

Slovak republic

State Institute for Drug Control

Pharmaceutical provision in hospitals

In-patient treatment is realised in hospitals with ownership:

- a. Hospitals with state ownership (Ministry of Health)
- b. Hospitals with private ownership (limited companies)
- c. Non-profit hospitals (ownership transformed to non-profit organisations under the organisation of Territory Regional Units).

Hospital pricing, reimbursement and monitoring refers to the majority of hospitals in Slovakia. Nevertheless there are some differences.

Pharmaceutical provision can be described as follows: Medicines **are delivered to hospital pharmacies** in hospitals from wholesalers (in majority cases) or from pharma industry (minor cases). Hospital pharmacy plays key role in pharmaceutical provision. Nevertheless the **decision making process** is managed **by Management** (Medical or economic of the hospital), **Pharmaceutical and therapeutic committee** in hospital, Person responsible for public procurement (**legal aspects**), Committee for accepting and evaluation of offers for public procurements. Hospital pharmacies only serve in-patient. Some hospitals which do not have hospital pharmacy, purchased medicines via retail pharmacy upon special agreements.

Purchasing of medicines in the hospital sector	Financing of medicines in the hospital sector
<p>Organised in decentralised way (decisions taken individually by the hospitals). Limited products (MS treatment, blood products) are organised centrally by insurance companies. Purchasing strategy are: Public procurement, negotiations and market surveillance based on value of intended purchase of medicines.</p> <p>Prices are regulated: maximal ex-factory and maximal wholesaler mark-up: 9%. VAT is 10%. No mark-up for hospital pharmacy. Purchased price is often influenced by manufacturing price reduction and/or wholesaler mark-up reduction upon negotiation.</p>	<p>All pharmaceuticals are funded through the hospital budget which is based on bed days per case of treatment. Patients do not have to provide extra payments for medicines.</p> <p>The basis for the eligibility of a medicine to be used and to be reimbursed is the hospital pharmaceutical formulary often individual per hospital.</p> <p>The decision making body is the Pharmaceutical Committee (consisting of the chief hospital pharmacist, management of hospital, chief physicians from department).</p>

Evaluation and Interface management

Consumption, prescriptions and prices are frequently monitored by hospitals pharmacists and hospital administration.

In Slovakia the funding of the in-patient and the out-patient sector is organised separately which might lead to some responsibility and interface management problems.

Improvement in co-operation between in-patient and out-patient sector is needed in the way of processes and follow-up treatment from inpatient to out-patient sector.