Abstract

Analysis of drug administration by nurses in health facility V

Author: Yuliia Parasotska

Tutor: PharmDr. Martin Doseděl, Ph.D.

Department of Social and Clinical Pharmacy, Faculty of Pharmacy in Hradec Králové, Charles University

Introduction: Medication errors in the healthcare setting affect patients in terms of morbidity, mortality, medication side-effects and longer hospital stays. For this reason, the analysis and detection of medication problems make a significant contribution to improving patient care and increasing patient safety.

Objective: To describe and analyse the most common medication problems encountered in a healthcare facility during administration of medication by a nurse.

Methodology: A prospective multicentre observational study was conducted in July 2021 in a hospital in the South Bohemian region. Using the direct observation method, medication errors occurring during medication dispensing by a nurse were monitored in three wards of the hospital. Over six days, the research team collected data from selected hospital wards and entered them into an online database to further assess the problems encountered and prevention measures were developed using descriptive statistics.

Results: During the study, 13 nurses administered a total of 1,544 medications to 82 patients in three hospital wards. The most common errors were failure to comply with safety measures (failure to identify the patient - 94% and failure to maintain hand hygiene – 69 %) and leaving the room before the patient took the medication (39.96 %). Other errors included not observing the interval between meals and medication (21 %) and giving medication in a different dosage than that prescribed by the ordination doctor (6 %) due to lack of medication in the mobile medicine cabinet.

Conclusion: Eliminating and reducing dispensing errors is one step towards improving the effectiveness of pharmacotherapy and improving patient health. Implementing appropriate measures is therefore necessary to ensure the safety of health care.

Keywords: drug administration, nurse, health care facility