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Editorial

Antibiotic Stewardship Program in Ambulatory Care Setting

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EDITORAL

At least 30% of antibiotics prescribed in the outpatient setting are unnecessary, meaning that no antibiotic was needed at all. CDC Data 2014. So implementing ASP in ambulatory care is a very challenging mission, which need proper monitoring of antibiotic consumptions, patients visits, DDD (Defined Daily Dose) and cost. The implementation of ASP in ambulatory care is Antibiotic stewardship is the effort to Promote the optimal use of antimicrobial agents and decrease antibiotic consumption based on DDD data. Educate health professionals, patients and the public.Reduce cost. ASP in ambulatory care in Zafranah Clinic AHS SEHA Abu Dhabi was performed through Pharmacist intervention during dispensing prescriptions to check necessity and dose of antibiotics prescribed CDC recommendations for Antibiotic Prescribing in adults and children are sent by email to all physicians frequently to confirm their adherence to the treatment guidelines Patients were targeted through Antibiotic Awareness Week Campaign to improve their education and awareness. Asp Project Progress Report was sent Quarterly to motivate physicians adherence Antibiotics were classified into five classes according to their chemical structure(Amoxicillin-Amoxicillin/Clavualante-Macrolide-Cefalospoins-Quinolones-Others) Antibiotic prescribing and consumption was measured on monthly basis through Antibiotic prescription rate=Total number of antibiotic prescriptions/Total number of Prescriptions dispensed DDD/100 patients visits (DDD=Defined Daily Dose) Using WHO DDD of antibiotics Cost of dispensed antibiotic monthly (using price data) also Price spent on antibiotics/100 patients 157988 prescriptions or pharmacy visits from CERNER (HIS system in SEHA). (51134-2017, 50955-2018, 55899-2019) were analysed to evaluate the ASP Project progress ASP was implemented form April 2018 onwardsAntibiotic prescription rate Dropped to 15%(2019) and 17%(2018) compared to 19%(2017-no ASP) DDD/100 patients visits Dropped in 2019 and 2018 (ASP Implemented) compared to 2017(no ASP) Antibiotic Cost Cost of dispensed antibiotics decreased in 2019 and 2018 compared to 2017(no ASP) In addition, Price of antibiotic per 100 patients dropped in 2019 and 2018 compared to 2017. Implementation of ASP Project in ambulatory care clinics through pharmacy intervention along with physicians and patients' education had proved to improve antibiotic prescribing; Antibiotic consumption (DDD/100 patients' visits) ad also decreased healthcare costs.