

POOR UNDERSTANDING OF PRESCRIBED DRUGS LEADS TO MEDICATION ERROR AT BOTH PHARMACY AND PATIENT END: A SURVEY STUDY TO FIND OUT THE UNDERLYING FACTORS

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ABSTRACT

This survey studies are intended to estimate the types of medication errors, factors and cause of medication errors as well as prescription errors and prescription errors prevailed in hospitals. Illegible handwriting prescriptions issued by medical practitioners are an age-old, worldwide problem. Dispensing wrong medicine is a major public health problem in Bangladesh. The objective of the study is to get a picture of overall condition of medication error that caused by dispensing wrong medicine in Bangladesh and thereby set more accurate measures to minimize the occurrence as well as to find out the awareness about medication error among different classes people. A total of 100 patients were enrolled in this study. And a total of 100 medication dispensers were also included in this study. The study is performed in kurmitola General Hospital and some local pharmacy in Dhaka. Kurmitola General Hospital is situated at the Dhaka Cantonment area. The data were collected from the hospital and pharmacy record, and through short interviews of patients, patient relatives and shopkeeper of pharmacy. For this study, data collection forms were prepared based on information about patients living area, social class, educational level, monthly income and many other essential things that help to research. Founding information from the data collection forms was help to make the study result. From the study it is found that among 100 patients 29% were taking wrong medicines and rest of them were taking right medicines. Though the number of patients taking wrong medications is not huge but taking wrong medicines can come up with unrecoverable loss to the patients. In imitation of the study, we came up with an idea that around 18% of patients faced hazardous type of problems due to taking the wrong medicines and rest of the others were not experienced with such issues.