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CHRONIC DISEASE / DIABETES MELLITUS /
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TAWATCHAI LAUNGSOPAPARN : PHARMACEUTICAL CARE FOR
CHRONIC DISEASE AT A DRUGSTORE IN BANGKOK. THESIS ADVISORS :
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The study of pharmaceutical care was performed at Roenya drugstore, the community pharmacy in Bannkhag area, during June 1998 - February 1999 (a 9 month period). The purposes of this study were 1) to find drug-related problems in patients with four chronic diseases (hypertension, diabetes mellitus, asthma, and hyperlipidemia), and 2) to provide the appropriate intervention at the drugstore. The results revealed that DRPs were identified in 55 out of 102 patients (53.9%). Eight categories of DRPs based on Strand's criteria were used. DRPs identified in all patients' groups were 107 problems. The incidences of each category were "indication without a drug" 18/107 (16.8%), "indication with wrong drug" 12/107 (11.2%), "underdose" 18/107 (16.8%), "overdose" 0/107 (0%), "adverse drug reaction" 18/107 (16.8%), "drug interaction" 3/107 (2.8%), "failure to receive drugs" 32/107 (29.9%), and "drug use without indication" 6/107 (5.6%). Pharmaceutical care provided to all patient groups were 144 interventions which were "referring patients to the doctor" 33/144 (22.9%), "adjusting medication dose" 20/144 (13.9%), "added medication" 10/144 (6.9%), and "counseling" 81/144 (56.2%). Approximately 40% of patients were overweight, which was one of the major risk factors in hypertension, diabetes mellitus, and hyperlipidemia.

The most important DRP in diabetic patients was "failure to receive drugs" 5/12 (41.7%). Pharmaceutical care intervention provided to this patient group were "counseling" 9/15 (60%), and "referring patients to the doctor" 6/15 (40%). The same results of DRPs found in patients with hypertension and asthma were failure to receive drugs: 7/23 (30.4%) and 5/22 (22.7%) respectively. No DRPs were identified in patients with hyperlipidemia. Counseling was the major pharmaceutical care intervention in hypertension 16/26 (61.5%) and asthmatic patients 20/42 (47.6%) as well.

It was concluded that counseling by the pharmacist has a definite role in providing pharmaceutical care to patients, in order to gain satisfactory outcomes and good quality of life of the patients.