

Evaluation of Completeness of Information in Patient Information Leaflets of Registered Medications: A Comprehensive Review

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SUMMARY. Patient information leaflets includes information about the appropriate usage of medication. The information provided in the leaflet should be easy to understand. Moreover, the information needs to be comprehensive to guide the healthcare professionals to ensure the optimal use of medication. The current study aimed to assess the completeness of information mentioned in the medication leaflets. The medication leaflets of tablet dosage forms of local pharmaceutical companies were collected and assessed for various parameters such dosing of medication, drug interaction, medication safety, storage instructions, adverse effects etc. a total of 187 leaflets were assessed for completeness of information. Information about renal and hepatic dose adjustment was present in only 32% leaflets. The maximum dose per day was missing in about half of the studied leaflets. The instructions about use in lactation period was mentioned in around 71% leaflets. Drug food interactions were mentioned in only 3.2% leaflets. Drug-drug interactions were missing in around one-third leaflets. The instructions about food needs to be avoided with medication administration was stated in only 6.5% leaflets. Pharmacokinetics parameter was observed in around 56.6% leaflets. The study concludes that most of the leaflets lack some of the important medication information.

RESUMEN. Los folletos de información para el paciente incluyen información sobre el uso adecuado de la medicación. La información proporcionada en el prospecto debe ser fácil de entender. Además, la información debe ser integral para guiar a los profesionales de la salud para garantizar el uso óptimo de la medicación. El estudio actual tuvo como objetivo evaluar la integridad de la información mencionada en los prospectos de medicamentos. Se recolectaron y evaluaron los prospectos de medicamentos de las formas de dosificación de las tabletas de las compañías farmacéuticas locales para varios parámetros, como la dosificación del medicamento, la interacción farmacológica, la seguridad del medicamento, las instrucciones de almacenamiento, los efectos adversos, etc. Se evaluó la integridad de la información en un total de 187 prospectos. La información sobre el ajuste de la dosis renal y hepática estaba presente en solo el 32% de los prospectos. La dosis máxima diaria faltaba en aproximadamente la mitad de los folletos estudiados. Las instrucciones de uso en periodo de lactancia se mencionaron en alrededor del 71% de los prospectos. Las interacciones entre medicamentos y alimentos se mencionaron en solo el 3,2% de los prospectos. Faltaban interacciones farmacológicas en alrededor de un tercio de los folletos. Las instrucciones sobre las necesidades alimentarias que deben evitarse con la administración de medicamentos se indicaron en solo el 6,5% de los prospectos. El parámetro farmacocinético se observó en alrededor del 56,6 % de los folletos. El estudio concluye que la mayoría de los folletos carecen de información importante sobre los medicamentos.

KEY WORDS: drug, drug information, lactation, leaflets, pregnancy, tablets.

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