

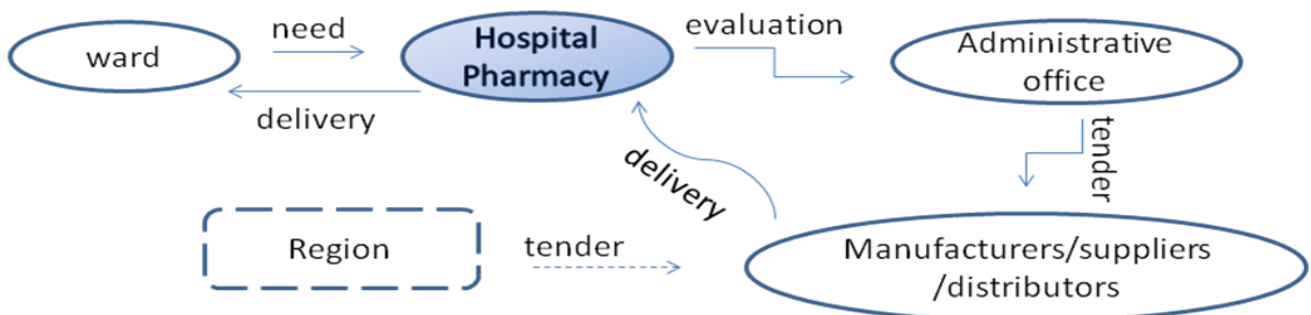


## ITALY

### Italian Medicines Agency (AIFA)

#### Pharmaceutical provision in hospitals

- Organised in a network of public and private hospitals. Public Hospitals are run by Local Health Units (ASL) or set up as Independent Hospitals (AO). Private hospitals may be profit making or no profit making.
- The Hospital Pharmacy evaluates and turns the request to the Central Administrative Office to settle a public tender. The Manufacturer with the lowest price wins and (through the distributor/supplier) delivers the medicines to the Hospital Pharmacy, which in turn delivers the medicines to the wards.
- All hospitals have a Hospital Pharmacy inside.



Purchasing of medicines in the hospital sector	Financing of medicines in the hospital sector
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Procurements at different levels: regional, according to Regional Pharmaceutical Formulary; local, according to Hospital Pharmaceutical Formulary.</li> <li>Ex-factory + VAT (10%)</li> <li>Prices are published on the Official Journal of The Italian Republic.</li> <li>The Hospital Pharmaceutical Formulary Committee (HPFC) decides for medicines to be purchased. The HPFC leads the development of the HPF, following a programme to make a rational use of medicines.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The National Health System pays for the in-patient treatment, through the Regions.</li> <li>No co-payments for the patients for medicines dispensed in hospitals.</li> <li>HPF contains a list of medicines that may be prescribed and applied in a Hospital. Most medicines, included into the HPF are part of the</li> <li>National reimbursement list (class A), but the HPF may also includes some not reimbursed medicines (class C), according to the Hospital specialisation.</li> </ul>

#### Evaluation and Interface management

- Following the Financial Law n. 448/1998, the Medicines Utilization Monitoring Centre (OsMed) was established. OsMed is a Technical Scientific Unit, whose aim is to monitor medicine expenditure and consumption in Italy. For this purpose, OsMed uses the main following data: dispensing data from Pharmacies at an aggregated level (including co-payment); dispensing data per pack and data provided by wholesalers to Pharmacies, all of these on a monthly basis. Moreover, a tracking system started ("Tracciabilità"), which tracks every pack purchased by a Hospital or an equivalent Facility on a daily basis by an individual code and the Direct distribution flow tracks all medicines purchased by a Hospital and dispensed to out-patients during Hospital discharge or during specialised visits.
- In-patient sector is devoted to acute and critical therapy, while out-patient sector is devoted to chronic therapy. On 29th October 2004, AIFA has established the Formulary of Healthcare Continuity (PHT), which is a list of medicines that can be supplied in direct distribution. The aim of the PHT is to guarantee healthcare continuity between in-patient sector and out-patient healthcare.