

Evaluating the Practice, knowledge and attitude of community pharmacists towards disposing Expired Medications in Jordan

By

Deemah Hasan H. Hasan

Supervisor

Professor Rania Hamed

Co-supervisor

Dr. Alaa Hammad

Al-Zaytoonah University of Jordan, 2024

Abstract

The fate of expired medicines in the community pharmacies in Jordan is an important subject to shed light on. It influences the environment, planetary health, and the country's society. Therefore, it is essential to study pharmacists' knowledge, attitudes, and practice toward expired medicines and identify the type of pharmaceutical products that most likely expire in their community pharmacies. A 10-minute questionnaire was distributed in Amman, Jordan, over three months, between November 2023 and January 2024, to collect the data needed for this study, followed by analyzing the data using IBM SPSS version 26. The Chi-square test was used to test the significance of the relationship between the participants' demographics and their responses to the questions. Data showed that most participants were females, practicing pharmacists for less than four years, primarily located in Western Amman, with

bachelor's degrees in pharmacy. It was found that the most frequent answer regarding the disposal method for all dosage forms of medicines was to return EMs to their corresponding pharmaceutical distributors. Supplements, including vitamins, minerals, and probiotics, were recorded as the most commonly expired in community pharmacies. The present study revealed that we need to broaden the knowledge of community pharmacists of the best ways of medication disposal and increase the awareness of establishing centers that specialize in medication disposal.

Keywords: Community pharmacists, expired medicines, medication disposal, planetary health.