

International Conference & B2B on

Pharma Research and Development

June 06-07, 2018 | Philadelphia, USA

Clinics prescription errors in private sector in Duhok city, Iraq

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Background & Aim: Prescriptions errors are currently a worldwide public health issue and it is one of the most serious errors. The aim of this study was to screen drug prescriptions written by physicians in outpatient private clinics in Duhok city for the essential elements of prescriptions.

Method: Cross-sectional study was carried out in private five outpatient clinics. Convenient samples of 516 prescriptions were collected from the selected private clinics and reviewed for the presence and accuracy of information contained.

Results: Only 18.25% of the drug written in generic name and 40.74 % as trade name. 87.46% of the prescribed drugs have the drug frequency on and 12.54% do not have the frequency on. The majority (64.10%) of the drugs prescribed in Duhok city are found without any consideration to food intake 61.63% of the prescriptions have it is the physician registration number. 96.32% of the prescriptions collected include the name of the patient, 46.90% includes the age, and only 5.43% includes the sex.

Conclusion: Many errors found in prescriptions reviewed and most of the physicians don't follow the rules for standard prescribing pattern. Moreover, patients might be at risk of therapeutic failure due to errors happen during the prescription writing, dispensing and administration.

Biography

Reveng A Abdulkareem has completed his Master's degree from Hawler Medical University, Iraq. He is an Assistant Dean of College of Pharmacy, University of Duhok, Iraq. His research interest is on field of Pharmacovigilance and Quality Control. He is a Member in Drug Authorization Committee in Ministry of Health, Kurdistan region governorate, Iraq.

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