Self Medication Service Profile with Acute Diarrhea in Children Case In Community Pharmacies In Surabaya

ABSTRACT

OBJECTIVE Diarrhea is one of the major causes of death of children in developing countries. This problem may be caused by the lack of information or ineffective treatment of diarrhea. Diarrhea is a symptom that can be relieved by over the counter medicines. To ensure patients get the appropriate, save and rational drug therapy, pharmacists have a profession responsibility to recommend appropriate medicines. The aim of this research was to investigate types of information collected by pharmacy staff in patient assessment, medicines recommended, types of information related to medicines and non-medicines given by pharmacy staff to a client who requested antidiarrhea medicines.
METHOD A simulated patient visited 90 randomly selected pharmacies in Surabaya and requested antidiarrhea medicines. Information about patient data collected, recommendation provided, medicines and non-medicines information given by pharmacy staff were documented in a checklist.
RESULTS In patient assessment, Information about patient's age, whom the medicines requested for, the spesification of diarrhea and accompanying symptoms of diarrhea was collected by 40,0%, 38.9%, 10.0% and 3.3% of pharmacy staff respectively. All consisiting of adsorben (47.8%), antimotility agent (27.8%) and antimicrobial agent (3.3%). The majority of medicine information provided by pharmacy staff was about dose, wich was mostly given on demand. Non-medicines information only given by one pharmacy staff.
CONCLUSION Information collected in patient assessment was limited. Lack of information about patients may lead to caused inappropriate medicines recommendation. The most medicines information was given only after being requested.

Keywords: over the counter drugs, acute diarrhea in children, community pharmacies