



# HOW WELL ARE WE DOING?

## A CHECK-UP OF PHYSICIAN-PHARMACIST COLLABORATION IN HOSPITAL SETTINGS

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### OBJECTIVE

To identify and compare physician and pharmacist perceptions concerning mutual collaboration in hospital settings

### METHOD

2 similar questionnaires (length = 1 month; with 1 reminder) were emailed to all participants working in Swiss hospitals where the Medical Director & Chief-Pharmacist had allowed the study.

**Survey 1** : Physicians working in French-speaking hospitals

**Survey 2** : French-speaking hospital pharmacists

Questions were developed based on previous interviews of hospital physicians.<sup>1</sup> Most questions use Likert-type response alternatives (4 options, answer required for most questions).

1. C. Béchet et al. *IJCP* 2016;38(6):1483-1496

### COLLABORATION QUALITY & INTEREST

**79%**

physicians agreed current human relations with pharmacists are good

**14/18** Medical Directors (78%)  
**16/16** Chief-Pharmacists (100%)

gave permission for the study

**THANK YOU!**

**244** Physicians (11%)  
**115** Pharmacists (74%)

answered survey 1 or 2

**91%**

physicians agreed with wanting to collaborate with pharmacists

### DO PHYSICIANS CONTACT THE PHARMACY WHEN THEY HAVE A QUESTION ABOUT A DRUG ?

Yes 52%

**No 48%**

Pharmacists overestimate this proportion (74%)



### DISCUSSION & CONCLUSION

This study highlights the need to improve physician-pharmacist collaboration in Swiss hospital setting.

Participation rates illustrate current collaboration; pharmacists being more concerned and implicated than physicians.

Physicians highly value knowing and seeing regularly their colleagues, but about half physicians reported rarely seeing hospital pharmacists.

Participants' perception of pharmacist presence during ward rounds are positive and very closely matched.

Poor communication and failure to seek information may have negative consequences for patients; reasons why pharma. assistance is underused should be sought, and improvements made.

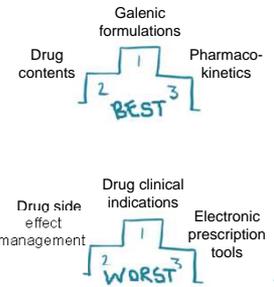
Pharmacists should seek to improve their **clinical competence** both to feel confident and to meet physicians' expectations.

Special attention should be paid to improving physicians knowledge about pharmacists, as understanding and knowing one another's professional roles leads to better collaborative relationships.

### ARE PHARMACISTS' COMPETENCES GOOD ?

**Global: 96%**  
**Clinical: 70%**

#### According to physicians:



### PHYSICIANS' FREQUENCY OF INTERACTION WITH A PHARMACIST

#### Perceived by physicians:



49% physicians see a pharmacist rarely (<5x/year)  
 7% physicians see a pharmacist often (about 1x/week)

**90%**

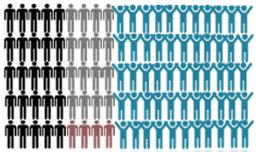
Physicians consider occasional meetings with pharmacists to be important

**BUT**

**85%**

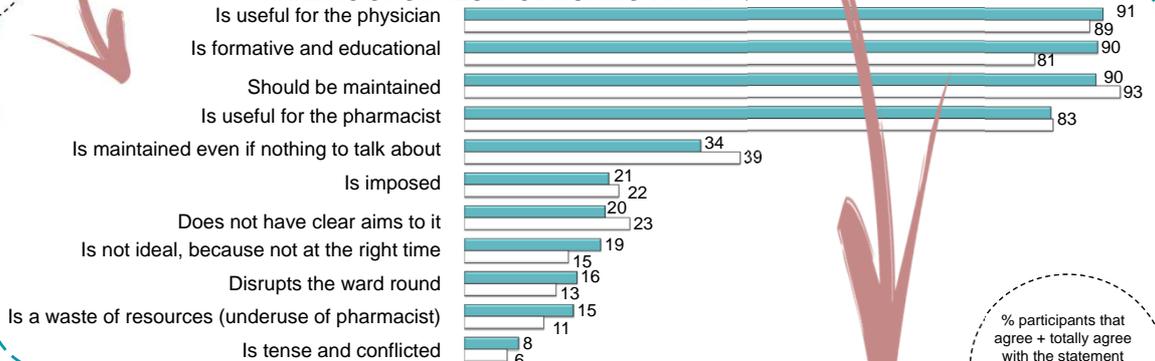
physicians find increased pharmacist presence on wards to be important

#### Perceived by pharmacists:



often (about 1x/week),  
 regularly (2-4x/month),  
 occasionally (1x/1-2 month),  
 rarely (<5x/year)

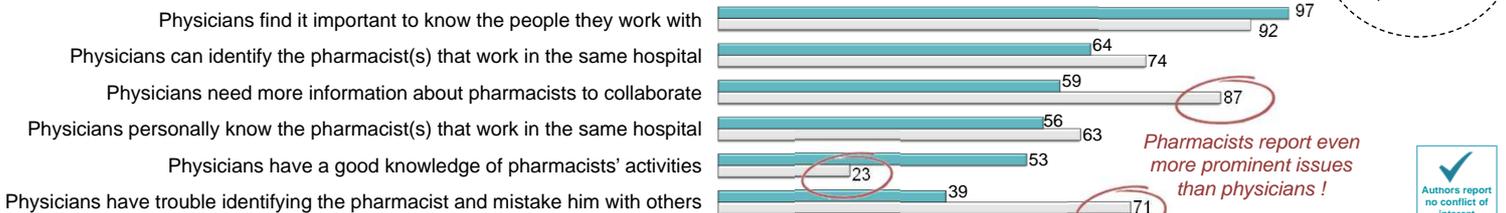
### PHARMACIST'S PRESENCE DURING WARD ROUNDS



% participants that agree + totally agree with the statement

■ Physicians  
 ■ Pharmacists according to pharmacists

### KNOWLEDGE OF PHARMACISTS & THEIR ACTIVITIES



Pharmacists report even more prominent issues than physicians!

