



Assessment of Antibiotic Prescribing Patterns at Outpatient Pharmacy Using World Health Organization Prescribing Indicators

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Abstract:

Overuse of antibiotics is a common problem in health care, which leads to meaningless outflow on drugs, raised risk of adverse reactions, and the development of antimicrobial resistance. Inappropriate prescribing habits lead to ineffective and unsafe treatment, worsening of disease and increment of health care costs. This study assessed antibiotic recommending patterns using World Health Organization prescribing indicators at the outpatient pharmacy department of University of Gondar referral hospital, Gondar, Northwest Ethiopia. The study was conducted using a retrospective cross-sectional method. One-year prescription data was collected from prescription and prescription registration books retained at the pharmacy store. World Health Organization/International Network of Rational Use of Drugs prescribing indicators were utilized to measure rational use of drugs with due focus on antibiotics prescribing patterns. The collected data was analyzed using SPSS version 20. A total of 968 drugs were prescribed from 600 patient encounters. The average number of drugs per encounter was 1.6. The percentage of encounters in which an antibiotics and injections were prescribed was 69.7% and 6.3% respectively. Amoxicillin (28.5%) followed by ciprofloxacin (12%) and metronidazole(11.1%) were the most commonly prescribed antibiotics. The percentage of drugs prescribed from essential drugs list and by generic name was 95.3% and 96%, respectively. Rate of antibiotics prescribing showed deviation from the standard recommended by World Health Organization whereas polypharmacy, injectable prescribing pattern, uses of brand names, and prescription of drugs from the National Essential Drugs List were not found to be a significant problem though



there were slight deviations from the standard.

Biography:

Yimenu Dawit Kumilachew is A pharmacist by profession. He has a bachelor's degree in pharmacy and a master's degree in pharmaceutical supply chain management. He is currently working as a lecturer at department of pharmaceutics and social pharmacy, school of pharmacy, university of Gondar. Aside from his professional duty as a lecturer, Dawit is a devoted researcher currently having five researches published in international journals with other three to be soon published. Dawit has participated in many professional trainings and workshops.

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