

薬局における有用な医薬品情報源とその問題点

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Sources of Useful Drug Information at Pharmacies and Their Problems

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Abstract

Objectives: To investigate regular sources of information at pharmacies by survey. To further use the survey to examine the problems with current package inserts.

Methods: We surveyed six medical insurance pharmacies belonging to the Chiba Pharmaceutical Association on sources and content of information furnished doctor or patient in each one day at term of investigation for prescriptions for chronic and acute patients. The survey addressed package inserts, interview forms, books and reference literature, in descending order from most basic source of information.

Results: Package inserts were the most prevalent source of essential information at 87.4%, followed by books at 7.2%, interview forms at 4.9% and reference literature at 0.4%. Comparison by topic found that package inserts contained the largest quantity of essential information on all topics but drug interactions and formulations. Books and interview forms were the most prevalent source for information on drug interactions and formulations at 50.0% and 100.0% respectively.

Conclusions: Most information used in pharmacies comes from package inserts. However, other sources of information were used more prevalently for drug interactions and formulations. Contrary to expectation, package inserts were consulted instead of interview forms for information on pharmacokinetics (100% of the time). This is presumably because the needed information, distribution or metabolism and so on, was not included in the interview form, giving no recourse but to turn to the package insert. Further investigation into the information provided by the manufacturer is necessary. It is also essential that pharmacies keep on hand books that can be consulted when the information in the package insert is insufficient at off label use and so on.

Key words: drug information source, package inserts, interview forms, books, reference literature