

Developing a validated and reliable questionnaire for evaluating knowledge, attitude and practice of physicians in pharmacoeconomics

S. Rabbani*, J. Salamzadeh, F.yaghmai, M. Tabatabaiefar, A. Ardam

Departments of Pharmacoeconomics and Clinical Pharmacy, School of Pharmacy, Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran

Background and Aim: Most health-care markets are far from satisfying the preconditions for perfect competition and hence far from Pareto Optimal. Patients typically rely on doctors to tell them what care they should receive.

In addition, pharmaceutical industry traditionally viewed communications to the clinicians as one of its most powerful marketing tools and tended to concentrate on the safety and efficacy of medicines. However, the paradigm is now changing, as some pharmaceutical manufacturers are including economic (pharmacoeconomic) data in their communications.

Therefore, there is a dire need for studies that propose to evaluate the clinicians' attitudes towards pharmacoeconomics and their knowledge and skills in this area, and to recommend strategies to enhance the incorporation of this approach into everyday practice. So a questionnaire for evaluating knowledge, attitude and practice of physicians in pharmacoeconomics is developed and validated.

Method: After literature review and interview with physicians, a questionnaire was developed

To evaluate knowledge (10 questions), attitude (46 questions) and practice (8 questions) of physicians. Then content validity (CVI) and face validity index were measured using pharmacoeconomy professionals' opinion. For reliability measuring internal consistency, test retest evaluation and intraclass correlation (ICC) was conducted.

Results: The questionnaire was edited after face and content validity. 10 questions were omitted. Internal consistency was good ($\alpha \geq 0.7$), Willcoxon's test didn't show significant difference in test retest evaluation and all of the Intraclass Correlation Coefficients were more than 0.8.

Conclusions: A questionnaire for "evaluating knowledge, attitude and practice of physicians about using pharmacoeconomic evaluations", was developed with 10 questions for knowledge, 36 questions for attitude and 8 questions for practice measurement.

Key words: Attitude; Knowledge; Practice; Pharmacoeconomics; Questionnaire developing