Pharmaceutical care as a tool to prevent, identify and resolve drug related problems (DRPs) at a tertiary care hospital.

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Background: Concept of Pharmaceutical Care is completely new to most of the physicians, nurses and even pharmacists presently working in our government health facilities. Present study being the first of its kind in the state will pave way for more advanced, systematic and coordinated pharmaceutical care services in future.

Objective: Identification, resolution and prevention of drug related problems and optimization of therapy outcomes through pharmaceutical care.

Methods: Medication use data was collected and reviewed by the pharmacy practitioner. Drug-related needs and problems of patients were assessed. Pharmaceutical care plans were formulated and medication interventions proposed.

Results: A total of 388 Drug Therapy Related Problems/ Pharmaceutical Care issues with an average of 2.29 DRPs per patient were identified and a total of 258 interventions were made, besides imparting patient education and counselling to 177 patients. Pharmaceutical Care Services offered to the study patients proved beneficial in terms of better patient compliance, their improved health-related quality of life, optimized therapeutic outcomes.

Conclusion: Design, implementation and evaluation of pharmaceutical services has proved to be fruitful in all respects among the study patients. There is need to replicate this model to all other wards of the tertiary care hospital for the benefit of patients.

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