



**ANALYSIS OF VIRTUAL VERSUS PHYSICAL INVENTORY OF THE PHARMACY WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON STOCK OUTS IN A TERTIARY CARE TEACHING HOSPITAL IN INDIA.**

**Hospital Administration**

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**ABSTRACT**

The drug store inside the tertiary care teaching hospital assumes a crucial part in understanding consideration by streamlining the administration of procuring, distribution, and processes of drug standardization and dispensing. Objectives of the study were to study the purchase order, calculate the lead time of procurement, analysing the physical stock against the virtual stock and find out the bottlenecks. It was an observational descriptive study conducted over 60 days in the main pharmacy of the hospital. As a result, it was observed that the internal lead time of the procurement process was unusually long resulting in frequent stock-outs of certain drugs. There was a delay in updating the stock in the system software resulting virtual stock-outs whereas the physical stock was more than what was required. Virtual inventory systems, when well-managed, can minimize stockouts through real-time tracking and automated reordering.

**KEYWORDS**

pharmacy, lead time, stock-outs, virtual inventory