

Conference Series LLC Joint International Event on

7th Pharmacovigilance & Pharmaceutical Industry

August 22-24, 2016 Vienna, Austria

Self-medication?

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Instead of visiting doctors and consulting with them, people would go to the pharmacists and ask for advice concerning medicines to take for different symptoms and illnesses. By avoiding sitting at the doctors, both patients and doctors can save time and energy as doctors would have more time on more serious cases and patients get medicine as soon as possible avoiding long waiting hours. Moreover, the expenditures of the state also decrease, as patients do not visit the doctor but buy non-prescription drugs, e.g. non-supported, medicines. My research data will be gathered in Hungarian pharmacies, by questionnaires and distributed via the social media and closed interest groups. The core of my research data was collected 2006 with the help of professional newspapers. I am planning to extend and update my research using social media, closed groups and professional networks. The questionnaires deal with five main areas: Advertisements for OTC medicines, questions related to self-medication, patient-pharmacist communication, questions related to the efficiency of patient information sheets and demographic data. The gathered data will be analysed by SPSS. The primary aim of this study is to evaluate the opinions of pharmacy employees regarding self-medication, and to examine and summarise their views and opinions on OTC medicine advertisements, people's awareness of medicines, and patients' self-medication habits. In my analysis, I am seeking the answer to the question of what progress needs to be done in order to provide more effective support customer for self-medication.

Biography

Csilla Major has completed her PhD at Semmelweis University. Her research title was, "Patient-pharmacists compliance among over-the-counter medicines". At present, she is working as Doctor's Director at Mohácsi Hospital, and is the Head of hospital's pharmacy. She has published more than 12 papers in reputed journals.

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