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Chapter 7
Application of Computers in Hospital Pharmacy Practice
IMPORTANT Questions

Q1. Describe the application of computers in Hospital Pharmacy Practice.

Ans.

→ Computer plays an important role in development of clinical pharmacy practice and basic pharmacy research. The use of computer in hospital administration and medical research become the need of large hospitals

→ Hospital pharmacy is the health care service, which comprises the art, practice, and profession of choosing, preparing, storing, compounding, and dispensing medicines and medical devices, advising healthcare professionals and patients on their safe, effective and efficient use.

→ The computer has become a very common tool in all the areas of science and technology.

→ The field of pharmacy has immensely benefitted by the use of computers and will continue to do so.

→ The complete field of pharmacy requires computers.

Computers have transformed the healthcare industry, including hospital pharmacy practice.

Here are some ways in which computers are used in hospital pharmacy practice :

1. **Medication Management :** Computerized systems are used to manage medication administration, prescription orders, and inventory control. This system can track medication usage, monitor medication errors, and streamline medication distribution.

2. **Clinical Decision Support :** Pharmacists use computer-based tools to help make clinical decisions regarding drug therapy. These tools provide access to patient records, drug interactions, and patient-specific information.

3. **Electronic Medical Records :** Electronic medical records (EMRs) allow pharmacists to access patient records, including medical history, medications, allergies, and laboratory results. EMRs allow pharmacists to quickly access and review patient information, which can help to identify drug interactions and ensure appropriate medication use

4. **Barcode Technology :** Barcoding technology is used to track medication usage and prevent medication errors. Barcodes can be scanned to verify the correct medication, dose, and administration route.

5. **Telepharmacy :** Telepharmacy involves the use of technology to remotely manage pharmacy operations. This technology can be used to remotely verify prescriptions, manage medication orders, and provide medication counseling to patients.

6. **Drug Information Databases :** Computer-based drug information databases provide pharmacists with access to the latest drug information, including dosage guidelines, side effects, and interactions.

Ans.

Electronic Health record (EHR)

→ It is an electronic health record of patient which maintained by the health care providers, it contain all the essential clinical data related to patient care

→ for example disease , medication , immunization , laboratory reports, radiology reports , disease history .

→ And it can be up-to-dated and shared to patient and to other healthcare providers through electronic medium

Components of EHR

- Patient contact details
- Details of consultation with medical exports
- Allergies
- Insurance information
- Family history
- Vaccination history
- Information regarding any illness
- Medicine list
- Hospitalisation record
- Details regarding any previous surgeries or procedures

Advantages of EHR

- It provides patient's complete , accurate , and up-to-date information during providing health care.
- It shares patient 's data through electronic medium to the patient and other health care providers.
- It helps to prevent medical errors.
- It makes easy to provide health care services.
- It decrease costs by reducing paperwork and repeated laboratory and radiology tests.

Ans.

Software's used in hospital pharmacy

→ Hospital pharmacies rely on several software programs to manage their operations efficiently.

→ Here are some of the software programs used in hospital pharmacy :

1. **Pharmacy Information Systems (PIS) :**
   → Pharmacy Information Systems (PIS) are used to manage medication orders, medication dispensing, and inventory control. PIS can track medication usage, monitor medication errors, and streamline medication distribution.

2. **Electronic Health Records (EHR) :**
   → Electronic Health Records (EHR) are digital versions of patients' medical records that include medication history, allergies, laboratory results, and other relevant medical information. EHRs can improve medication safety by providing healthcare providers with accurate and up-to-date information about patients' medications.

3. **Clinical Decision Support Systems (CDSS) :**
   → Clinical Decision Support Systems (CDSS) provide healthcare providers with patient-specific information, including drug interactions, contraindications, and dosage guidelines. CDSS can help healthcare providers make informed decisions about medication therapy.

4. **Barcode Medication Administration (BCMA) :**
   → Barcode Medication Administration (BCMA) is used to track medication administration and prevent medication errors. BCMA uses barcode scanning technology to verify the correct medication, dose, and administration route.

5. **Automated Dispensing Cabinets (ADC) :**
   → Automated Dispensing Cabinets (ADC) are used to store and manage medication inventory in hospital pharmacies. ADC can help to reduce medication errors, improve medication tracking, and increase efficiency in medication dispensing.

6. **Inventory Management Systems :**
   → Inventory Management Systems are used to track medication inventory levels, expiration dates, and reorder points. These systems can help to ensure that the pharmacy has the necessary medications on hand to meet patient needs

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