

Table 1. Drug Utilisation Reviews (DURs), bulletins, and campaigns

Variable	All hospitals (29)	Tertiary (6)	Secondary (12)	Rural/special (11)
Drug Utilisation Reviews	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)
Total number of DURs undertaken	67	23	28	16
DURs undertaken by independent hospitals	64	23	28	13
Total hospitals undertaking >1 DUR	19 (65.5)	5 (83.3)	8 (66.7)	6 (54.5)
Mean	2.5	3.8	2.5	1.6
Median [range]	1 [0-12]	2.5 [0-12]	1 [0-9]	1 [0-6]
<i>Bulletins and Campaigns</i>	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)
<i>Total number bulletins produced and disseminated</i>	125	37	58	30
Bulletins produced by independent hospitals	103	37	58	8
Number of independent hospitals producing and sending out own bulletins	13 (44.8)	5 (83.3)	6 (50)	2 (18.2)
Median [range]	5 [0-24]	6 [0-12]	3 [0-24]	0 [0-6]
<i>Total number hospital-wide campaigns</i>	76	13	36	27
Hospital-wide campaigns undertaken by independent hospitals	63	13	36	14
Number of independent hospitals running campaigns	15 (62.1)	4 (66.7)	7 (58.3)	4 (36.4)
Median [range]	1 [0-20]	1.5 [0-7]	1 [0-20]	1.5 [0-5]
<i>Total number of ward/unit based campaigns</i>	39	4	20	15
Ward/unit based campaigns undertaken by independent hospitals	37	4	20	13
Hospitals reporting campaigns	13 (44.8)	2 (33.3)	6 (50)	5 (45.5)
Hospitals reporting "nil"	3 (10.3)	0	1 (8.3)	2 (18.2)
Hospitals reporting "don't know"	13 (44.8)	4 (66.7)	5 (41.7)	4 (36.4)

Table 2. Details of formularies

Formularies	All hospitals (29)		Tertiary (6)		Secondary (12)		Rural/special (11)	
	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)
Hospitals using a formulary	25	(86.2)	6	(100)	9	(75)	10	(90.9)
Non-tertiary hospitals using a tertiary formulary	6	(20.7)	0		1	(8.3)	5	(45.5)
No formulary	4	(13.8)	0		3	(25)	1	(9.1)
Median number of revisions in past 10 years	3		5.5		2		3	
		(% of 25)		(% of 6)		(% of 9)		(% of 10)
Number revised in past 3 years	18	(72.0)	4	(66.7)	5	(55.5)	9	(90.0)
Hard copy only	14	(56.0)	2	(33.3)	6	(66.7)	6	(60.0)
Hard copy and internet	10	(40.0)	3	(50.0)	3	(33.3)	4	(40.0)
Internet only	1	(4.0)	1	(16.7)	0		0	
Formularies having:								
Preferred Medicines List	25	(100.0)	6	(100.0)	9	(100.0)	10	(100.0)
Antimicrobial guidelines	19	(76.0)	6	(100.0)	6	(66.7)	7	(70.0)
Policies concerning medicine use	18	(72.0)	6	(100.0)	7	(77.7)	5	(50.0)
Paediatric dosing guidance	9	(36.0)	4	(66.7)	2	(22.2)	3	(30.0)
Acute Medical Guidelines	8	(32.0)	2	(33.3)	3	(33.3)	3	(30.0)
Emergency Resuscitation Guidelines	4	(16.0)	1	(16.7)	1	(11.1)	2	(20.0)
Other	3	(12.0)	1	(16.7)	2	(22.2)	4	(40.0)

Table 3. Drug expenditure feedback/comments

Answers are on a scale: Always=1, Never=6

Variable	All hospitals (29) median	Tertiary (6) median	Secondary (12) median	Rural/special (11) median	Probability (Kruskal- Wallis)
How often, on average, are comments received back on data from:					
Ward nurses?	4.5	5	5	4	0.5285
Nurse managers/supervisors?	4	4	3	3.5	0.5429
Financial Managers?	3	2	4	2.5	0.0357
Consultants?	3	3	4	3	0.7202
Others? (Tertiary: MTC, CEOs, clinical director) (Secondary: MTC, CEO medical director, pharmacists)	2	2	3	n/a	0.4795

Table 4. Sources of economic information (all hospitals)

Number of respondents reporting use of sources / attempts to calculate:						
Variable	Drug literature	Independent source	Drug company	Attempt to calculate	Don't know	Don't wish to use
Cost per Quality Adjusted Life Year (QALY)	20	11	13	1	2	1
Cost per life year gained	19	13	12	3	2	1
Cost per event saved	17	12	9	7	1	0
Cost for shorter hospital stay	11	9	6	11	1	1
Numbers Needed to Treat (NNT)	18	9	8	9	2	1
Mean	17.0	10.8	9.6	6.2	1.6	0.8

Table 5. Decision-makers, clinicians, and requests for guideline and DUR development

Answers are on a scale: Always=1, Never=6

Variable	All hospitals median	Tertiary (6) median	Secondary (12) median	Rural/special (11) median	Probability (Kruskal-Wallis)
<i>Decision-makers</i>					
How often do decision makers request that clinicians develop guidelines/criteria for medicines already in use?	4	5	4	3.5	0.9244
How often do decision makers request guidelines/criteria for use when there are safety/cost concerns?	3	2	3	4	0.2577
How often do decision makers request DURs to review the use of new medicines?	6	3	6	6	0.0143
How often do decision makers request DURs to review the use of medicines already in use?	6	4	6	6	0.0161
<i>Clinicians</i>					
How often do clinicians request help from pharmacist with guideline development for medicines already in use?	3	4	3	3	0.5674
How often do clinicians request DURs to review the use of medicines already in use?	5	5	5	5.5	0.5417
How often do clinicians request DURs to review the use of new medicines?	6	5	5.5	6	0.5023

Table 6. Centralised guideline and DUR development

Variable	All hospitals (29)	Tertiary (6)	Secondary (12)	Rural/special (11)
	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)
<i>Guidelines Development</i>				
If guidelines/criteria for use for new medicines were developed by PHARMAC, would they be used in your hospital?				
a) Yes	3 (10.3)	0	2 (16.7)	1 (9.1)
b) Yes if we assessed them as fair and evidence based	19 (65.5)	6 (100)	7 (58.3)	6 (54.5)
c) Yes only if in total agreement with our own guidelines	7 (24.1)	0	3 (25.0)	4 (36.4)
d) No	0	0	0	0
If guidelines/criteria for use for new medicines were developed by an independent evaluation group* would they be used in your hospital? (*Independent evaluation group such as a Clinical Pharmacology Department, hospital Drug Information Department or PreMeC)				
a) Yes	4 (13.8)	1 (16.7)	1 (8.3)	2 (18.2)
b) Yes if we assessed them as fair and evidence based	20 (69.0)	5 (83.3)	8 (66.7)	7 (63.6)
c) Yes only if in total agreement with our own guidelines	4 (13.8)	0	2 (16.7)	2 (18.2)
d) No	1 (3.4)	0	1 (8.3)	0
<i>DUR development</i>				
If DURs for new medicines were developed by PHARMAC would they be used in your hospital?				
a) Yes	2 (6.9)	0	1 (8.3)	1 (9.1)
b) Yes if happy with design and supporting evidence	20 (69)	5 (83.3)	8 (66.7)	7 (63.6)
c) Would prefer to develop own audit	1 (3.4)	1 (16.7)	0	0
d) No don't wish to participate	0	0	0	3 (27.3)
e) No insufficient staff to participate	6 (20.7)	0	3 (25.0)	1 (9.1)
If DURs for new medicines were developed by an independent group, would they be used in your hospital?				
a) Yes	2 (6.9)	0	2 (16.7)	0
b) Yes if happy with design and supporting evidence	21 (72.4)	5 (83.3)	8 (66.7)	8 (72.7)
c) Would prefer to develop own audit	1 (3.4)	1 (16.7)	0	0
d) No don't wish to participate	0	0	0	0
e) No insufficient staff to participate	5 (17.2)	0	2 (16.7)	3 (27.3)