

Nationally agreed standards for ward pharmacy services – how are we doing?

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Background

- A recently formed working group (AFUMA*) coordinates and develops clinical and ward pharmacy services in Denmark
- AFUMA agreed on, produced and implemented 35 national standards for ward pharmacy services, classified into two groups;
 - 16 basis elements that must be present when providing ward pharmacy services
 - 19 optional elements that can be included if resources are available and the service is requested by the ward
- The standards cover all aspects of ward pharmacy e.g. logistics, storage, provision of information, patient specific elements and prescription review



Objectives

Benchmarking was carried out to investigate to which degree the 35 national standards are provided to hospitals in Denmark, and to establish a baseline for ward pharmacy services in Denmark.



5.6 million residents
5 regions
24 hospitals
8 hospital pharmacies
450 clinical pharmacy staff

Conclusions

- In 2014, nearly all hospitals in Denmark carried out the basic ward pharmacy elements on all wards receiving pharmacy services
- There was greater variation nationally regarding the optional elements. Some were carried out nearly everywhere, whilst others were carried out on no or few wards

Methods and Results

- An electronic questionnaire was sent out to the members of AFUMA*, representing all 24 public hospitals in Denmark (October 2014)
- A questionnaire was completed for each hospital (defined as one or a group of hospitals under one Hospital Directors Board)
- For each of the 35 standards, the reporter was required to specify whether the standards were carried out on all, many, few or no wards at their hospital



Figure 1: Provision of basis ward pharmacy elements

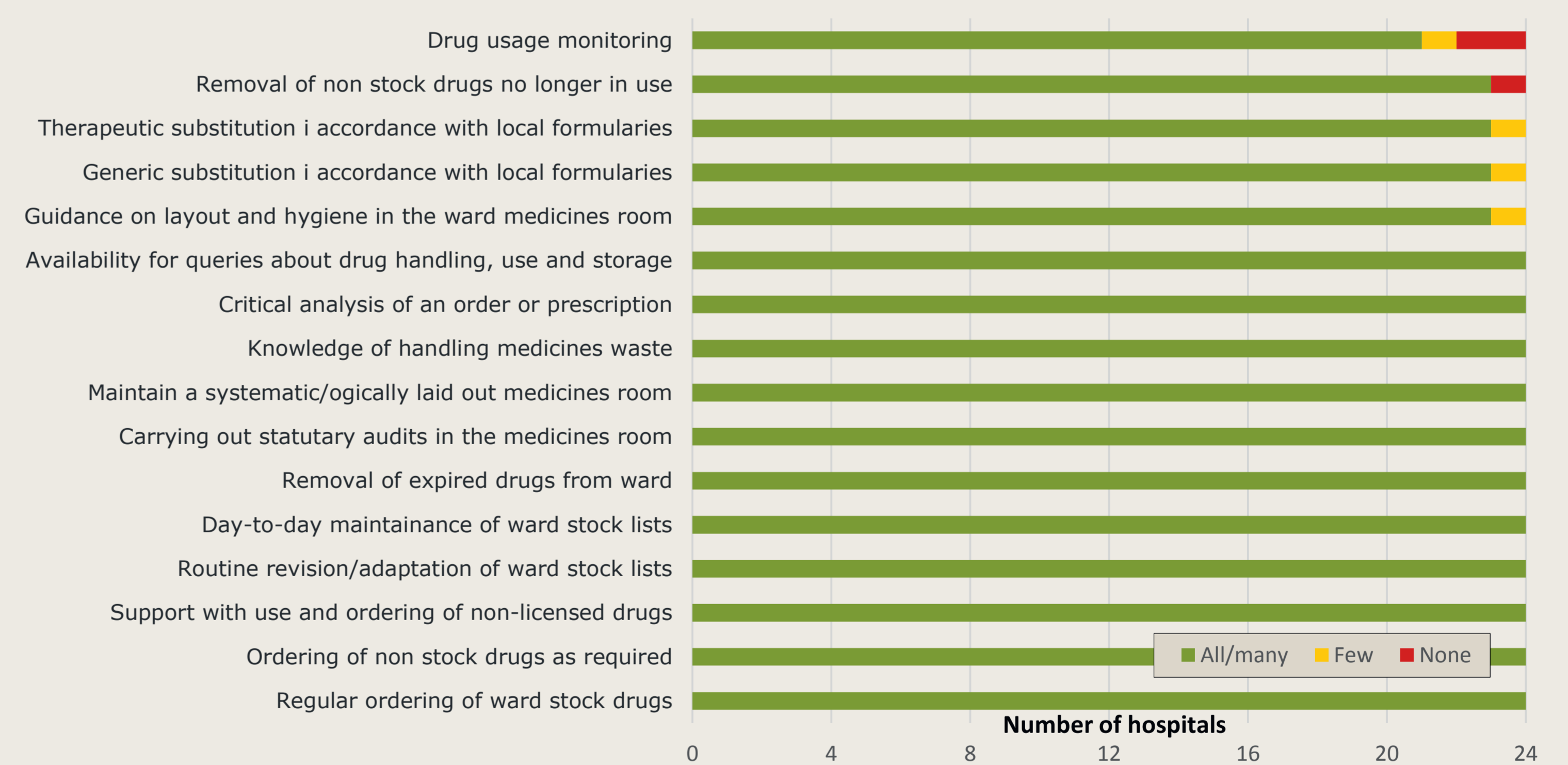
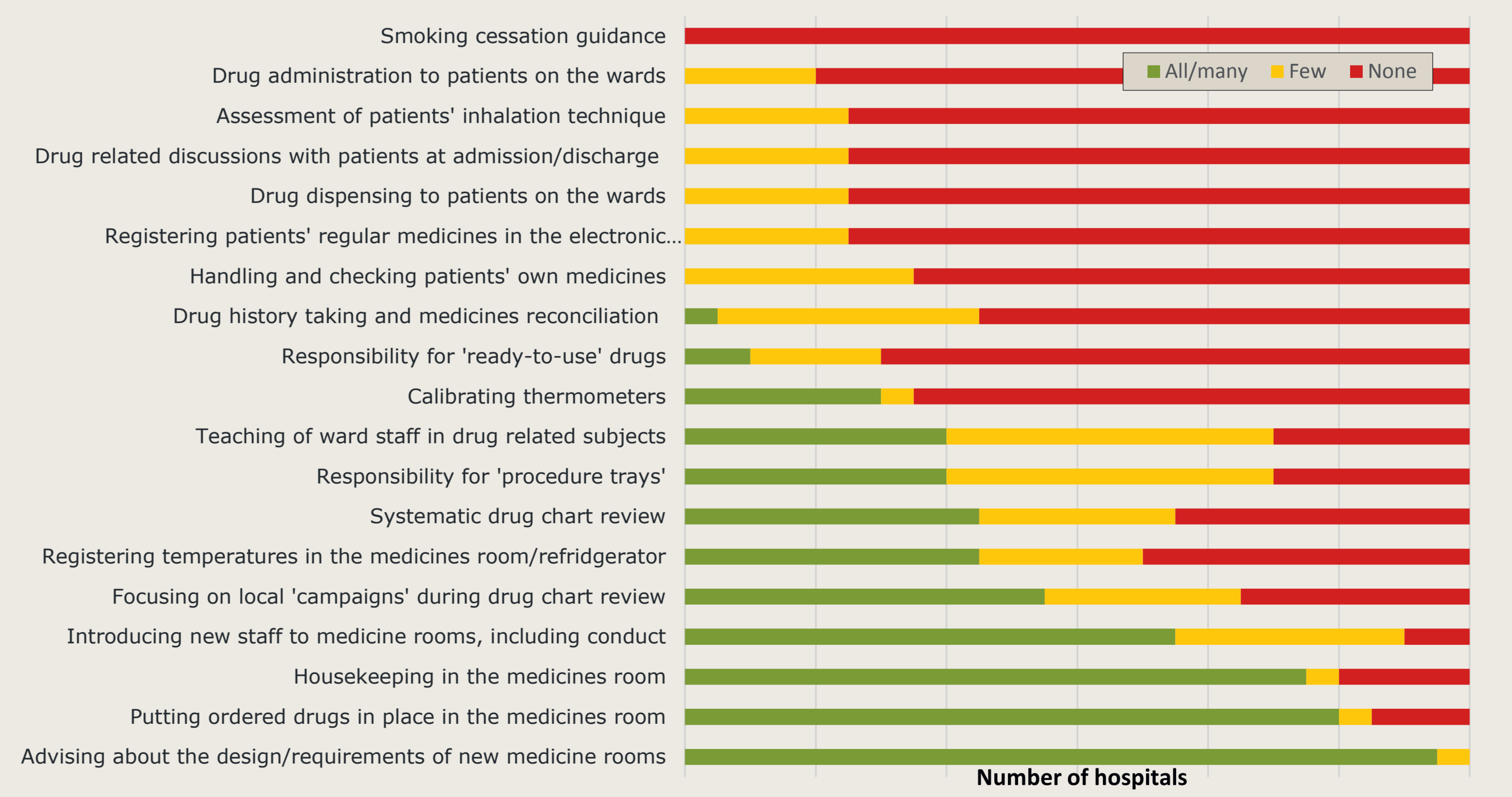


Figure 2: Provision of optional ward pharmacy elements



* AFUMA – Arbejdsgruppe For Udvikling af Medicinservice og Afdelingsfarmaci
The working group for development of ward- and clinical pharmacy services