Implementing a national portfolio of extemporaneous pharmaceutical preparations used in Danish hospitals

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What was done?

A common national procedure for adding new extemporaneous pharmaceutical preparations to the national portfolio was developed and implemented to avoid duplets and to ensure a uniform quality and appropriate risk assessment of the preparations.

Why was it done?

The purpose was to make the national portfolio of extemporaneous pharmaceutical preparations accessible to all hospital pharmacists in Denmark and to implement a common procedure to evaluate preparations before adding them to the national portfolio to avoid duplets and obsolete products.

How was it done?

A national database was developed and tested. Each hospital pharmacy entered their own pharmaceutical preparations in the database. Also, the extemporaneous pharmaceutical preparations manufactured by community pharmacies and used in the hospitals were entered in the database.

One hospital pharmacist in each of the five regions in Denmark was appointed as gatekeeper for the national portfolio. A template for an application form for new preparations was developed. When a physician requests a new preparation the application form will be completed by the clinical pharmacist. It is forwarded to the gatekeeper who will evaluate the preparation before approving it as a candidate for the national portfolio.

What has been achieved?

430 extemporaneous pharmaceutical preparations from the hospital pharmacies are entered and quality approved in the database. 320 extemporaneous pharmaceutical preparations manufactured by community pharmacies were entered in the database.

A national group of five gatekeepers was formed, and the workflow for both the group and the individual gatekeeper was described and implemented at all Danish hospital pharmacies.

What next?

The GPI (Good Practice Initiative) provides an easyaccessible overview of the national portfolio of extemporaneous pharmaceutical preparations, releasing production time and resources at the manufacturing pharmacies.



national portfolio









