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**The prevalence of medication prescribing errors in King Salman Armed Forces Hospital in North Western Region-Tabuk, Saudi Arabia****Ibrahim M Al Zahrani and Meshari M Alrayees**

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**Statement of the Problem:** Medication prescribing errors are common in hospitals and can cause patient harm that could be a very serious event. Prescribing errors or faults can occur at any step of process due to many preventable factors. Researchers have reported that pharmacist interventions as well as introduction of electronic prescription system clearly reduce medication prescription errors. However, the clinical benefits of clinical design support system (CDSS) with electronic prescriptions have been previously studied and proofed to improve prescribing quality.

**Purpose:** The purpose of this study is to describe the prevalence of medication errors in prescribing stage and to study the problem statistically.

**Methodology & Theoretical Orientation:** It is retrospective chart review about the pharmacist's interventions over the period of 1 year. All the data is generated in the computer. Simple random sampling technique was used and the sample size was 592 prescriptions. Data gathered electronically and analyzed using SPSS version 21 to categorize the medication prescribing errors and related factors.

**Findings:** The medication errors percentage is high with internal medicine physicians because many specialties are under internal medicine. Pharmacist can prevent any prescribing error by catching them before dispensing mainly due to lack of knowledge of the prescribers.

**Conclusion & Significance:** Education and training of prescribers are highly needed. Electronic prescribing system is a worthy system to be used to reduce the medication prescribing errors to eliminate the complexity of prescribing errors. However, CDSS should be implemented in this system to ensure patient safety and improve the prescribing service.

**Recent Publications**

1. Mohamed H Ragab, Mohammed Y Al-Hindi and Meshari M Alrayees (2016) Neonatal parenteral nutrition: Review of the pharmacist role as a prescriber. *Saudi Pharm J.*; 24(4): 429-440.
2. Alatawi Y M, Kavookjian J, Ekong G and Alrayees M M (2016) The association between health beliefs and medication adherence among patients with type-2 diabetes. *Res Social Adm Pharm.*; 12(6): 914-925.

**Biography**

Ibrahim M Al Zahrani is Consultant (Family Medicine) working as Director of Medical Administration Department and previously he has worked as Director of Family Medicine & Peripheral Clinics and Deputy Director of Family Medicine Administration in King Salman Armed Forces Hospital in North Western Region, KSA. He is interested in the field of improving patient safety and quality of service provided.

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