

Abstract

Drug Information Centre service analysis II.

Author: Natália Čikovská

Supervisor: PharmDr. Kateřina Malá, Ph.D.

Consultant: PharmDr. Petra Thomson

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

Introduction: Drug Information Centre (DIC) of the Faculty of Pharmacy in Hradec Kralové was established in 1994 and is the only university-based DIC in the Czech Republic. DIC is providing expert information about drugs, such as answering medicines-related enquiries received from healthcare professionals.

Objective: The objective of diploma thesis was to gather and analyze information about the informational service of LIC FAF UK a FN HK in 1994–2016 aimed for general characteristics of drug enquiries and professional drug information resources used for solving the enquiries.

Methods: Detailed analysis of DIC activities was performed to compile suitable data. All enquiries from years between 1994 and 2016 were summarized into a database using Microsoft Excel software. General characteristics of the enquiries were analyzed, such an average number of enquiries per year or time needed for resolving one enquiry. Information about enquirers was considered as well, e.g. their profession and region, from which the enquiries were sent. Furthermore, the analysis focused on professional drug information resources as well as their utilization for interaction-related enquiries and enquiries regarding specific patient population. Data was analyzed using descriptive statistics.

Results: Analysis of DIC activity included 2221 enquires within years 1994–2016. The average number was 97 enquiries per year. The most enquiries were received in 2003 (201; 9.0%) and the least in 2014 (22; 1.0%). The average time taken for processing one enquiry was 173 minutes. More than half of all enquiries (1205; 54.3%), were sent by pharmacists. Further, hospital physicians (364; 16.4%), scientists (182; 8.2%), outpatient physicians (99; 4.5%)

and general practitioners (62; 2.8%) sent their enquires to the DIC. Most frequently enquiries were received from Kralovehradecky region (904; 40.7%) and Prague (412; 18.5%). Enquiries concerning specific patient population were resolved in 1751 cases (78.8%). Enquiries focused on pregnancy and breastfeeding occurred in 196 cases (8.8%), geriatrics in 140 (6.3%) and pediatrics in 134 cases (6.0%). The most useful information resources were Micromedex, that was used 1257 times (56.6%), AISLP used 1240 times (55.8%), Medline used 954 times (43.0%) and Martindale (monography) used 652 times (29.4%). Information in the field of pregnancy and breastfeeding were searched mainly in Briggs et al: Drugs in Pregnancy and Lactation, Suchopár: Lieky v tehotenstve (40.8%) and Toxnet (16.8%). When resolving the interactions, the most used were resources aimed at interactions, Kompendium liekových interakcií Vademecum Infopharm which represented 21.5% and Stockley's Drug Interactions represented 9.3% of used resources.

Conclusion: Information service of the DIC was used mostly by pharmacists. In the analyzed period of time, wide range of discussed enquiries were resolved using multiple professional drug information resources, e.g. factographic databases about medicines. Usage of professional drug information resources in printed form has declined, because there are available electronic resources with wider range of information.