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Evaluation of Prescription Pattern of anti-diabetic Drugs using WHO Prescribing Indicators in a Tertiary Care Hospital in Trivandrum

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ABSTRACT

Diabetes mellitus is a chronic disorder emerging as a common worldwide health problem which increases morbidity and mortality, especially in developing countries. Compliance to the WHO prescribing indicators and the appropriate use of anti-diabetic drugs are one of the major concern in the healthcare system. Drug utilization studies help to promote rational drug use and for the optimization of drug therapy. The purpose of the study was to analyze the prescribing pattern of anti-diabetic drugs in accordance with WHO prescribing indicators. A prospective, observational study was done for six months in the diabetology OP department. The data was analysed using WHO indicators and expressed as descriptive statistics. The total number of encounters surveyed was 110. In this study, the average number of drugs per prescription was 5.99. Percentage of drugs prescribed by generic name was found to be very low (0.6%), antibiotic drugs (1%) and injections (58%). Drugs prescribed from an Essential Drug List (EDL) were found to be 54.35%. Lack of knowledge of the generic name and has increased our findings from the standard. This needs awareness among prescribers.

Keywords: Diabetes, Drug utilization, prescribing indicators, Essential Drug List.