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SMARTPHONE APPLICATION FOR MANAGING EXPIRY DATES IN MEDICINE ROOMS AND REDUCTION OF MEDICINE WASTAGE

What was done?

- A smartphone application for managing expiry dates in medicine rooms and reduction of medicine wastage was applied
- With the application, you can
 - Scan the data-matrix of medicine packages
 - Get a sorted overview of medicine and its expiry dates
 - Register a medicine package as either used, discarded or released
 - By releasing medicine packages, the medicine is made available to colleagues in other medicine rooms at the hospital



Why was it done?

 The Hospital Pharmacy is responsible for checking expiry dates of medicines in medicine rooms at the hospital



- We had manual and time-consuming workflows, with the use of paper forms
- An easily accessible digital solution would make workflows more flexible, modern and sustainably

How was it done?

- A smartphone application was developed in close and synergistic collaboration between software engineers, pharmaconomists and pharmacists
- The smartphone application was initially tested in small scale, and then adjusted and implemented among pharmaconomists and pharmacists to be used in up to 129 medicine rooms at Aarhus University Hospital, Denmark

What has been achieved?

- The application creates value because:
 - o It takes less time (- 59%) to check and scan expiry dates
 - We avoid misinterpretation of expiry dates
 - By releasing medicines to be used in other medicine rooms, the application makes it easier for us to work sustainably



What next?

- Implementation of the smartphone application in other hospitals within the same region is underway
- Other Hospital Pharmacies in Denmark have shown their interest a national solution is considered
- A similar application for utensils is considered





