.V. Preparation)			
37	Place For dispensing Area (Neat & Clean)			
38	Medication Administration Record			
39	Safety Procedure			
40	Investigational Drugs/Physicians Samples			
41	Total Parenteral Nutrition			
42	Availabilty Of Common Drugs			

Mission of Pharmacy

The mission of pharmacy practice is to contribute to health improvement and to help patients with health problems to make the best use of their medicines.

There are six components to this mission.

- Being readily available to patients with or without an appointment.
- Identifying and managing or triaging health-related problems;
- Health promotion;
- Assuring effectiveness of medicines;
- Preventing harm from medicines; and
- Making responsible use of limited health-care resources.

In the community setting, pharmacists should be acknowledged as health-care professionals whom patients can consult for health-related problems. Because health-care products and services are available from the pharmacist, some problems can be managed at this point of care. Problems that require additional diagnostic skill or treatments not available from a pharmacist can be referred to an appropriate health-care professional or site of care, such as a hospital. This should be done in good collaboration between the health-care providers.^[9,10]

Requirements of Good Pharmacy Practice (G.P.P.)

- GPP requires that a pharmacist's first concern in all settings is the welfare of patients.
- GPP requires that the core of the pharmacy activity is to help patients make the best use of medicines. Fundamental functions include the supply of medication and other health-care products of assured quality, the provision of appropriate information and advice to the patient, administration of medication, when required, and the monitoring of the effects of medication use.
- GPP requires that an integral part of the pharmacist's contribution is the promotion of

rational and economic prescribing, as well as dispensing.

- GPP requires that the objective of each element of pharmacy service is relevant to the patient, is clearly defined and is effectively communicated to all those involved. Multidisciplinary collaboration among health-care professionals is the key factor for successfully improving patient safety.^[13,14]

Framework of Good Pharmacy Practice

At the national or appropriate (e.g. state or provincial) level, it is necessary to establish

- A legal framework that
 - Defines who can practice pharmacy;
 - Defines the scope of pharmacy practice;
 - Ensures the integrity of the supply chain and the quality of medicines.
- A workforce framework that ensures the competence of pharmacy staff through continuing professional development (CPD or continuing education (CE)) programmes defines the personnel resources needed to provide GPP.
- An economic framework that provides sufficient resources and incentives that are effectively used to ensure the activities undertaken in GPP.^[11,12]

CONCLUSION

The department of pharmaceutical services preparing for the transition to new policies, purposes and procedures should be rethinking or retooling, its methods of providing all services. An emphasis should be placed on system streamlining, enhanced efficiency of technical personnel, and automation of product preparation and dispensing. Preparation for change requires the development of new policies, their purposes and steps to procedure. The organizational structure of the pharmacy department must facilitate this transition rather than inhibiting it. Staff members should be provided additional training so that they may be further involved in providing new assigned services. The department

should strive to have the majority of all pharmacist time spent in the provision of new assigned/developed services in order to maximize use of resources.

There are four main roles where pharmacists' involvement or supervision is expected by society and the individuals they serve:

1. Prepare, obtain, store, secure, distribute, administer, dispense and dispose of medical products.
2. Provide effective medication therapy management.
3. Maintain and improve professional performance.
4. Contribute to improve effectiveness of the health-care system and public health.

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