

STUDY OF THE CONDITIONS FOR PHARMACEUTICAL CARE OF HYPERTENSIVE PATIENTS IN IRAQ

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Hypertension is one of the most spread chronic diseases that can lead to dangerous complication like heart and kidney diseases, and hypertension considered essential factor in occurrence strokes and heart failure. There are a lot of hypertensive patients in Iraq but nowadays a lack of qualified medical care to such patients. So, the role of a pharmacist may be decisive in the treatment of chronic diseases such as hypertension.

The aim of our research was to investigate pharmaceutical care condition for hypertensive persons in Iraq.

Material and methods. We conducted 50 special questionnaire for pharmacists in 50 pharmacy and 50 for hypertensive patients in Iraq. There are necessary question and all information about pharmacies available and the most antihypertensive drugs commonly in Iraq.

Results. There are 15 (30%) hospital pharmacy, 23 (46%) branch regional city pharmacy and 12 (24%) village pharmacy in Iraq; and big sizes are 18 (36%), middle sizes are 20 (40%) and small sizes are 12 (24%) pharmacies. The 62 % of pharmacies has a device for measuring blood pressure. From 50 pharmacies 32 (64 %) have more than 30 different antihypertensive drugs: ace inhibitors were in 48 (96 %) of pharmacies, beta-blockers were in 39 (78%), calcium channel blockers were in 42 (84 %), diuretics were in 29 (58 %), and angiotensin II receptors blockers were in 32 (64 %) pharmacies retrospectively. Diuretics and angiotensin II receptors blockers were found mostly in hospital pharmacies. Pharmacists in Iraq mostly know about indication, contraindication and side effects of antihypertensive drugs. However, 24 % of pharmacists do not tell the patients how to use the drugs, 84 % of pharmacists do not consult about side effects of the drugs, 52 % of pharmacists give the antihypertensive drugs without prescriptions.

From questionnaire for patient, we discovered that 34 % of hypertensive persons in Iraq do not check their blood pressure, in spite of 60 % of the patients has severe course of hypertension and usually use combined antihypertensive treatment.

Conclusion. Condition for qualified pharmaceutical care in Iraq needs to future development due to increasing of educational level of pharmacists in area of chronic illness such as hypertension.