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Awareness of drug interactions among physicians at Governmental Health Centers in Bahrain

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Statement of the Problem: Drug-drug interactions (DDIs) represent a significant cause of patient's morbidity and mortality. The rate of DDIs is rapidly increasing worldwide with the increasing proportion of ageing population and frequent requirement of polypharmacy- prescription of multiple drugs to treat comorbidities. Prescribing physicians are responsible for checking their prescriptions for the presence and severity of DDIs. However, since a large number of new drugs are approved and marketed every year, new interactions between medications are increasingly reported. Consequently, it is no longer practical for physicians to rely only upon their previous knowledge of medicine to avoid potential DDIs. The aim of this study is to explore the perceptions of physicians working at primary healthcare centers in Bahrain towards DDIs and how they manage them during their practice. Methodology & Theoretical Orientationin this cross-sectional study, physicians working at all governmental primary healthcare centers in Bahrain will be invited to voluntarily, privately and anonymously respond to a self-administered questionnaire. The questionnaire aims to assess their self-reported knowledge of DDIs and how they check for them in their practice. The participants will be requested to provide socio demographic data and information related to their attitudes towards DDIs including strategies they employ for detecting and managing them, and their awareness of drugs which commonly cause DDIs. At the end of the questionnaire, an open-ended item will be added to allow participants to further add any comment. Findings: The study is going on currently and the results will be presented in the conference. Conclusion & Significance: The conclusions will be presented in the conference since the study is still going on.

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