Pharmaceuticals in the environment

Make ideas work!

Sustainable procurement for a sustainable development – the case of Sweden

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Swedish county councils and regions

- 21 County Councils and Regions
- Responsible for:
  - healthcare
  - dental care
  - public transportation
- 250,000 employees
- Procures goods and services to the amount of 13 billion euro
- Co-operation since 2010
- 8 risk areas (pharma)
What are the risks?

Bad Medicine

How the pharmaceutical industry is contributing to the global rise of antibiotic-resistant superbugs

Experts call for response to antibiotic resistance similar to UNAIDS


Experts are calling on the United Nations to implement a global plan for sustainable access to effective antibiotics that resembles the UN's response to the AIDS pandemic 20 years ago.

See Also

Expert calls for change in suicide assessment, formulation... Experts advocate increased preparation, funding to reform... Second-generation drugs called into fire line therapy for CMI...
Public procurement as a policy tool

• How should pharmaceutical suppliers work to achieve sustainable pharmaceuticals?
• What demands can be made on a systematic work and how can they be followed-up?
• What are the results from follow-ups?
Procurement of pharmaceuticals in Sweden - for hospitals and for pharmacies

County Councils (21%)
SEK 7,5 bn

Pharmacies (79%)
SEK 28,4 bn

Ref.: INSIKT, e-Hälsomyndigheten, December 2015
Five steps to sustainable procurement

1. Code of Conduct
2. Contract Clauses
3. Desktop Follow-up
4. Audit
5. Corrective Action Plan
Special contract terms

The supplier must have procedures in order to ensure that the production is in compliance with the CoC, at least:

- Policy commitment
- Division of responsibilities at the supplier regarding social responsibility in the supply chain
- Demands on subcontractors in terms of social responsibility
- Procedures for risk assessment in supply chain
- Procedures for monitoring and verification of compliance
- Procedure for handling non-compliance

The supplier is additionally obligated to make it possible for the purchaser, either in person or by a representative, to conduct inspections at the premises of the supplier and/or any of the supplier’s subcontractors in order to ensure that the requirements of § 1 are being fulfilled.
Findings: Complex supply chain and lack of transparency
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Examples of findings
Examples of findings

- No violations found in audits conducted in France and Ireland.
- Parallel-importers have no access to relevant information.
- Internal capacity building: Resources, competence, mandate.
- Lack of transparency.
- Not allowed to inspect the premises of the subcontractors.
How can we reduce pharmaceuticals in the environment?
Thank you!

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Health Care Without Harm

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