

369. ADDRESSING ACCESS BARRIERS TO MEDICINES IN THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

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Introduction. In middle-income and low-income countries, average availability of medicines is 35% in public facilities and 66% in the private sector. The prices are often unaffordable, for the majority of population. Up to 50% of medicines are inappropriately prescribed or dispensed, and up to 50% are used incorrectly by patients. This leads to significant wasted resources, the potential to drive the development of drug resistance and to poor health outcomes. Many patients, especially the poor, rely on the informal sector for their health care needs including medicines, while respective vendors have little or no pharmacy training.

Aim of the study. Evaluation and addressing barriers of population from Republic of Moldova to medicines through health system perspective.

Materials and methods. Has been conducted a descriptive cross-sectional study of international practice on strengthen policy framework on access to medicines; secondly has been initiated a quantitative study on the population of Republic of Moldova regarding the access to medicines.

Results. According to UNDP, global access to medicines is: having drugs continuously available and affordable at public and private health facilities or drug outlets that are within one hour's walk of the population. Addressing access barriers to medicine has four dimensions: availability, geographic accessibility, affordability and acceptability. Availability: medicines supply-type and quantity and medicines demand type and quantity; affordability: prices of drug products and services, user income and ability to pay; acceptability: characteristics of products and services, user attitudes, expectations of products and services; accessibility: medicines supply location and user location. Another concept assume that access is defined by rational use: rational therapeutic choices and improved medicines' use by consumers; affordable prices: medicines pricing policies; sustainable financing: resource mobilization, pooling, reduction of out-of-pocket expenditures; reliable health and supply systems: medicines procurement and supply, regulation, human resources.

Conclusions. According with latest studies, the main health expenditure of population from Republic of Moldova are medicines – 73,5%. In case of hospitalisation 44% of population had to by supplementary medicines. To address barriers health system should ensure health equity, funds, universal health coverage, health insurance, provision of essential health care services, pay for performance, regulatory approaches, needs-based financing, integrated outreach services, abolishment of user fees, staffed peripheral health facilities, sensitive health care delivery.

Key words: medicines, access barriers, health system

370. ELDERLY PEOPLE AND OTC MEDICINES: PERCEPTION AND DRUG CONSUMPTION PATTERN

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Introduction. Optimizing OTC medications are an important component of caring for an older person. However there is surprisingly little information about how elderly people choose and use nonprescription medications. Community pharmacists are an essential resource and clearly play

a key role in geriatric population' use of OTC medications. To ensure that elderly patients are able to manage their non-prescription medicines and do not suffer from adverse effects caused by excessive or inappropriate consumption of this medicines, it is necessarily to achieve greater partnership in medicine taking between elderly patients and pharmacists.

Aim of the study. to determine the over-the-counter drug consumption pattern of elderly people in pharmacist's point of view and to highlight a need for improved pharmacy education around OTC drugs use in the elderly.

Materials and methods. The study was a cross sectional study on pharmacists dispensing OTC medicines for elderly visitors in community pharmacy. The pharmacies were selected randomly and then pharmacists were interviewed by using standardized questionnaires that includes 10 questions, with 7 closed-ended and 3 open-ended questions. Descriptive statistics (frequencies and percentages) were used to summarize the data. All analyses were performed using SPSS for Windows version 22.0.

Results. Data on the use of OTC medications in the elderly were collected by questioning pharmacists. The majority of pharmacists responded that elderly people visit community pharmacy to medication supply; 91.8% of them got drugs from medical prescription and 76,4% practiced self-medication. 73% of the elderly practiced to ask question about their medication, 95,4% of them ask about the right way to administer and 80,7% about indications (uses for the drug). Older adults used OTC medications to treat pain (73%), colds (51%), headaches (49%), constipation (31%), diarrhea (25%), fever (25%), coughs (22%), insomnia (20%) and others. Concerning OTC drugs used by elderly, the most of them took citramon (60%), acetaminophen (53,6%), pancreatin (44,5%), ibuprofen (42,7%) and others. 65% of the respondents indicated that elderly patients frequently return to their pharmacy for asking further counseling and appreciated the compliance to the OTC therapy as satisfactory (55%).

Conclusions. The results of the study indicate that it's important to encourage elderly patients further to seek pharmacist's professional advice before purchasing OTC medicines, especially on supporting effective use of NSAID medicines and promoting patient education on pain. Pharmacists are in an excellent position to continue education in geriatric care, which would increase the demand for pharmacists with the skills, knowledge, and experience to care for elderly people.

Key words: elderly people, pharmacist, community pharmacy, OTC drug

371. PHARMACEUTICAL CARE OF CHILDREN WITH TYPE 1 DIABETES MELLITUS IN REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

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Introduction. Prevalence of type I diabetes mellitus (T1DM) among children and adolescents in Republic of Moldova presents 397 cases, signalling an annual increase of 5,8%. Poorly managed diabetes leads to serious complications and early death.

Aim of the study. Evaluation of pharmacists competencies in providing pharmaceutical care to children with type I diabetes and establishing the direction to improve level of competencies of them.

Materials and methods. As a method of study, has been used the quantitative analysis through the closed questionnaire, sample size: 100 pharmacists.

Results. As a result of the review of the literature has been identified the following competencies necessary for the pharmacists to provide pharmaceutical care to children with T1DM: general knowledge, blood glucose monitoring, drug administration, premedical and medical care, healthy