



■ *Department of Drug Management and Informatics*

■ Towards a Wiser Use
■ of Drugs



Stockholms läns landsting

Stockholm County Council

Department of Drug Management and Informatics

– Towards a Wiser Use of Drugs

Without a doubt, drug treatment is the most common method of treatment in the Swedish health care system. We live in a world characterized by constant, rapid changes in the drug field, posing medical, ethical and economic challenges.

At the Department of Drug Management and Informatics, DDMI (Läkemedelscentrum), our goal is to facilitate safe, effective and evidence-based drug use by producing knowledge for professionals, based on the needs of the health care system and of all citizens. The Department produces computerized support at the moment of prescribing, provides CME for health care personnel as well as issuing guidelines and supporting follow-up evaluation regarding the quality of drug utilization by the healthcare system itself. By performing our activities in accordance with the drug strategy formulated by the Stockholm County Council, we contribute to the fulfilment of the following common goals:

High-quality health care – accessible to all – 24/7

Our mission

The Department of Drug Management and Informatics is the organizational body of the Stockholm County Council which works towards developing and supporting the health care system and the patient by way of expertise and services promoting well-founded drug treatment for the benefit of patients.

Primarily, we collaborate with health care providers and also contribute by supporting and providing services to various bodies within the Stockholm County Council and other county councils.

What we do to promote safe drug treatment?

- *Produce recommendations and guidelines for evidence-based drug treatment.* The recommendations are published on the website www.janusinfo.se and in “The Wise List” among others
- *CME (Continuing Medical Education) of prescribers, health care staff and the population* improves competence and awareness around pharmaceutical drugs and facilitates change processes
- *Electronic prescription aids for prescribers* – e-prescription, www.janusinfo.se, the “Janus window”, decision-making aids for prescribing and dosage optimization
- *Specialist drugs* – evaluation, CME and follow-up in the therapeutic utilization of new, expensive drugs
- *Senior citizens and drugs* – quality assurance of drug therapy for the elderly

Our organization comprises:

- Läksak (Läkemedelssakkunniga, The Regional Drug & Thera-

peutics Committee in Stockholm County Council), including 23 drug expert panels

- The five local DTCs (Drug & Therapeutics Committees) in Stockholm County Council
- The Department of Drug Management and Informatics (Läkemedelscentrum) line organization

Läksak with its drug expert panels and the local DTCs are manned with experts from the producer-side of the health care system and Karolinska Institutet. Employees in the line organization of DDMI comprise physicians and pharmacists as well as medical system developers, project leaders, information officers, journalists and administrators.

Läksak and the drug expert panels

- Produce recommendations and guidelines for evidence-based drug treatment
- Design medical policies in relation to pharmaceutical drugs
- Develop strategies in terms of quality and CME for the DTCs
- Promote the Specialist drugs project so that new, expensive drugs are introduced, monitored and evaluated in a systematic manner

The local DTCs in Stockholm

- Gather support for the recommendations of Läksak (the regional DTC) by way of locally-designed information and CME, targeting both physicians, nurses and municipal staff
- Build networks and support quality-related efforts in terms of drug use at the local level

The line organization of the DDMI

- Supports Läksak and the local DTCs
- Publishes “The Wise List” (Kloka Listan) according to the recommendations of Läksak
- Develops and manages computer-based services round the clock for prescribing and follow-up of drug use, such as e-prescriptions and the website www.janusinfo.se
- Participates in national and international projects within research, training and developing IT support services

Our results

DDMI has contributed to cost savings of 750 MSEK via e.g:

- Drug purchases for hospital care: 165 MSEK
- “The Wise List” (Kloka Listan): 500 MSEK by way of improved compliance
- The e-prescription service: 85 MSEK annually by way of more efficient work processes and a common IT structure.

For more information please visit:

www.janusinfo.se, the Stockholm county council website for comprehensive and non-commercial drug information.

Stockholm County Council

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“Every patient must be offered sensible drug treatment based on current evidence”