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Pharmacy Services: Statement on Providing Pharmacy Services in a Healthcare Facility (2004)



Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists
Société canadienne des pharmaciens d'hôpitaux

Pharmacy Services: Statement on Providing Pharmacy Services in a Healthcare Facility

Published by the Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists (CSHP), Ottawa, Ontario. 2004 edition. Use of this document was approved by CSHP Council in 2004.

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Suggested citation:

Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists. Pharmacy services: statement on providing pharmacy services in a healthcare facility. Ottawa (ON): Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists; 2004.

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Pharmacy Services: Statement on Providing Pharmacy Services in a Healthcare Facility

PHARMACISTS PROVIDE, FACILITATE AND PROMOTE PHARMACY SERVICES THROUGH COLLABORATION WITH THE PATIENT AND HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS TO ASSESS PATIENT NEEDS, TO ESTABLISH MUTUAL GOALS AND DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A PATIENT CARE PLAN.

Specific requirements for the provision of pharmacy services for patients in a healthcare facility will depend on the size, location and purpose/function of the facility. The role of pharmacy is reflected in the Canadian Council on Health Services Accreditation (CCHSA) standards for accreditation and in the CSHP Professional Standards for Hospital Pharmacy Practice. The reader is directed to these documents for additional information. Provincial regulations, standards and guidelines of the pharmacy licensing body and health professions act also define specific pharmacy practice standards for pharmacists and pharmacy technicians working in healthcare facilities.

The pharmacy service is administered in accordance with accepted ethical and professional practices and legal requirements. The service meets the needs of patients, their families or advocates, allied health care providers and other clients.

- A pharmacist manages and directs all human, physical and financial resources required to provide quality pharmacy services for patients.
- Service requirements for safe and effective medication control and delivery within a healthcare facility are met by employing pharmacy staff within the facility or by making alternate arrangements with an outside source (e.g., a licensed community pharmacy).
- Sufficient space, facilities, equipment, information resources and supplies are maintained to support the pharmacy's principal functions directed towards providing safe and effective drug therapy to patients, ensuring a safe and up-to-date working environment, and integrating the department into the facility's communication and delivery systems.

The pharmacy service continually seeks and acts upon opportunities to improve activities by evaluating practice and service provision outcomes.

The pharmacy service is responsible for all aspects of drug use control. This includes decisions regarding the purchase, storage, distribution and use of medications within the healthcare facility.

The pharmacy service includes the provision of pharmaceutical care delivered by pharmacists in collaboration with other healthcare providers. Evidence-based principles are applied to all practice elements of pharmaceutical care. In providing pharmaceutical care, pharmacists ensure documentation of all patient care activities.

The pharmacy service prepares dosage forms, dosage strengths and medication delivery systems required to meet the specific needs of each patient.

The pharmacy service provides specialized programs in response to the needs of patients in the region serviced by the healthcare facility (e.g., drug information, ambulatory care services, palliative care, geriatric care, pediatric care, oncology, HIV care, cardiology, psychiatry, diabetic care, respiratory care, etc.).

The Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee of the healthcare facility, with the representation of pharmacy, produces evidence-based, practical policies and procedures to govern the safe preparation and administration of medications.

The pharmacy service, in co-operation with medical staff and the Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee, coordinates the ongoing evaluation of medication use within the facility. This may include the development of medication use criteria, evaluation of medication use against the predetermined criteria, identification of problem

CSHP Mission:

CSHP is the national voice of pharmacists committed to the advancement of safe, effective medication use and patient care in hospitals and related healthcare settings.



areas, and education to correct patterns of inappropriate medication use.

Staff involved in providing pharmacy services are offered educational and professional development programs either within the facility, where possible, or through external programs and conferences on a regular basis.

Where possible, pharmacy staff should participate in research (especially research which focuses on patient outcomes) and in providing educational activities (e.g., inservices, student teaching and mentorship).

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