

NATIONAL SURVEY OF CLINICAL PHARMACY PRACTICE IN SAUDI ARABIA: ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT

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PNS108

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Objectives

To explore the National Survey of Clinical Pharmacy Practice in Saudi Arabia 2016-2017 with emphasis on the Administration and Management

Methods

It is a 4-months cross-sectional National Survey of Clinical Pharmacy Practice in Saudi Arabia. The survey consisted of two parts; the demographic information and the second part contained fifty-one questions divided into four domains derived from American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) and Saudi Pharmaceutical Society (SPS) survey, the international standard of Joint Commission of Hospital Accreditation in addition to the local standards of Saudi Center of healthcare accreditation. The four domains were clinical pharmacy administration, and management, performances and activities, education and training, and workload documentation. The 5-point Likert response scale system with closed and ended questions was used. An electronic questionnaire distributed to the thirty-one directors of pharmacies at MOH hospitals. The study discussed and analyzed National Survey of Clinical Pharmacy Practice at MOH hospitals in Saudi Arabia: Performances and activities. All analyses are done through survey monkey system.

Results

The survey questionnaire distributed to 31 hospitals. The average of Clinical pharmacy Administration elements was 3.32 (66.31%). The most administration elements of Clinical pharmacy Administration was Policy and Procedure of Pharmacist Privilege 4.00 (80.00%) followed by mission of Clinical Pharmacy 3.87 (77.40%) and vision of Clinical pharmacy Administration 3.71 (74.20%). The most clinical pharmacy services provided for adults, pediatrics, neonates, and geriatrics was critical care, medical services, and emergency. Most of the hospitals had not satellite services assistant the clinical pharmacy services 22 (70, 97%). The majority of responders agreed that clinical Pharmacy services improve the safety and effectiveness of patient care 27 (93.10%), with decrease morbidity and mortality related patients 23 (79.31%), and increase the pharmacist role to patient's care 20 (68.97%)

The number satellite pharmacy help in clinical pharmacy services

Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	9	29.03%
No	22	70.97%
Answered	31	
Skipped	0	

The working hours of Satellite Pharmacy

Answer Choices	Responses	
8 hours	15	48.39%
16 hours	0	0.00%
24 hours	3	9.68%
Not exist	13	41.94%
Answered	31	
Skipped	0	

Conclusion

The clinical pharmacy administration elements are not adequate in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Most of the hospital services received the clinical pharmacy services not exceed than fifty percent. Despite the pharmacy administration had a good impression of clinical pharmacy services there are not enough resources to provide over 24 hours services. Revision of clinical pharmacy services is very demandable in Saudi Arabia.

The No. Pharmacists at Satellite Pharmacy over 24 hrs.

Answer Choices	Responses	
1-3	14	45.16%
4-6	0	0.00%
7-9	1	3.23%
10-12	0	0.00%
= or > 12	1	3.23%
Not exist	15	48.39%
Answered	31	
Skipped	0	

The No Pharmacy Technicians at Satellite Pharmacy over 24 hrs.

Answer Choices	Responses	
1-3	9	30.00%
4-6	4	13.33%
7-9	1	3.33%
10-12	0	0.00%
= or > 12	1	3.33%
Not exist	15	50.00%
Answered	30	
Skipped	1	

Discussions

Clinical pharmacy administration considered as a new field, and consists of nine elements: Vision of pharmacy, the mission of pharmacy, strategic plan, annual plan, policy and procedure, clinical pharmacist job satisfaction, clinical pharmacist competency, pharmacy technician competency, and clinical pharmacy quality. The implementation of these elements not fully achieved in Saudi Arabia, but with the adaptation of the new pharmacy model for vision 2030 in Saudi Arabia, things will get to improve as the implementation of the administration elements needed to cope with the changes after privatization. The element of policy and procedure stand out, followed by the vision and mission of clinical pharmacy. This result not surprising as a clear vision and mission always required for strategic planning, which already implemented and required annual reviewing and forecasting every three to four years. Critical care considered the most clinical pharmacy service provided for all age groups. The positive impact of clinical pharmacists, specifically in critical care, has documented; their impact has reflected in reducing drug costs, help as vital educational function, and providing continuous and individualized pharmacotherapeutic care. The majority of the participants agreed that the services of clinical pharmacy influence the safety and effectiveness of patient care alongside decreasing morbidity and mortality, which also seen in previous studies. Unfortunately, most of the hospitals had no satellite services assistant in clinical pharmacy services, which need to focus on developing and improving in the coming years.

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