

## **Abstract**

### **Generic drugs and generic substitution from the patient perspective III.**

**Author:** Terezie Papoušková

**Tutor:** PharmDr. Josef Malý, Ph.D.

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

**Introduction:** A generic substitution is one of the instruments of the drug policy in many countries. Its authorization is supposed to bring a considerable savings not only for healthcare systems but also for patients.

**Objective:** The aim of this thesis was to analyse patient's attitudes, opinions and experiences, which are related to the generic drugs and the generic substitution.

**Methodology:** A data collection was gathered in the general practitioner's office in Prague in the time span from 18th of November 2015 to 21st of November 2016. All respondents, who visited the general practitioner during this period, were asked to cooperate. Only those who meet the input criteria could participate in a questionnaire investigation. The questionnaire consists of 36 questions which can be divided into 5 thematic areas (an actual disease and its treatment, socio-demographics characteristics, common awareness about generic substitution and generic drugs, own experiences with this topic, attitudes of the respondents). The questionnaire was piloted. The acquired data has been rewritten into the electronic form and results were processed according to descriptive statistics. The only questionnaires which were answered more than 75 % of questions were evaluated.

**Results:** It was addressed 545 respondents in the general practitioner's office, 400 of which decided to cooperate. Input criteria fulfilled 222 respondents (100 %). On the questionnaire survey participated 149 women (67.1 %) and 73 men (32.9 %) with an average age 53.4 years. 31.1 % of respondents were able to choose the most appropriate definition of the generic substitution. The most frequent sources of the information about generic substitution were media (25.1 %) and a pharmacy (24 %). The respondents were not able to answer to most of the basic characteristics of the generic drugs and the generic substitution. As the main advantage of the generic substitution was perceived the price of alternative drug.

**Conclusion:** General awareness of the subject was more of respondents who had experience of switching drugs in the last year. The remaining respondents had lower knowledge about the basic characteristics of generic substitution and generic drugs. For the future it would be advisable to focus more on educating and strengthening the more active access of the respondents to the generic substitution.

**Keywords:** generic substitution, generic drug, patient