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Clinical application of a computerized system for physician order entry with clinical decision support to prevent adverse drug events in long-term care

Gayatri Devi C, Usharani P and Aruna D
Nizam's Institute of Medical Sciences, India

A simple prescribing decision can initiate unforeseen outcomes. A cascade of unintended events can end in the development of a serious adverse drug event and in the elimination from a patient's medication regimen of a therapy that could have been beneficial if used safely. Evidence obtained in the acute care hospital sector suggests that drug safety can be improved by means of computerized physician order entry (CPOE) with clinical decision support (CDS). Such improvements might be particularly important in long-term care. Computerized physician order entry (CPOE)-CDS is a process of electronic entry of medical practitioner's instructions for the treatment of patients under his or her care. These orders communicate over a computer network to the medical staff or to the departments (pharmacy, laboratory, or radiology) responsible for fulfilling the order. CPOE decreases delay in order completion, reduces errors related to handwriting or transcription, allows order entry at the point of care or off-site, provides error-checking for duplicate or incorrect doses or tests, and simplifies inventory and posting of charges. CPOE is a form of patient management care. CPOE-CDS are being used with success in acute care facilities. Use of CPOE was recommended in a 1999 Institute of Medicine report on reducing medical error, and one study found that CPOE reduced serious medication errors by 55%. Most prescribing errors are made in the ordering and monitoring phases of the process of pharmacotherapeutic care. CPOE-CDS is a promising new technology that may be very useful in the setting of long term care.

Biography

Gayatri Devi C is presently doing DM Clinical Pharmacology at NIMS, Hyderabad. She completed her MD Pharmacology from Rangaraya Medical College, Kakinada. She had given oral presentation in the South regional IPS conference in 2012. She had attended many workshops and conferences in various fields of Pharmacology.

gayatrichavala@gmail.com