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The Role of Pharmacists in Primary Care Settings

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Presenters

Julie Cummings, McKenzie Shank, Nathanael Smith, Olumami Amaye, Cara Toms, Thaddeus T. Franz, and Tracy Frame

The Role of the Pharmacist in a Primary Care Office

Olumami Amaye, Julie Cummings, McKenzie Shenk, Nathanael Smith, Cara Toms
Cedarville University School of Pharmacy

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

BACKGROUND

- Due to educational growth, pharmacists are prepared for more patient outcome involvement.
- There are gaps in the health care system than can be filled by a pharmacist.
- One of the gaps is Medication Therapy Management Services (MTM/MTMS), a set of well-rounded services such as pharmacotherapy, disease state management and immunizations.
- A collaboration between the pharmacist, physician and other health care providers may increase patient outcomes.
- Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) are attempting to bridge the gaps by employing pharmacists.
- In this research, we want to look at pharmacists involved in MTM and FQHC's in the state of Ohio.

HYPOTHESIS

- **Null-** The addition of pharmacists in providing clinical services will not provide adequate support to the increasing patient care demands within the clinic setting.
- **Alternative-** The addition of pharmacists in providing clinical services will provide support to the increasing patient care demands within the clinic setting.

OBJECTIVE

To determine if the addition of pharmacists providing clinical services in a primary care setting can support the prescribers' patient care demands.

METHODS

STUDY DESIGN.

- Observational exploratory study design will utilize cross-sectional surveys.

SAMPLE

- Convenience sampling includes any FQHC in the state of Ohio. According HRSA Office of Pharmacy Affairs, FQHCs are referred to as consolidated health center program.

DATA COLLECTION

- Administer surveys to FQHCs via Qualtrics.
- Results will be stored and analyzed in SPSS.

MEASUREMENT

- Surveys will assess perceptions of pharmacist involvement as well as MTM services rendered in the FQHC's.
- Other healthcare professionals and pharmacists will be surveyed to assess perceptions and patient outcomes.

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

- Surveys will assess perceptions of pharmacist involvement as well as MTM services rendered in the FQHC's.
- Other healthcare professionals and pharmacists will be surveyed to assess perceptions and patient outcomes.

DISCUSSION

PROJECT TIMELINE

Spring 2014	Fall 2014	Spring 2015	Fall 2015	Spring 2016
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Creation of survey and IRB approval	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Distribution of survey and data collection	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Statistical analysis of data	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Compose research document	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presentation of findings

LIMITATIONS

- Limited Generalizability, due to research being done only in Ohio with FQHC's.
- There is no control for different staffing.
- The process is only being looked at as a cross-sectional snapshot.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

- Future studies with live samples, including more areas of the country.
- To show the benefits of pharmacists in other primary care offices.

REFERENCES

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