

OP 11

Doctors' and nurses' perceptions towards the introduction of clinical pharmacy service to the Sri Lankan healthcare system: Experience from a tertiary care hospital

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Objectives: To evaluate the rate of acceptance of the clinical pharmacist's (CP's) recommendations regarding Drug Related Problems (DRPs) by healthcare team, to determine the quality and quantity of drug information queries directed to the CP and to assess the level of acceptance of clinical pharmacy service (CPS) by other members of the ward staff.

Methods: This was a controlled trial conducted in a tertiary care hospital. The control group received standard care. The intervention group received a CPS in addition to the standard care. DRPs were classified according to the adapted PCNE classification system V5.01. The CP discussed the identified potential DRPs with healthcare team. All the drug related questions directed to the CP by healthcare staff were recorded. A staff survey was carried out before and after the study.

Results: A total of 270 drug related recommendations were directed to the healthcare team. 83% ($P < 0.001$) of the recommendations were accepted by doctors and 74% ($P < 0.001$) were acted upon. 17 medication-related questions were directed to the CP from the team. The perceptions of doctors regarding ward-based CPS were satisfactory at baseline period. At end of study, the majority of doctors were happy to welcome a service from a competent CP. Nurses were resistant to this collaboration.

Conclusions: There was high acceptance of CP's recommendations regarding DRPs by the medical team. Doctors were satisfied with the inclusion of a ward-based pharmacist to the healthcare team. However there is a need to improve liaisons between CP and nursing staff.