



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Definition

- **Formulary** : Formulary is a continually revised compilation of pharmaceuticals (plus important ancillary information) that reflects the current clinical judgment of the medical staff.
- **Formulary System** : The *formulary system* is a method whereby the *medical staff of an institution*, working through the pharmacy and therapeutics committee, evaluates, appraises, and selects from among the numerous available drug entities and drug products those that are considered most useful in patient care.

2

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

- Only those so selected are routinely available from the pharmacy.
- The formulary system is thus an important tool for assuring the quality of drug use and controlling its cost.
- The formulary system provides for the procuring, prescribing, dispensing, and administering of drugs under either their nonproprietary or proprietary names in instances where drugs have both names.

3

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Benefits of the formulary system**

- **Therapeutic benefits :** The therapeutic aspect of a formulary system provides the greatest benefit to the patient and physician in that only the most efficient products are listed and available.
- **Economical benefits :** The economic merit also has a double benefit in that the formulary eliminates duplication thus reducing inventory duplication and the opportunity for volume purchasing means lower charges to the patient.
- **Educational benefits :** The educational benefit is also significant for the resident staff, nurses and medical students because many good formularies contain various prescribing tips and additional drug information of educational value.

4

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Format and appearance of the formulary**

The physical appearance and structure of the formulary is an important influence on its use. Although elaborate and expensive artwork and materials are unnecessary, the formulary should be visually pleasing, easily readable, and professional in appearance . The need for proper grammar, punctuation, correct spelling, and neatness is obvious. There is no one single format or arrangement which ail formularies must follow.

A typical formulary must have the following composition:

1. Title page
2. Names and titles of the members of the pharmacy and therapeutics committee
3. Table of contents

5

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

4. Information on hospital policies and procedures concerning drugs
  - 4.1 The pharmacy and therapeutics committee of XYZ hospital
  - 4.2 Objectives and operation of the formulary system
  - 4.3 Hospital regulations and procedures for prescribing and dispensing drugs.
  - 4.4 Hospital pharmacy services and procedures
  - 4.5 How to use the formulary.
5. Products accepted for use at XYZ hospital.
  - 5.1 Items added and deleted since the previous edition
  - 5.2 Generic-brand name cross reference list.
  - 5.3 Pharmacological/therapeutic index with relative cost codes.
  - 5.4 Descriptions of formulary drug products by pharmacology therapeutic class

6

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

6. Appendix

- 6.1 Central service equipment and supply list
- 6.2 Rules for calculating pediatric doses
- 6.3 Nomogram for estimating body surface area
- 6-4 Schedule of standard drug administration times

Several techniques can be used to improve the appearance and ease of use of the formulary. Among these are:

1. Using a different color paper for each section of the formulary,
2. Using an edge index,
3. Making the formulary pocket size (approximately 4" x 7") and
4. Printing the generic name heading of each drug entry in boldface type or using some other methods for making it stand out from the rest of the entry.

7

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

5. Others

- List of contents of emergency carts
- List of dialyzable poisons
- Pharmacokinetic dosing and monitoring information
- Metric conversion scales and tables
- Examples of blank prescription and ADR forms
- Tables of drug interactions and drug incompatibilities
- Poison control information

8

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

THE FIVE RIGHTS FOR CORRECT DRUG ADMINISTRATION

There are five "rights" of medication administration that offer useful guidelines when filling prescriptions for patient medications. These concepts have been widely used to avoid medication errors. A drug misadventure occurs whenever these are not followed correctly.

- **Right Patient:** Always verify the patient name before dispensing medicines
- **Right Drug:** Always check the medication against the original prescription and the patient's disease state. The medication label contains important information about the drug that will be dispensed to the patient.

9

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

- **Right Strength:** Check the original prescription for this information and pay attention to the age of the patient. Pediatric or elderly patient can easily get the wrong dose.
- **Right Route :** Check that the physician’s order agrees with the drug’s specified route of administration. Many medications can be given by a variety of routes and the route of administration can affect the medication’s absorption.
- **Right Time:** Check the prescription to determine the appropriate time for the medication to be administered. Some medications must be taken on an empty stomach (one hour before or two hours after a meal) while others should be taken with food. Sometimes, a certain time span is needed between doses to maintain a therapeutically effective blood level.

10

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



11

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Guiding principles to prepare Formulary**

- Appointment of PTC
- Set up of formulary system recommendations by PTC
- Adopting the written policies and procedures governing the formulary
- Inclusion of drugs by their non proprietary names
- Restriction of number of similar entities in the formulary
- Information to medical and nursing staff
- Appraisal of new drugs for entry in to the formulary
- All formulary drugs should meet PTC recommendations.

12

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Formulary content

- Drugs approved for formulary inclusion
- Therapeutic and clinical information
- Hospital policies and procedures governing the use of drugs
- Drug dosing rules
- Nomograms
- Hospital approved abbreviations

13

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Parts of Hospital Formulary

- Hospital Policies and Procedures
- Drug product listing
- Special information

14

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Hospital Policies and Procedures

- Formulary policies and procedures
- Brief description of hospital PTC
- Hospital regulations governing the prescribing, dispensing and administration of drugs.
- Pharmacy operating procedures
- Information about the technique to use the formulary.

15

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Drug product listing

- Heart of the formulary
- Consist of one or more descriptive entries
- One or more index

16

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Entries

- Alphabetically by generic name with synonyms and brand names
- Alphabetically within the therapeutic class
- A combination of the both

17

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Type of information

- Generic name of the basic drug entity
- Combination products
- Generic, common or trade name
- Synonyms
- Directions for use
- Dose, dosage form, strength, packaging and size
- Formulation of combination product and category

18

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Additional information

- Usual adult or pediatric dosage range
- Special precautions  
“Do not administer through IV” or “Refrigerate”
- Controlled substances symbol
- Cost information

19

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Special Information

- Nutritional products listing
- Tables of equivalent dosages and similar drugs
- List of hospital abbreviations
- Rules for calculating pediatric dosage forms
- Table of sodium content in antacids
- List of sugar free drug products

20

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Hospital formularies in India

- Till now in India only few hospitals have formularies viz.
  - Kasturba Medical College Hospital, Manipal, Karnataka and
  - Christian Medical College Hospital, Vellore, Tamilnadu

21

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Types of Formularies

**Open Formulary** An open formulary is one where any drug can be prescribed.

**Closed Formulary** A closed formulary is one where only the drugs on formulary may be prescribed.

**Limited Formulary** A limited formulary is one where only a given number of drugs is allowed in each therapeutic class. In order for a new drug to be added, an existing drug must be removed from the formulary.

**Unlimited Formulary** An unlimited formulary is one where there is no set limit on the number of drugs allowed in a therapeutic class.

22

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

# Thank You

23

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---