

DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION OF THE PHARMACY AND THERAPEUTICS COMMITTEE

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INTRODUCTION

The Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committees (PTCs) of hospitals and local health units ensure the **quality and safety of medications**, while also contributing to improved **stock management** and **cost reduction**. In our hospital, over the past five years, the PTC has held an average of 49 meetings per year, reviewing 792 drug use requests annually, with an approval rate of 95.4%. However, the current procedure, which relies on email-based requests for new drug authorizations, is **disjointed and prone to errors**, requiring **constant and full-time involvement of the responsible pharmacists**. Recognizing that technological innovation is essential in optimizing processes within healthcare services, and inspired by the success of the NOA-Digital application, the opportunity arose to **develop a new application**, this time for the PTC.

OBJECTIVES

The development of software specifically designed to **simplify the authorization request process for new drugs**.

MATERIAL & METHODS

A comprehensive narrative of the software development—designed using the **Power Apps platform** - followed by a detailed analysis of its associated benefits.

RESULTS

Between January and May 2024, the needs of the PTC were assessed by gathering input from the participating pharmacists. Subsequently, a software application was developed, allowing for the **submission of new authorization requests**, the **creation of meeting agendas**, the **review, deliberation**, and **communication of approval results** to the responsible physician, the **drafting of meeting minutes**, the **monitoring of newly approved drugs**, as well as **access to the status of requests and previous minutes**.



DISCUSSION & CONCLUSION

The authors believe that **this software allows for a more efficient, convenient, and integrated workflow** compared to the current email-based system, which is more complex and prone to errors. From a pharmaceutical perspective, this alternative **simplifies the workflow, ensuring better access to all relevant information** without loss, as well as **automating certain tasks** - such as creating meeting agendas, drafting minutes, and issuing periodic drug monitoring alerts. Additionally, it is also **useful for physicians** by **facilitating the submission of new authorization requests** and notifications of the respective deliberations.

In conclusion, this software **is expected to transform the PTC's authorization request process**. The systematic use will allow for determining the potential applicability in PTCs of other hospitals.

