## Domain O1 Health and medicine management

### O1.1 Consult with the patient

Pharmacists demonstrating this competency engage with the patient or patient’s carer to gather relevant information using a structured ‘patient-centred’ consultation to obtain a medication and disease history. They ask appropriate questions to gather clinical information. This competency applies to all pharmacists working in roles that involve direct patient contact.

### O1.1.1 Obtains and assesses the individual's medication and disease history including where relevant, laboratory and diagnostic test results

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This behaviour involves gaining a patient’s medication and disease history. This includes obtaining and accessing medication records and selecting information that is relevant to the condition or symptoms under consideration.

Pharmacists source medication and disease histories from various sources including: dispensary systems, hospital records, GP and other health care provider’s records. Further sources of information include laboratory and diagnostic test results.

Further information regarding an individual’s medication and disease history is obtained through asking appropriate questions to patients and/or their carers to clarify the nature and duration of their symptoms/condition, other associated signs or symptoms, current or previous medications and any actions taken or treatments already used and their effectiveness.

### O1.1.2 Uses appropriate sources to obtain or clarify additional relevant clinical information

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Pharmacists identify appropriate sources of information to gather the additional clinical information required. They obtain this information from other health professionals and/or information sources (with patient consent).

They evaluate the adequacy of the source for relevance, currency, accuracy and evidence base.

Pharmacists understand medical terminology and medical abbreviations to fully assess the information obtained.

### O1.1.3 Recognises and supports the right of individuals to have health beliefs and practices different to one’s own, including the use of traditional healing and treatments

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This behaviour involves acknowledging the health beliefs and practices of your patients and demonstrating sensitivity to their needs, values, beliefs and cultural backgrounds.

Recognise the values, beliefs and cultural backgrounds of your patients and account for this when you provide professional services to them. Consider ways in which your health beliefs and practices influence the assumptions you make regarding patients’ needs and how you tailor services and advice to them.
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<th>O1.1.4.</th>
<th>Advises patients when and in what circumstances to seek further medical intervention</th>
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Pharmacists identify and describe to patients circumstances where they should consult another appropriate health professional. This includes circumstances where an immediate referral to a medical practitioner is warranted (e.g. failure of therapy, acute deterioration of the condition or symptoms outside the area of expertise/role of a pharmacist).

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<tr>
<th>O1.1.5.</th>
<th>Assesses the potential for inappropriate use, misuse or abuse of medicinal treatments</th>
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This behaviour incorporates the ability to make and justify a decision on whether or not to provide a medicine that has the potential for misuse or abuse. The pharmacist gathers information then makes an informed assessment about the potential for inappropriate use, misuse or abuse of medicinal treatments.

**01.2 - Provide healthcare**

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<th>O1.2.1.</th>
<th>Demonstrates a patient-centred care approach to practice</th>
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Pharmacists provide professional services and advice, using a ‘patient-centred’ approach to their practice. This includes your responsibility to:

- Ensure that the patient is your primary focus
- Aim to understand the patients’ needs and the order of importance of those needs from the patient’s point of view.
- Where practical, aim to accommodate the patient’s wishes and needs when considering their treatment options
- Respect the patients right to participate in making decisions, and choices about their health care
- Support the patient’s right to be informed and make autonomous decisions
- Take into consideration the beliefs, values and preferences of the patient when providing healthcare services for them.
- Address the patient’s healthcare needs
- Demonstrate empathy and respect towards patients
- Build a partnership with the patient in regards to formulating and implementing their treatment
- Direct patients to relevant sources information so they can learn more about their health needs
- Encourage patients to discuss any concerns they have about their treatment and respond to their concerns
- Advocate for your patients within the boundaries of your professional role as a pharmacist
- Respect the patient’s right to make their own choices about healthcare providers and to accept or decline advice, services or products

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<th>O1.2.2.</th>
<th>Agrees the goal(s) of treatment with the patient, taking into consideration the patient’s knowledge of their own condition and preferred course(s) of treatment</th>
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• Determine what the patient knows about their condition and their course of treatment, including what their preferences are in regards to treatment.
• Take into consideration the patient’s presenting symptoms and circumstances and agree with them on the goal of treatment (e.g. relief of symptoms, complete cure or prevention).
• Respect the patient’s right to be involved in making decisions about their treatment and allow them the opportunity to be involved in making choices about their health care.
• Support and accept patient’s decisions about the health care services they wish to receive, including when it differs from your own view.
• Tailor advice and treatments to, as far as practicable, accommodate the values, beliefs and cultural backgrounds of the patient.
• Provide the patient with information clearly and openly to ensure they are fully informed about any treatment or service you provide or intend to provide including options, risks, benefits and costs.
• Establish the level of involvement the patient would like to have in making decisions about their treatment.

O1.2.3.
Accepts and supports the individual’s right to make autonomous decisions

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- Accept and support the patient’s right to be informed and make their own decisions about their healthcare.
- Recognise that patients’ beliefs and concerns about medicines, can affect the way they take their medicines and even if they take them
- Accept that the patient has the right to decide not to take a medicine, even if you do not agree with their decision. Your obligation here is to ensure they have been provided with all the information required to make an informed decision such as this and that they are capable of making that informed decision.

O1.2.4.
Assists individuals to make informed choices on the selection of appropriate non-prescription or complementary medicines, diagnostic aids or non-medicinal treatment options to meet their needs

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- Provide patients/carers with information and advice about non-prescription or complementary medicines, diagnostic aids or non-medicinal treatment selection
- Recommend appropriate non-prescription or complementary medicines, diagnostic aids or non-medicinal treatment options that will meet the patient’s therapeutic needs, which are suitable and safe to use. Account for their health beliefs and preferences when making your recommendation
- Provide patients/caregivers with reasons for your choice of recommended healthcare products. Reasons may include the patient’s medical condition/disease state, age, weight, allergies, pregnancy and lactation and any other factors that are likely to impact on the safety or suitability for use of the product.
- Inform patients when they select medicines or products that may not be appropriate or are contraindicated. Provide them with reasons outlining why these products may not be appropriate for them.
- Discuss with patients any issues relevant to the selection of non-prescription or complementary medicines, diagnostic aids or non-medicinal treatment.

O1.2.5.
Works co-operatively with the patient/carer/family/whānau and other members of the healthcare team as appropriate, within the services provided

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- Work in partnership with the patient or /carer/family/whanau as appropriate to provide healthcare services that best meet the needs of the patient
- Work in partnership and/or cooperate with other members of the healthcare team to provide continuity of care and services that best meet the needs of the patient
- Facilitate onward referral of patients to appropriate health practitioners where in your professional opinion you decide this would benefit the patient
- Explain to the patient or /carer/family/whanau the need for referral to other health professionals where in your professional opinion you decide this is warranted
- Gain the patient’s consent to consult with and/or refer to another health practitioner
- Use written and/or oral referral procedures to inform the health professional of the reason for the referral and any advice or treatment already provided. Include your contact details.
- Liaise and/or collaborate with other health professionals to whom patients have been referred.
- Work co-operatively with other health professionals to provide primary health care services
- Ensure you direct patients who need urgent medical care to the most appropriate source of care promptly.

O1.2.6.
Counsels patient on the effective use of diagnostic aids or healthcare products and self-help measures to assist management of symptoms/condition

Level this behaviour currently demonstrated? Not yet consistent or competent
How important is this behaviour to my current practice? Significant
Do I need or want to do any more learning for this behaviour? Yes

- Advise patients on the effective use of diagnostic aids or healthcare products and self-help measures to assist in the management of their symptoms/condition. Ensure that any information you provide is given in such a way that it is easy for the patient to understand.
- Check that the patient understands the information you have provided (e.g. use questions to confirm understanding, interpret cues that information has not been understood, and provide information in a different way to improve clarity if required.
- Provide information that assists patients/carers with their understanding of their medical condition and/or medication treatment
- Ensure that the patient/carer understands how the medicine or health care product is to be used/administered.
- Check the patient’s technique for using a recommended health care product, aid or device.
- Work with the patient/carer to enable them to gain maximum benefit from using a recommended medicine or product.
- Provide advice on self-care measures assist treatment and/or reduce exacerbations of symptoms/conditions.
- Provide follow-up of patients, where necessary to monitor progress and/or outcomes of treatment.

O1.2.7.
Provides emergency first aid where necessary, in line with professional role and expertise*

*If working in a community pharmacy, you must maintain competence in CPR by completing a refresher course through a NZQA approved provider once every three years. If you are a pharmacist vaccinator, please refer to Ministry of Health Immunisation Handbook, Appendix 4 for resuscitation requirements.

Level this behaviour currently demonstrated? Not yet consistent or competent
How important is this behaviour to my current practice? Significant
Do I need or want to do any more learning for this behaviour? Yes

- Ensure you have the skills and knowledge to provide first aid treatment in line with current best practice promptly whenever needed
- Maintain current first aid qualifications as outlined by the Pharmacy Council of New Zealand:
  - If working in a community pharmacy, you must maintain competence in CPR by completing a refresher course through a NZQA-approved provider once every three years. If you are a pharmacist vaccinator, please refer to Ministry of Health Immunisation Handbook, Appendix 4 for resuscitation requirements
- Perform first aid treatment where necessary on individuals who require it.

O1.3   Review and manage patient’s medicine therapy

01.3.1
Identifies, prioritises and works to resolve medicines management issues

Level this behaviour currently demonstrated? Not yet consistent or competent
How important is this behaviour to my current practice? Significant
Do I need or want to do any more learning for this behaviour? Yes
Identify the potential for clinically significant medication-related problems in the current medication treatment regimen (e.g. interactions, contraindications, incompatibilities, allergies, adverse drug reactions).

Determine if the patient is experiencing any unintended effects from their current medication treatment

Gather additional information where needed to help you identify medicine management issues for patients.

Review the patient’s medicine record and history and assess the efficacy, safety and appropriateness of the current medication regimen. Consider patient factors (e.g. medical conditions/disease states, age, weight, pregnancy and lactation, allergies and other therapies) and drug factors (e.g. bioavailability, pharmacokinetics, efficacy, toxicity and interactions)

Review the patient’s medicine record and history. Check that dosages, dose form and methods of administration are optimal for the patient.

Identify factors that might adversely affect adherence to the intended medication treatment regimen.

Prioritise medicine management issues according to the needs of the patient. Take into consideration safety, benefits for the patient and cost plus any other appropriate criteria

Recognise when you need to take immediate action to resolve any medicine management issues. Prioritise these and work promptly to resolve them.

Apply logical decision-making to develop a plan for addressing the key medication-related issues identified.

O1.3.2
Applies evidence-based guidelines or protocols to reconcile and review a patient’s medicine therapy

Level this behaviour currently demonstrated? Not yet consistent or competent

How important is this behaviour to my current practice? Significant

Do I need or want to do any more learning for this behaviour? Yes

- Conduct a review of individual patient’s medication therapy using evidence-based guidelines or protocols to facilitate the review (e.g. dispensary history, ward charts, LTC, MUR, MTA)
- Determine the intended therapeutic goals of treatment
- Determine the reason (e.g. clinical need, pharmacological purpose) a medicine or health care product has been prescribed or requested.
- Establish whether selected medicines or health care products are appropriate and suitable for their intended use
- Check that dosages and dose regimens are aligned to evidence-based guidelines or protocols and are suitable for the patient.
- Apply evidence-based research, best practice treatment guidelines or protocols for specific medical conditions (e.g. diabetes, arthritis or asthma) or areas of practice (e.g. cardiology, oncology, psychiatry, paediatrics etc).

O1.3.3
Uses professional judgement to determine whether changes to the medication treatment regimen are needed to improve safety, efficacy or adherence

Level this behaviour currently demonstrated? Not yet consistent or competent

How important is this behaviour to my current practice? Significant

Do I need or want to do any more learning for this behaviour? Yes

- Determine whether changes to the medication treatment regimen will improve patient safety, efficacy or adherence
- Identify situations where you consider a change in therapy in line with evidence-based best practice guidelines and protocols would benefit the patient. (e.g. improve safety, increase efficacy and increase adherence)
- Recognise when discontinuation or change of treatment is necessary (e.g. duplication of medicines, absence of indication for continuing use, ineffective for control of symptoms or meeting therapeutic goals, contraindications)
- Determine the potential safety risk to the patient from the medication treatment regimen e.g. overdose, contraindications, interactions, incompatibilities, possible adverse drug reactions and possible effects with complementary therapies
- Recognise factors which may mean a certain treatment option is contraindicated (e.g. treatment with warfarin, pregnancy or breastfeeding)
- Recognise circumstances where immediate intervention is required
- Identify appropriate alternative treatment options (including complementary medicines and non-medicinal interventions) to overcome medication related problems

O1.3.4
Liaises with and provides recommendations to the prescriber and/or other healthcare professionals to ensure optimal use of medicines by patients

Level this behaviour currently demonstrated? Not yet consistent or competent

How important is this behaviour to my current practice? Significant

Do I need or want to do any more learning for this behaviour? Yes
- Ensure continuity of care through communication and cooperation with other healthcare providers and make recommendations aimed at optimising medicine use
- Recommend changes in therapy, dosage form or dosing regimen to improve safety, efficacy and adherence of medicine use
- Communicate recommendations to prescribers and/or other health care professionals in an appropriate way
- Base recommendations for changes to medicine therapy on evidence and best practice and where appropriate, on laboratory tests or investigations
- When making recommendations on treatment options for patients consider the efficacy, safety and cost of treatment options and be able to justify your choice of option
- Calculate the optimal dose for a patient including times where dose adjustment is necessary (e.g. weight, renal function).
- Provide prescribers and/or other healthcare professionals with reports/written information clearly outlining your medication management recommendations and reference any evidence base from which you developed your recommendations
- Support continuity of care through documentation of clinical interventions and recommendations
- Consider the patient’s right to choose whether they participate in or receive any recommended health services

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<th>Educates patient and confirms understanding of the medical condition, required monitoring and/or medication treatment</th>
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- Review patient’s knowledge and understanding of their medical condition, medication treatment and any required monitoring
- Regularly Inquire about any concerns patients have about their medicines and how they view their need for medicine therapy
- Provide medicine and health information in such a way that it assists with patient’s/carer’s understanding of their medical condition and/or their medication treatment
- Provide patients with concise and accurate verbal and/or written information relevant to their condition and its treatment (e.g. the nature of the condition and/or treatment, precautions, and adverse effects).
- Establish patient understanding and modify language, mode or form of information to enhance their understanding
- Document medication management advice provided and recommendations as well as the outcomes of these if they are known

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<th>O1.3.6</th>
<th>Recognises and manages adverse drug reactions</th>
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- Recognise ADRs that are predictable and commonly encountered or know how to access that information promptly.
- Recognise signs of toxicity that may arise from overuse or overdose or know how to access that information promptly.
- Determine whether undesirable or unintended clinical effects could be related to the patient’s medication treatment
- Investigate patient’s medication history from medication records, the patient and/or carer and other health professionals as required. From this compare the relationship between the time of starting a new medication to the onset of any adverse clinical effects.
- Use research and analytical skills to establish a possible cause and effect relationship between the medications and the observed adverse clinical effects
- Liaise with prescribers and provide recommendations to ensure adverse drug reactions are managed appropriately and in a timely manner to ensure patient safety
- Record and/or report, as appropriate, suspected or confirmed ADRs, sensitivities or allergies and accurately complete ADRs reports when warranted e.g. Centre for Adverse Reactions Monitoring (CARM)
- Use a systematic process to document any suspected or actual ADRs, sensitivities and allergies in patient’s medication records, notes and/or medication management plans

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<th>O1.3.7</th>
<th>Identifies individuals in need of advanced pharmacy services and/or follow-up and refers to appropriate service providers</th>
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### O1.3.8
Encourages and supports individuals to enhance their health literacy and to self-manage their health and medicines, identifying and addressing factors likely to adversely affect adherence

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- Encourage and support patients to enhance their health literacy – provide information, refer them to other sources of information or other health providers as necessary
- Encourage patients to seek and use information that is relevant to their health needs
- Provide patients with advice on how to access reliable and appropriate sources of information for maintaining their health and wellness
- Identify patients who are likely to benefit from specific health and lifestyle advice
- Recognise patients who are ready and willing to respond to health advice
- Give relevant, consistent, evidence-based advice to patients about ways to self-manage their health and medicines
- Provide information and advice in a form, format and language that enables their understanding
- Reinforce preventive health messages from other members of the health care team
- Check patient’s understanding of applicable health conditions, risk factors associated with these conditions and ways they can reduce their risk
- Support and reinforce patients’ efforts to self-manage their health and medicines
- Follow-up patients who need extra support with their health literacy and/or to manage their health and medicines
- Encourage patients to continue with preventive health activities and lifestyle choices
- Regularly offer to provide information and review to patients, especially when treating long-term conditions with multiple medicines
- Identify any issues that could adversely affect adherence e.g. language, literacy and numeracy skills, manual dexterity, complexity of the dosing regimen, adverse drug reactions/side effects
- Ensure the patient/carer understands the reason or need for ongoing monitoring and care under a medication management plan

### O1.4 - Deliver quality and safe services

#### O1.4.1
Advocates for, and ensures patients access and receive quality services and care commensurate with their health needs

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- Provide quality services that are appropriate to patients individual healthcare needs
- Provide continuity of care for patients
- Advocate on behalf of patients to improve access to quality services that best meet their needs and supports continuity of care between healthcare providers
- Understand the patient’s right to receive safe and high quality pharmacy services
- Acknowledge your obligation to apply professional care and expertise and to deliver high quality pharmacy services
- Strive to continually maintain and improve the quality of the pharmacy services you provide
### O1.4.2
Actively seeks to involve others (patients, carers, colleagues, other healthcare professionals) in planning for service delivery and learns from their experiences

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- Carry out consultation with others (patients, carers, colleagues, other healthcare professionals) when planning the delivery of professional services
- Encourage patient’s involvement in the planning and delivery of health services
- Respond to feedback regarding the services and advice provided
- Learn from the experiences of others (patients, carers, colleagues, other healthcare professionals) and adapt service delivery accordingly
- Aim to provide and deliver services that optimise health outcomes for patients

### O1.4.3
Acts to optimise health outcomes by identifying and mitigating potential sources of error in service delivery

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- Identify factors which increase the risk of error in service delivery (e.g. interruptions, excessive workload, and inadequate supervision, working beyond limits of expertise, personal impairment, and transfer of care between providers).
- Recognise circumstances where service delivery may need to be adapted because of the health status or disability of a patient
- Learn about the values, beliefs and cultures of patients and how this may impact on the way professional services are provided to them
- Understand sources of error in service delivery and what the expected consequences of those errors are
- Develop ways to manage or reduce potential errors in service delivery

### O1.4.4
Collects and analyses safety and quality data and information that contributes to a risk management system reflecting continuous quality improvement principles

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- Ensure appropriate professional services documentation is completed for identifying and managing risks to patients e.g. Near misses or errors log
- Maintain relevant, accurate and up-to-date records
- Documents medication incidents including actions taken to minimise the impact on consumers and/or prevent recurrence
- Use an appropriate recording system
- Comply with workplace procedures or guidelines for documenting and responding to medication incidents
- Recognise that a ‘no blame’ culture in the workplace is important for increasing rates of reporting and for preventing recurrence of incidents

### O1.4.5
Participates in ongoing incident analysis (including ‘near misses’) and adopts recommendations for resolution or change that come from that analysis

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- Take responsibility for reporting and following up medication incidents
- Ensure that you follow the reporting and follow-up processes in use at your workplace
- Act promptly in the event of a medication incident to minimise harm and/or prevent recurrence
- Identify follow-up strategies likely to be effective in preventing recurrence (e.g. root cause analysis)
- Understand your responsibility to inform patients of medication incidents that could impact on their health or well being
- Take responsibility for managing incidents throughout the entire process including; recording, reporting, follow-up and discussing openly with affected clients

**O1.4.6**
Effectively uses systems to record accurate, complete and timely patient information, maintaining privacy and security of the information

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- Follow workplace procedures and use systems to record accurate, complete and timely patient information, maintaining privacy and security of the information
- Record and maintain accurate, complete and up to date patient medication records histories and/or medication management plans consistent with professional standards and conventions
- Complete prescription records for dispensed medicines, including controlled substances, consistent with legal requirements
- Accurately record details of medication incidents (including ‘near misses’) including the actions taken to minimise their effects and prevent recurrence
- Accurately document medication management activities, including the outcomes of any medication management recommendations
- Maintain medication management records in a manner that ensures confidentiality and continuity of care.
- Store medication histories/medication management plans so they can be readily retrieved by authorised personnel. Use a system of ‘flagging’ so records show where follow-up is needed or has occurred

**O1.4.7**
Supports and provides continuity of care with accurate and timely documentation of clinical and professional interventions and recommendations, using agreed handover protocols

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- Support continuity of care by documenting clinical interventions and recommendations
- Accurately document the nature of the intervention and/ or recommendation in the patient’s medication record and/or notes
- Accurately document details of any health care services provided, including advice, recommendations, actions and interventions and progress or health outcomes achieved
- Comply with legal and professional requirements for recording primary health care services
- Ensure recommendations are correctly incorporated into the medication management plan
- Explain to patients the need to seek advice/assistance from other health professionals where appropriate
- Clearly communicate recommendations to the patient/carer, prescribers, other health professionals or facility personnel as appropriate
- Provide onward referral in line with professional standards and conventions
- Use a written and/or oral referral process that informs another health professional of the basis for the onward referral, advice or treatment already provided and pharmacist contact details
- Liaise and collaborate with other health professionals to whom patients have been referred

**O1.4.8**
Contributes to a national reporting system of pharmacovigilance, identifying, recording and reporting suspected or confirmed adverse drug reactions, sensitivities or allergies

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- Record and report, as appropriate, suspected or confirmed adverse drug reactions (ADR’s), sensitivities or allergies
- Use a systematic process for documenting suspected or actual adverse drug reactions, sensitivities and allergies in the patient’s medication records, notes and/or medication management plan
- Identify which adverse drug reactions should be reported to the Centre for Adverse Reactions Monitoring (CARM) and facilitate the reporting of these
- Accurately complete a standardised adverse drug reactions report form (e.g. Reporting to CARM using either online forms or the hardcopy form in MIMs)

### O1.5 - Access, evaluate and provide medicines information

#### O1.5.1

**Understands basic concepts and terminologies required to critically analyse clinical information and employs these to investigate medicine or practice related issues**

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- Understand the meaning of statistical terms and/or methods commonly used in scientific/medical literature e.g. relative and absolute risk, statistical significance, confidence intervals (CI), number needed to treat (NNT), cost- effectiveness and cost- benefit analysis
- Understand the differences between various types of research e.g. well-designed randomised controlled trial, case series

#### O1.5.2

**Uses a systematic approach to clarify and evaluate requests for information to determine if able to provide information to the required level or need to refer and to whom**

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- Establish the nature and urgency of the information required
- Clarify the information required by asking questions, listening, repeating back and gathering background information
- Confirm the nature, level of complexity and form in which information is required
- Develop and apply a logical and appropriate search strategy for required information
- Consider if the information resources available to you are suitable for meeting the information requirements
- Assess the scope and usefulness (applications and limitations) of a range of information resources
- Access additional information sources where those in the workplace are found to be inadequate
- Recognise circumstances where available information resources are inadequate for responding to information needs
- Respond to enquiries, if within your own area of expertise. If necessary, refer enquiry to another appropriate health professional, e.g specialist medical practitioner, CARM, medicines information centre

#### O1.5.3

**Differentiates between information sources regarding reliability and ensures resources are sufficient and appropriate for the information requested/provided**

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- Select relevant information/literature from a variety of resources
- Understand and interpret the retrieved information
- Assess the quality, suitability and reliability of various types of information resources e.g. advertorial/promotional materials, objective/independent reference texts, peer-reviewed journal articles/research papers
- Identify the appropriate reference source to use e.g. Pharmaceutical Schedule for funding, MIMS New Ethicals for quick summary of dose and list of side effects, Martindale for peer reviewed information and references to original studies
- Understand the limitations of using manufacturer’s information only. For example using only MIMS New Ethicals or datasheets you may not gather all the necessary information. It may state that that a medicine has a certain side effect, but Martindale will provide more detail around the likely occurrence of that side effect therefore you can interpret the significance of the side effect for your patient.
- Select and be able to justify your selection of material based on how appropriate it is for the information requested/provided and the quality and reliability of the information
- Select and justify your choice of other information sources e.g. drug information centres, pharmaceutical manufacturers, specialist medical practitioners, schools of pharmacy or other pharmacists for meeting the information request
O1.5.4
Assesses and reconciles divergent or conflicting information to form a professional opinion, including where there is insufficient information

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- Assess the impact on medicine use or clinical significance of the information and identify situations where retrieved information is inconsistent or in conflict
- Based on your assessment of the information use your professional judgement to determine and justify a course of action/recommendation including when information resources show differing or conflicting information or even a lack of information
- It is important to understand why drug information from different sources may differ depending on the source and then determine what the advice should be e.g. MIMS New Ethicals monographs will usually give very little information about the use of drugs in pregnancy or breastfeeding - the monograph may say that there are "no well-controlled studies" so the drug should be avoided in breastfeeding, but a different reference e.g. Drugs in Pregnancy and Lactation(Briggs) or Pregnancy and Breastfeeding Medicines Guide (Royal Women's Hospital Melbourne) may provide more detailed information so that the risk versus benefit of using the drug can be assessed for the patient and baby

O1.5.5
Interprets and integrates information for provision to colleagues, other health professionals, patients and/or the public in a clear, cohesive and objective manner

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- Formulate your findings into a clear, cohesive, objective and succinct response
- Alter the complexity, format, style and/or delivery of your response to be appropriate for the intended audience
- Support professional advice, opinions and recommendations in your response by clearly relating the clinical information to the request/information need, presenting circumstances and/or patient or drug factors
- Outline the evidence base underpinning the response clearly and concisely
- Explain the evidence-based content of the response making reference, where appropriate, to the request/information need, presenting circumstances and consumer or drug factors
- Apply a standard referencing system to link information to the evidence base
- Differentiate professional opinion, advice or recommendations from literature findings
- Recognise and acknowledge issues (professional, ethical and legal) that may impact on the way findings, advice, opinions and recommendations can or should be presented