

Single Drug Formulary

Vision Statement

Introduction

A review of WA public hospital pharmacy departments was undertaken in 2004. It recommended development of a state wide electronic formulary within Western Australia. The review's recommendations were endorsed by the Health Reform Committee in March 2004. WATAG and the WA Department of Health have joint ownership of the move to develop a single unified drug formulary, which will promote best practice by standardising drug choice and yet still offer the flexibility needed for individual cases. The following sets out the vision, mission and objectives for the project.

Vision

A single unified approach to Drug Formulary Management, achieving safe, appropriate and cost-effective use of therapeutic drugs in WA public hospitals.

Mission

To implement a single integrated model for public hospital drug formulary management to encourage the safe, appropriate and cost-effective use of therapeutic drugs in WA public hospitals in keeping with the principles of the Quality Use of Medicines.

Objectives

- to ensure that safe, clinically effective, cost-effective, affordable and clinically acceptable drugs are available for public hospital patients in WA;
- to promote the safety and quality of prescribed drug use to improve therapeutic outcomes for patients;
- to uphold the principles of equity of access to medicines for WA public hospital patients, no matter what the location of the facility;
- to integrate associated business process so they are systematic, accountable and transparent;
- to optimise the effective use of resources and effort of the WA public hospital system;
- to integrate with the national Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme where appropriate;
- to provide appropriate information and monitor the usage and expenditure of drugs to assist decision making and planning;
- to lay the foundation for future electronic prescribing initiatives.

Figure 1. 'House' Concept for a Single Formulary

