A web page for community pharmacists to improve continuity of care between hospital and ambulatory care

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Background

In Switzerland, in the absence of a pharmaceutical service ensuring seamless care, treatment plans prescribed at hospital discharge may be difficult to understand and to validate for community pharmacists. Information sources on products and drug doses used in the hospital are often lacking. Continuity of care may be therefore disrupted.

Purpose

To determine which information could be useful for community pharmacists to improve continuity of care between hospital and ambulatory care and to create a dedicated web page.

Material and Method

1. Internet search (July 2009) of web sites of 43 hospitals (28 in Switzerland (CH), 5 in France (F) 10 in Canada (CDN))
2. Evaluation of the available pharmaceutical information.
3. Survey of problems at hospital discharge observed by 9 students during their assistantship in community pharmacies in Geneva (May 2009).
4. Summary of informations and creation of a web page on the internet site of the hospital pharmacy.

Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Main problems</th>
<th>Useful document(s) to solve the problem?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>Compounding protocols used in HUG, supplying of drugs and excipients</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Therapeutic scheme incomplete</td>
<td>Guideline (to detect and solve the problem), but contact with the prescriber is a legal obligation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dose unknown or off-label</td>
<td>Usual doses prescribed in HUG, or contact with the prescriber</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inappropriate prescription form (narcotics)</td>
<td>Contact with the prescriber necessary</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Results of the survey

Helpful links

1. Informations about manufactured or imported products including galenic and stability data
2. Pharmacological informations (ex. usual pediatric doses and therapeutic scheme in HUG)
3. Medical informations and useful links

Conclusion

No web page specifically intended for community pharmacists has been found on the internet. A model has been created and published on the web site of the HUG pharmacy.

Perspectives: evaluation of
- Satisfaction of community pharmacists
- Impact on seamless care

Hide options

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