



PHARMACEUTICAL CARE NETWORK EUROPE

Working Conference 2011 – Abstract

Does pharmaceutical care impact on the safety of individual patients?

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The above mentioned participant in the PCNE WC 2009 wishes to submit following abstract for a poster or short oral communication (please type & then fax the form to the secretariat). Max. 350 words.

Title Pharmacist-led medication review in elderly patients in Flanders: a pilot study
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Type of abstract <input type="checkbox"/> Research x Practice development <input type="checkbox"/> Practice implementation
Aim of project/study Medication review is one of the procedures that can be used to minimize the risk for drug related problems in the elderly. The aim of this study was to research the feasibility of pharmacist-led medication review in the Flanders and to check the usability of procedures and instruments developed for this purpose.
Method In a first step of the project, a procedure for a comprehensive medication review was developed, and instruments selected from the literature (Brief Medication Questionnaire, START and STOPP criteria) were translated and adapted for use in Belgium. Secondly, pharmacists from all over Flanders were asked to freely enrol for a pilot program, and to perform five medication reviews for patients aged > 65 and taking five or more drugs. The results of these medication reviews were analysed. Experiences of pharmacists, physicians and patients were questioned using written surveys.
Results 32 pharmacists enrolled for the pilot program. Following regional training sessions, 11 pharmacists performed one or more medication reviews; in total 30 reviews were performed. Using the START and STOPP criteria, problems were detected in 42% and 71% of cases respectively. These criteria were considered useful, but incomplete to cover all drug related problems. The adapted version of the BMQ was well accepted and quick in use. Information leaflets for physicians, pharmacists and patients were considered adequate. Physicians, pharmacists and patients evaluated the medication review as useful. The most important reasons for pharmacists not performing reviews were lack of time and difficult communication with the GP.
Conclusion Given the fact that many pharmacists dropped out after the training sessions, there is still a way to go for the implementation of medication review in daily practice in Flanders.

+++ NB: PhD students get 50 Pound reduction on the conference fee if their abstract is accepted ++++