

ABC Health Care System
Department of Pharmacy
Master Facilities Plan

Executive Summary

ABC Health Care System Director of Pharmacy, James Doe, asked me to propose a plan to improve Pharmacy work areas in conformance with national standards and state regulations. As a former director of pharmacy at several large hospitals and recognized expert on sterile compounding facilities, I proposed to provide three deliverables: a sterile compounding gap analysis of current facilities, a pharmacy master facilities plan and a pharmacy functional program.

I interviewed more than 45 hospital and pharmacy leaders to identify facility-related issues in planning, budgeting, purchasing, personnel safety and comfort, drug security and aesthetic appeal of pharmacy work areas. I developed questionnaires for pharmacy leaders to complete relative to functions performed in their work areas, work flow and traffic problems, workload, existing fixtures, current equipment and its condition, types of storage space, security and alarms, emergency exits, utilities, services provided by other departments, rooms in the work area, the size of each room and the maximum number of people that would occupy each room. Dr. Doe provided me with current floor plans for each of the Pharmacy work areas.

My investigation reveals several areas in great need of improvement, such as sterile compounding facilities to meet state and national standards, reorganization of functions, fixtures and equipment for better efficiency, improved personnel safety, comfort, and morale, and improved patient privacy and comfort.

Summary Recommendations

1. Convene meetings of hospital executives, facility planning and pharmacy leadership to settle on a pharmacy master facilities plan. Coordinated planning is required to meet future pharmacy services needs and gain optimal return on investment.
2. Build new anteroom/buffer room complex in the Central Inpatient Pharmacy following plans in the Pharmacy Master Facilities Plan and Functional Program.
3. Convert satellite pharmacy sterile compounding from horizontal and vertical hoods to isolators via plans in the Pharmacy Master Facilities Plan and Functional Program.
4. Phase in a reorganization/refurbishing of Central Inpatient Pharmacy functions according to plans in the Pharmacy Master Facilities Plan and Functional Program.
5. Relocate and consolidate 2 outpatient pharmacies.
6. Relocate Pharmacy Administration to the office building or new surgery wing.
7. Relocate Investigational Drugs and pharmacy education to current Pharmacy Administration.
8. Consolidate inpatient pharmacy, pharmacy warehouse and pharmacy offices in the new surgery wing.