Pharmaceutical Product: The Supply Chain

1. PRODUCT NEED

2. PRODUCT DESIGN

3. PRODUCTION PROCESSES

Considerations for Sustainable and Responsible Business Practices

- Market demand for product – eg. patient group(s), prevalence of disease (current and future), comparison to currently available treatments/gold standard
- Respectful and professional consideration of the perspectives of other stakeholders eg. consumers, government authorities, public, suppliers, lobby groups

- Responsible R&D practices by the research team (ethical and legal behaviour)
- Clinical studies – eg. Ethical means of animal testing, patient safety
- Responsible lobbying to government, presenting truthful evidence and a balanced view on key issues to regulation authorities.
- Respectful and just treatment of researchers and assisting staff

- Choice of sustainable suppliers of raw materials eg. tabletting ingredients, packaging material, plant equipment
- Economies of scale – production efficiency to minimize energy and water consumption and pollution emission
- Responsible waste disposal – especially any toxic chemical wastes
- Respectful and just treatment of employees in selection and recruitment and retention.
- Appropriate risk management, transparency, trust. an effective code of conduct

4. DISTRIBUTION

5. SALES & CONSUMPTION

5. POST-CONSUMPTION

Considerations for Sustainable and Responsible Business Practices

- Efficient means of supplying medicines to local and global communities to minimize environmental impact medicine damage
- Advocate and support for the protection of human rights to equal access to quality medicines (local and global)
- Maintaining respectful and professional relationships to supplier companies – building trust, accountability and transparency

- Appropriate and responsible disposal of medicines separate to packaging to minimize environmental and social impacts
- Practising responsible and ethical marketing and selling strategies – eg. setting appropriate medicine value, pricing, non-misleading advertising
- Impacts of company funded projects/investments on local and global communities

- Post-surveillance marketing – accurate reporting of long-term adverse events
- Recycling of appropriate packaging material eg. cardboard boxes, aluminium foil in blister packs
- Adaptability in business strategies in order to increase operational efficiencies whilst maintaining financial viability
- Continual and regular assessment of company's internal and external processes and their impacts

This roadmap was created by Jane Jian Xie