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## Hospital pharmacist's role into the medicine's procurement processes

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Procurement is an important part of drug management and supply for measuring and increasing efficiency at all levels of healthcare institutions. Effective procurement means supplying the right drugs in the right quantities, at the right time, and with recognisable standards of quality. FIP Basel statements on the future of hospital pharmacy argue that "Hospital pharmacists should be involved in the complex process of procurement of medicines and health products, promoting equity and access." Recently, the European Association of Hospital Pharmacists position paper on procurement, released in June 2018, states that the knowledge and skills of hospital pharmacists make them specialists in the entire field of medicine procurement. Hospital pharmacists should lead all phases of procurement to ensure continuity of the supply of cost-effective quality medicines to patients. Hospital pharmacists' engagement in procurement is necessary both at local as well as at national level in all

occasions that include hospital-use medicines. As an example, hazardous drugs management is an issue of major concern for pharmacists and healthcare occupational risks professionals' processes. Therefore, designing better procurement processes incorporating hazardous drugs issues during the qualification of products, can ensure compliance with applicable regulations and enable hazardous drugs management in terms of safety, quality and related costs. New concepts, as circular economy, are being introduced in the procurement processes of medicines. Circular economy acknowledges the constraints on natural resources and offers an approach to cope with them and move towards a more economically, socially and environmentally sustainable world. Healthcare and drug tendering offer opportunities to implement successful initiatives from other economic sectors.

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