

SUMMARY

WASTE PHARMACEUTICALS IN PHARMACIES OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC I.

Student: Jakubcová K.

Tutor: Kotlářová J.

Dept. of Social and Clinical Pharmacy, Faculty of Pharmacy in Hradec Kralove, Charles University in Prague, The Czech Republic

Background: Waste pharmaceuticals are pharmaceuticals of a substandard quality, those that are overdue, visibly damaged or unexpended and cannot be used for the medical treatment anymore. They are regarded as dangerous waste and have to be treated under respective legal regulations.

Aim: To survey the treatment of waste pharmaceuticals in 1999 and 2000 and to compare it with the situation in the Czech pharmacies in 2005.

Methods: The question-form's research in pharmacies of the Czech Republic. Generally it was compiled 176 question-forms, which were gained from 171 pharmacies

Results: Waste pharmaceuticals were collected in 170 of the respective pharmacies; only one of them did not fulfil this duty. The pharmacists participated in the collection of WPs in 74.9 % of the pharmacies. The collected WPs were left in their original packaging in 72.5 % of the pharmacies. The WPs were stocked in collecting containers; the most frequently used ones were made of plastic (63.2 %), were of blue colour (20.5 %), in a roller shape (21.6 %). In 62.6 % of the pharmacies, the WPs coming from the pharmacy were put in the same containers as those collected from the patients. The container was inaccessible to the patients in 61.4 % of the pharmacies; it was usually placed in the store (15.8 %) or in the dispensary (14.0 %). The WPs were mostly disposed of once in a month, in the amount up to 5 kg. The company providing the disposal and liquidation of the WPs most frequently was MVDr. Skula – Terpes (9.4 %). The record of the WPs as waste was conducted in 46.2% of the pharmacies, usually in a notebook. The district authority participated in payment of the costs of the waste disposal in 86.5 % of the pharmacies. The liquidation of the unexpended addictive drugs was carried out in accordance with the law on addictive drugs in 36.2 % of the pharmacies. Only 19.3 % of the pharmacies took advantage of the option to raise suggestions. Most of the suggestions concerned the lavishing on the pharmaceuticals.

Conclusions: From the research I gained insight into the state of waste pharmaceuticals in 1999 and 2000. The comparison of the results with those provided by the survey conducted in the summer of 2005 revealed that the situation in the pharmacies has not changed in any substantial way. The chemists should continue to inform the patients about the right treatment of the WPs and thus take care of people's health and contribute to the protection of the environment.