



MSupply

Simply powerful pharmaceutical supply chain management

This document describes some of the areas where mSupply can be used as a tool for decision support.

Purchasing

Although purchasing may seem to be fairly a straightforward operation, it is often done poorly in medical distribution facilities in developing countries. Long lag times between ordering and delivery compound the problem. Poor purchasing practices have significant effects on therapeutic outcomes, as no amount of good prescribing practice will make any difference if needed medicines are not in stock.

mSupply uses a dynamic ordering system that uses usage history to predict required quantities. Several parameters can be adjusted to account for lag times, fluctuations in usage etc.

mSupply also provides a simple way of comparing supplier quotations for stock, allowing easy price comparisons to be made between products that have met quality criteria. (mSupply automatically adjusts for differences in pack size, currency, and freight costs between suppliers)

Minimizing wastage.

The most important aspect of minimizing wastage is effective purchasing. However, no purchasing system can foresee all eventualities. For example, due to a change in a formulary decision at client hospitals a particular item may no longer be requested by those hospitals. In other situations, it may be necessary to keep a certain level of an important medicine to cope with possible peak demand, but if the demand never comes, the medicine will reach its expiry date. The result is that excess stock will be in the warehouse.

mSupply provides expiring stock and slow moving stock reports to alert management to potential problems in advance. It may allow stock to be offered at a reduced price, or for clients to be alerted to the existence of the stock before it expires, saving its wastage.

Monitoring distribution/sales

mSupply has a number of reports that allow you to see both quantities and values of items supplied to clients. This may help in identifying usage that is unusual (especially if populations served by different cost centres are known)

Drug utilization studies and Cost/Benefit decisions

mSupply's support of ATC codes and defined daily doses allows comparison of drug utilization according to internationally accepted therapeutic group classifications. This information can be used in conjunction with cost information to aid in choosing particular therapeutic agents for inclusion in guidelines and formularies, and for studies of utilization differences between geographic regions or types of institutions.

Financial monitoring.

For those organizations that charge or at least run notional cost centres for the goods they supply, mSupply provides sales reports and debtor and creditor management. It also has the facility to export sales and purchases data for more detailed handling by accounting software.

Custom Reports.

mSupply has a unique custom report editor, that allows the end user to construct their own queries and design their own report formats. These reports may be printed or exported for further analysis in a spreadsheet or other applications.

Please contact info@msupply.org.nz or visit <http://www.msupply.org.nz> for more information.

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