

COMPARING THE MEDICATION PROCESS ACROSS COUNTRIES USING THE FUNCTIONAL RESONANCE ANALYSIS METHOD

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Background

The medication process in hospitals that comprise prescribing, dispensing, administration and monitoring is an interprofessional collaboration. This includes hospital pharmacists in one or more stages, which improve patient safety and reduce costs.

The differences between the hospital pharmacist's role across countries has not yet been described on a tangible level.

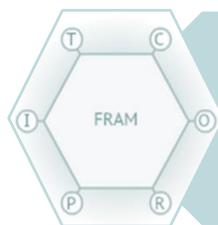
Aim

To use Functional Resonance Analysis Method (FRAM) to compare the hospital pharmacist's role in the medication process in three countries using the same electronic health record (EHR) software, EPIC.

Methods



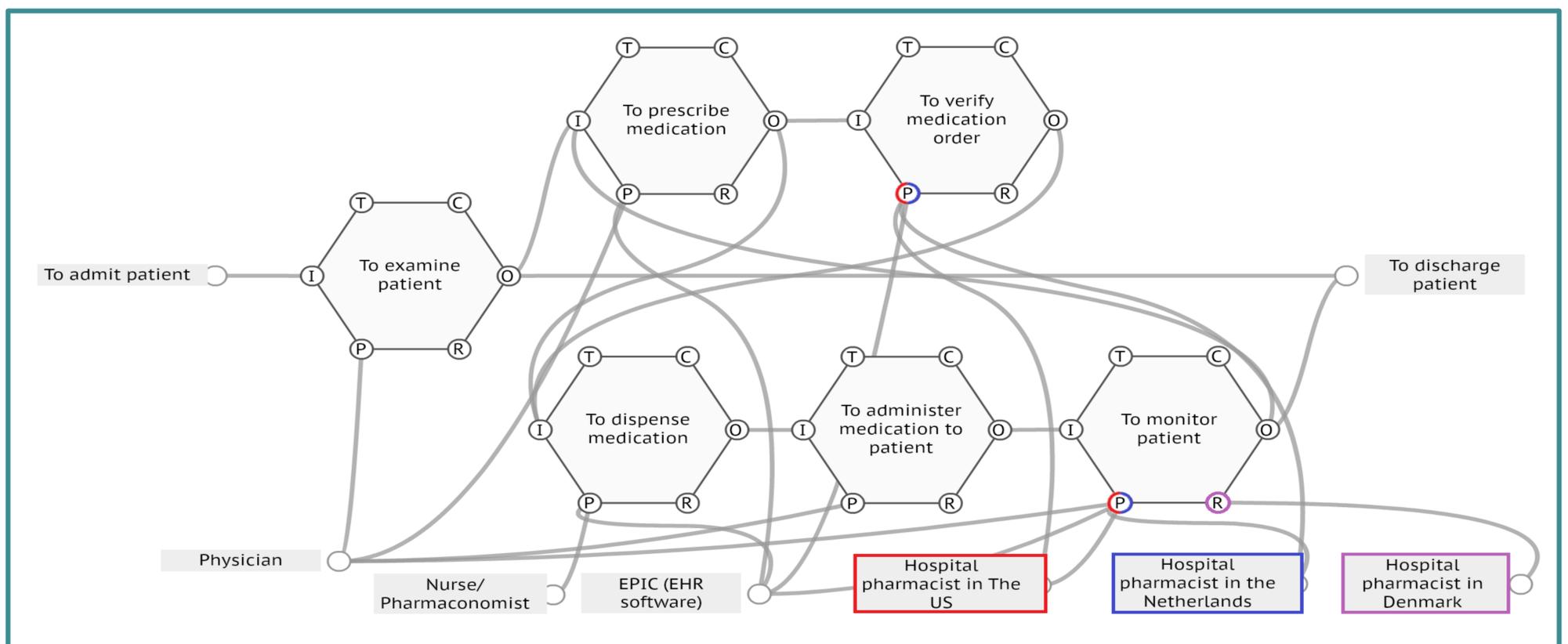
Field study observations to compare medication processes in hospitals in the Netherlands, the USA and Denmark.



Use of FRAM to illustrate and analyze the medication process across countries.

The FRAM analysis

FRAM is a systematic description of functions and their connection with and influence on each other. It is used to describe the complexity of work systems by mapping functions (hexagons) and the associated aspects of each function as well as interconnections between them. The aspects used for each function are Input (I), Output (O), Precondition (P), Resource (R), Control (C) and Time (T).



FRAM analysis of the medication process in the USA, the Netherlands and Denmark.

The different colors illustrate the role of the hospital pharmacist in the various countries and assist in underlining the differences.

Results



Medication reconciliation and medication review



Medication verification, medication reconciliation, medication review, antibiotic stewardship, therapeutic drug monitoring, pharmacogenomics

Conclusion

In Denmark, hospital pharmacists act as a resource for the physician in the monitoring process, whereas for both the USA and the Netherlands, the hospital pharmacist is in charge of both medication verification and monitoring.

By comparing the hospital pharmacists' role across countries, the potential for extended use of hospital pharmacists emerged.

