

National Pharmacist Competency System at Ministry of Health Hospitals in Saudi Arabia

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Abstract

National Pharmacy Competency System is unique program founded at Ministry of Health in Saudi Arabia. The program is a part of the general administration care strategic plan. The program consisted of three categories, including a general core of general pharmacist competency and clinical pharmacist competency. In addition to pharmacy management skills competency, and advance with different specialization of clinical pharmacy competency. The pharmacy competency system should perform at least annually. It is very hard to find a study to examine the extent application of pharmacist competency. Most of the works of literature discussed in single or one section of pharmacy practice. This system improves pharmacy practice, with the emphasis on drug therapy monitoring, prevent a drug related problem, and improve patient outcome therapy.

Keywords: National; Pharmacist Competency; Pharmaceutical Care; Ministry of Health; Saudi Arabia

Abbreviations: MOH: Ministry of Health; GAPC: General Administration of Pharmaceutical Care; ACC: American College of Clinical Pharmacist; IPF: Internal Pharmaceutical Federation; PSI: Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland

Introduction

Ministry of Health (MOH) in Saudi Arabia established general strategic planning for health care system [1]. This plan should apply to more 270 hospitals, and all medical cities [1]. All general administrations at MOH should establish their pharmacy strategic plan based on that. General Administration of Pharmaceutical Care (GAPC) at Ministry of Health established a general strategic planning of pharmaceutical care for all hospitals and primary care centers [2-3]. Also; GAPC founded some measurement indicators to follow the implementation of this plan; pharmacist competencies system was one of them. Pharmacy human resources development is one of the primary objectives of the general pharmacy strategic plan; a pharmacy competency is an excellent indicator used for follow-up pharmacy resources implementation.

In the literature, they defined the competency as "having the requisite ability or qualities" [4]. The statement applies in pharmacy practice and clinical pharmacy specialties [5-6]. Pharmacist competency is one of the methods to improve pharmacy practice and pharmacy total quality management. It needs to require the international standard of Joint Commission of Hospital Accreditation and local standards of Saudi center of

health care accreditation.

Benefit of Pharmacy Competency

Pharmacy competencies improve pharmacy practice and clinical pharmacy skills. A study in the United state of America founded 88% of responders pharmacist agreed that the competency program was informative and supportive of their daily patient care activities [7]. Another study in Croatia established that is Competency Development and Evaluation significant differences in the pharmacy practice with emphasis on patient consultation, monitoring drug therapy, medicine information, and patient education [8]. Also, the authors found from the study conducted in the UK; that is competencies improved significantly from baseline; it was aspects of medication history taking; medication management; identification, documentation and resolution of drug-related problems; appraisal of therapeutic options; and communication with doctors and nurses [9].

Pharmacy Competency Implementation in Saudi Arabia

The pharmacist competency consisted of three parts, the first part of basic requirements for all pharmacists hold the

Bachelor of Pharmacy or Doctor of Pharmacy (Pham D, and practice competencies as the general pharmacist. This tool based on American College of Clinical Pharmacist (ACC), The National Association of Pharmacy Regulatory Authorities in Canada, The Pharmacy Council of New Zealand, Internal Pharmaceutical Federation (IPF), and Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland (PSI) [6,10-13]. The second part of administrative pharmacy practice

competencies including but not limited to the following; director of the pharmacy, clinical manager, staff pharmacist, compounding sterile preparation, emergency management, fire safety, infection control, information management, medication safety, and patient counseling (Figure 1) [14]. The third part of the specialized requirement based on their type of practice. (Tables 1 & 2) [15-20].

Table 1: Some examples Competencies of national pharmacy practice and clinical pharmacy programs for adults and pediatrics.

Program	Competency of Pharmacy Practice	Competency of Clinical Pharmacy
<p>Adults</p>	<p>Adults MTM Acute Care Pharmacy Competency Adults MTM Ambulatory Care Pharmacy Competency Adults Clinical compounding Competency Adults IV Therapy Competency Adults Total Parenteral Nutrition Preparation Competency Adults Oncology Preparation Competency Adults Pharmacy Informatics Competency Adults Pharmacy Human Resources Competency Adults Medical and Pharmacy Education Competency Adults Pharmacy Public Health Competency</p>	<p>Adult General Medicine Adult Internal Medicine Competency Adults Cardiology Competency Adults Nephrology Competency Adults Infectious Diseases Competency Adults Pharmacy Infection Control Competency Adults Endocrinology& Metabolism Competency Adult Pulmonary Diseases Competency Adult Hematology and Anticoagulation Competency Adult Oncology Competency Adult Drug Utilization Evaluation Competency Adult Drug Information Competency Adult Medication Safety Competency Adults Pharmacoeconomics Competency Adult Emergency Competency Adult Dental Therapy and oral medicine Competency Adult Therapeutic Drug Monitoring and Pharmacokinetics Competency Adults Pharmacy Infection control Competency Adults Ambulatory Care and Primary Care Competency Adults Organ Transplant Competency Adults Pharmacogenomics Competency General Anesthesia and Surgery Adults Anesthesia and Surgery Competency Adult Intensive Care Competency Adults Total Parenteral Nutrition Competency Adults Pain Management Competency General Psychiatry Child / Adolescent Psychiatry Competency Addiction Medicine Competency Geriatric Psychiatry Competency Adults Psychiatry Competency Addiction Medicine Competency</p>

		<p style="text-align: center;">General Family Medicine</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Managed Care Pharmacy Competency Pharmacy Public Health Competency Geriatric Medicine Competency Adults Ambulatory Care and Primary Care Competency Pediatrics-Ambulatory Care and Primary Care Competency Pharmacy Home Health Care Competency Mass Gathering Pharmaceutical Care Competency Ramadan Pharmaceutical Care Competency</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Pediatrics</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Pediatrics MTM Inpatient Pharmacy Competency Pediatrics MTM Outpatient Pharmacy Competency Pediatrics Clinical compounding Competency Pediatrics IV Therapy Competency Pediatrics Total Parenteral Nutrition Preparation Competency Pediatric Oncology Preparation Competency Pediatrics Pharmacy Informatics Competency Pediatrics Pharmacy Human Resources Competency Pediatrics Medical and Pharmacy Education Competency Pediatrics Pharmacy Public Health Competency</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">General Pediatrics</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Pediatrics Endocrinology Competency Pediatrics Nephrology Competency Pediatrics Hematology and Anticoagulation Competency Pediatrics Oncology Competency Pediatrics Infectious Diseases Competency Pediatrics Pharmacy Infection Control Competency Pediatrics Pulmonary Diseases Competency Pediatrics Cardiology Competency Pediatrics Drug Utilization Evaluation Competency Pediatrics Drug Information Competency Pediatric Medication Safety Competency Pediatrics Pharmacoeconomics Competency Pediatrics Emergency Competency Pediatrics and neonate Parenteral Nutrition Competency Pediatrics Dental Therapy and oral medicine Competency Pediatrics Therapeutic Drug Monitoring and Pharmacokinetics Competency Pediatric Organ Transplant Competency Pediatrics Anesthesia and Surgery Competency Pediatrics Intensive Care Competency Neonatal Intensive Care Competency Pediatrics Total Parenteral Nutrition Competency Pediatric Pain Management Competency Pediatrics Pharmacogenomics Competency</p>

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