



**PUNJABI UNIVERSITY  
PATIALA**



# **MEDICATION HISTORY INTERVIEW**

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# MEDICATION HISTORY INTERVIEW

❑ A medication history is a detailed , accurate and complete account of all prescribed and non-prescribed medications that a patient had taken or is currently taking prior to a initially institutionalized or ambulatory care .

❑ It provides valuable insights in to patient's allergic tendencies , adherence to pharmacological and non-pharmacological treatments and self medication with complementary and alternative medicines .

❑ Interviewing a patient in collecting the data medical history is called medication history interview.

# Importance of accurate drug history

- 1.Preventing prescription errors and consequent risk to patients.
- 2.Useful in detecting drug –related pathology or changes in clinical signs that may be the result of drug therapy.
- 3.It should encompass all currently and recently prescribed drugs, previous adverse drug reactions including herbal or alternative medicines and adherence to therapy for better care plan.

# Goals

The goal of medication history interview is to obtain information on aspects of drug use that may assist in over all care of patient .

The information collected can be utilized to :

1. Compare medication profile with the medication administration record and investigate the discrepancies .

2. Verify medication history taken by other staffs and provide additional information where appropriate.

The following information is commonly recorded:

1.Currently or recently prescribed medicines

2.OTC medication

3.Vaccinations

4.Alternative or traditional remedies

5.Description of reactions and allergies to medicine

6.Medicines found to be ineffective

7.Adherence to past treatment and the use of adherence aids

# Information sources

1.Patient

2.Family or caregiver

3.Medication vials / bubble packs

4.Medication list

5. Community pharmacy

6.DPIN (Drug programs information network)

# Question to Ask

- Which community pharmacy do you use?
- Any allergies to medications and what was the reaction ?
- Which medications are you currently taking:
  - The name of the medication
  - The dosage form
  - The amount (specifically the dose)
  - How are the taking it (by which route)
  - How many times a day

- For what reason
- What prescription medications are you taking on a regular basis or as needed basis?
- What over the counter medications are you taking on a regular or as needed basis?
- What herbal or natural medicines are you taking on a regular or as needed basis?
- What vitamins or other supplement are you taking?
- Have you recently started any new medicines?



- Did a doctor change the dose or stop any of your medications recently?
- Did you change the dose or stopped any of your medications recently?
- Are any of the medications causing side effects
- Have you change the dose or stopped any medications because of unwanted effects ?
- Do you sometimes stop taking your medicine whenever you feel better?
- Do you stop taking your medicine if it makes you feel worse?

# Patient counseling

Patient counseling is defined as providing medication information orally or in written form to the patient or their representatives on direction of use ,advice on side effects ,precautions ,storage, diet and life style modifications .

# Objectives of Patient Counseling

- Patient should recognize the importance of medication for his well being
- Patient's understanding of strategies to deal with medication side effects and drug interactions should be improved.
- Patient becomes an informed, efficient and active participant in disease treatment and self care management
- Drug interactions and adverse drug reactions should be prevented.
- Should ensure better patient compliance

# Patient counseling consist of 3 stages

- Introduction
- Process content and issue regarding
- Conclusion

# Introduction

- Review the patient's record
- Introduce yourself (pharmacist)
- Explain purpose of counseling
- Obtain drug related information such as allergies , use of herbals etc.
- Assess the patient understanding of the reasons for therapy

# Issues Regarding manner

- Use language that the patient understands
- Present facts and concepts in simple words  
logical order
- Use open ended questions

# Conclusion

- Verify the patient's understanding by feedback
- Summarize by emphasizing key points
- Give an opportunity to the patient to put forward any concerns

# Functions of Patient Counseling

- Effective patient counseling aims to produce the following results:
- Better patient's understanding of their illness and the role of medication in its treatment
- Improved medication adherence
- More effective drug treatment
- Reduce incidence of adverse effects and unnecessary healthcare cost
- Improved quality of life for the patient
- Better coping strategies to deal with medication related adverse effects



# Counseling area

The patient should be counseled in a semi-private , private area away from the other people and distractions . The patient perceive the counseling area as confidential , secure and conducive to learning .This helps ensure both parties are focused on the discussion and minimizes interruptions and distractions . It provides an opportunity for patients to ask questions they may be hesitant to ask in public.

THANK YOU