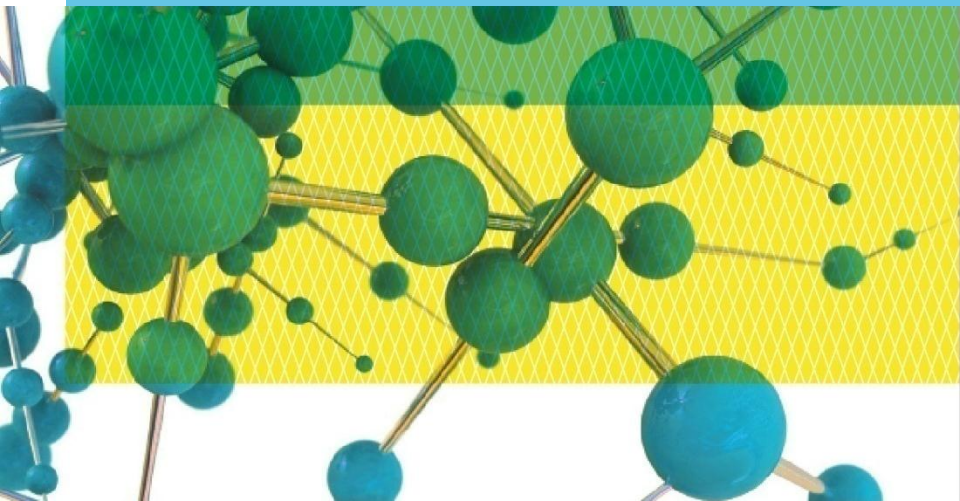


Definition of Responsible Use of Medicines

Prof. Phil Schneider
FIP Vice-President



Origin of the “Responsible Use of Medicines”

- Developed for the FIP Centennial
- The only element of definition available at the FIP Centennial was included in the two reports commissioned for the Ministers Summit:
 - The term ‘responsible use of medicines’ **implies** that the activities, capabilities, and existing resources of health system stakeholders are aligned to ensure patients receive the right medicines at the right time, use them appropriately, and benefit from them.

Working Group

- The FIP ExCo requested the Board of Pharmaceutical Practice to develop a working definition on Responsible Use of Medicines

- A Working Group was established consisting of:
 - Prof. Phil Schneider
 - Dr Parisa Aslani
 - Ms Jacqueline Surugue
 - Dr Jim Stevenson
 - Dr Wafa Dahdal
 - Mr Luc Besançon

Several definitions have been considered

–WHO definition of rational medicines use:

- Medicine use is rational (appropriate, proper, correct) when patients receive the appropriate medicines, in doses that meet their own individual requirements, for an adequate period of time, and at the lowest cost both to them and the community. Irrational (inappropriate, improper, incorrect) use of medicines is when one or more of these conditions are not met.

Several definitions have been considered

– **Australian definition of quality use of medicine:**

- Quality Use of Medicines (QUM) means:
 - Selecting management options wisely;
 - Choosing suitable medicines if a medicine is considered necessary; and
 - Using medicines safely and effectively.
- The definition of QUM applies equally to decisions about medicine use by individuals and decisions that affect the health of the population.
- The term ‘medicine’ includes prescription, non-prescription and complementary medicines.

Considerations when developing the definition

–It should include:

- Patients / consumers
- Carers
- Healthcare professionals
- Policy Makers / Health system
- Access / availability of medicines
- Cost
- Selection of appropriate medicine
- Correct use
- Monitoring of use

FIP Working Definition of Responsible use of medicines:

–Preamble

– The use of medicines is an essential component of the prevention, treatment, and cure of disease. While medicines can be effective, they can be hazardous and can be unnecessarily costly unless they are used responsibly. Responsible use of medicines reflects a continuum of access, appropriate selection and use of medicines, and involves all key stakeholders from the consumers of medicines, to health care professionals, to policy makers who are responsible for availability and access.

FIP Working Definition of Responsible use of medicines:

–Definition

–*The responsible use of medicines means:*

- That a medicine is only used when necessary and that the choice of medicine is appropriate based on what is proven by scientific and/or clinical evidence to be most effective and least likely to cause harm. This choice also considers patient preferences and makes the best use of limited healthcare resources.*
- There is timely access to and the availability of quality medicine that is properly administered and monitored for effectiveness and safety.*
- A multidisciplinary collaborative approach is used that includes patients and their families or caregivers.*