Usefulness of a ward-based clinical pharmacist in detecting and managing drug related problems: experience from a tertiary care hospital in Sri Lanka

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INTRODUCTION

Clinical pharmacist interventions may have an impact on preventing drug related problems (DRPs)1,2,3. This is the first evaluation of clinical pharmacy practice in Sri Lanka.

OBJECTIVES

➢ To evaluate the ability of a ward-based clinical pharmacist to detect DRPs
➢ To identify opportunities to resolve DRPs through interventions with healthcare professionals and patients.

METHODS

➢ Data for this study was gathered as a part of a controlled clinical trial conducted in a tertiary care hospital in Sri Lanka
➢ In the intervention arm a prospective review of medications and medical records was performed by a clinical pharmacist, in patients with non-communicable chronic diseases during their hospital stay
➢ DRPs were classified according to the Pharmaceutical care Network Europe Classification system-V44
➢ The pharmacist performed relevant interventions with healthcare professionals and patients when a DRP was identified

CONCLUSION

Addition of a clinical pharmacist to the ward resulted in identification of DRPs and in the majority potential solutions were accepted and implemented by healthcare professionals and patients

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Fund resource – South Asian Clinical Toxicology Research Collaboration
Staff of Professorial Medical Unit, CNTH
Patients who participated in the trial
Dr Buddika Wijayavickrama for helping with sample selection
Dr Lalith Senarathna for helping with statistics

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