INVENTORY MANAGEMENT DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC: OUR CASE FOR THE THIRD WAVE

M. Ulgey, E. Guner, A. Yuksel
Konya Numune Hospital

Background and Importance

The challenge we face for the third wave of the pandemic:
- More challenging procurement processes for certain drugs due to the highest level of similarity among inpatient drug charts.

Aim and Objectives

- To ensure that our communication with all stakeholders is at the optimum level.
- To enhance our logistics planning and operation management.
- Identifying strategic items accurately which have the highest clinical impact and the highest supply risk.
- Executing featured contracts for these items with strategic suppliers.
- To sustain our inventory in a balance of efficiency and flexibility.

Materials and Methods

- Elaborating the communications with strategic suppliers and manufacturing companies.
- Reducing supply risk by finding alternative suppliers.

Results

- The determined strategic products are: Ascorbic acid, enoxaparin, methylprednisolone, piperacillin-tazobactam, meropenem and 3-chamber parenteral nutrition solution.
- Average number of stock days = 65 // Monthly warehouse output amount = 193,208 (unit basis)
- Monthly output surged 55%, raising to 298,967 unit.
- Increase rate was observed as 114% for our strategic products.
- Average number of stock days = 55 (only 15% decrease)
- No stock-out has been experienced for the determined strategic products

Conclusion and Relevance

- In times of crisis, it is essential to put forth a work which is more intense and involving different perspectives.
- Digital management systems should be used at the maximum possible level for the forecasting practice.
- The functions of the warehouse management programs should be modified and developed to provide the required level of service before going through demanding processes.

Contact Information: mustafa.ulgey@saglik.gov.tr // mustafaulgey@hotmail.com // 0090-505-639-8005