

# ***MEDICATION HISTORY***

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# LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Know the Definition Of 'medication history'
- Understand the components of medication history
- Understand the Steps Involved In medication history interview

# INTRODUCTION

- Medication history is a part of pharmaceutical consultation that identifies and document allergies or other serious adverse medication events as well as information about how medicines are taken currently and have been taken in the past.
- Starting point for medication reconciliation and medication review
- Part of medical history which focuses on medication therapy.

# GOALS OF MEDICATION HISTORY

- To gain information on
  - ✓ Prescription and nonprescription medications
  - ✓ Perceived benefit or adverse effects of the therapy
  - ✓ Medication allergy/intolerance
- Identification of potential medication problems
- To develop more thorough assessment and pharmaceutical care plan.
- Better patient outcomes

# Types of Data Collection

- **Subjective:**
  - Information provided by the patient
  - Cannot confirmed/observed/measured
  - Other measure to validate it
- **Objective:**
  - Measurable and observed
  - Not influenced by the opinion/perception of the patient

# Sources of Patient Data

- Patient interview
- Medical records
- Pharmacy dispensing records
- Health care providers
- Care giver/family members

# Components of Patient Drug History

- 1) Demographic and patient financial insurance information
- 2) Medication allergies and intolerance
- 3) Immunizations
- 4) Medications
- 5) Additional home monitoring and compliance aids
- 6) Barriers to compliance
- 7) Additional information for patient history:
  - Social history
  - Acute/chronic medical problems

## Aspects of medication use obtained from medication history interview

- History of previous allergies/ADR
- Perceived efficacy
- Perceived side effects
- Adherence to medication
- Medication administration techniques
- Specific problems related to medicine use
- Possibility of pregnancy in women of child bearing age.



## Steps involved in Medication History Interview

- 1) Patient Selection
- 2) Self Preparation
- 3) Privacy and confidentiality
- 4) Purpose of interview
- 5) Conduct interview
- 6) Conclusion
- 7) Document and follow-up

# 1) Patient Selection

- ❖ Ideally all Patient
- ❖ If not possible priority should be given to those who are more likely to get benefit.
- ❖ Eg: Patient with polypharmacy, Multiple and chronic diseases.
- ❖ Certain diseases it is not possible to take medication history interview like psychiatric disorders, impaired cognition etc.
- ❖ Consider family members or relatives.

## 2) Self Preparation

- ❖ Collect all the relevant data including co-morbid conditions
- ❖ Make use of **various sources** of data
- ❖ Provisional list of medications can be made through medical notes
- ❖ **Preparation of list of questions** can be helpful

### 3) Privacy and Confidentiality

- ❖ Consider privacy and confidentiality of the patient
- ❖ Hospital setting – difficult to maintain because interviews are taken at bedside
- ❖ Patient unable to communicate – family members can be involved
- ❖ Must maintain confidentiality of the data except for exchange of information with other health care professionals.

## 4) Purpose of interview

- ❖ Introduce him/herself and explain the purpose of interview
- ❖ Possible benefits should also be explained
- ❖ Respect patient right to decline the interview

## 5) Conduct Interview

- ❖ Use proper communication skills during interview
- ❖ Where possible ask open ended questions
- ❖ Close ended questions may be useful to confirm details
- ❖ All the questions asked appropriately

## 6) Conclusion

- ❖ Check whether all important and relevant details obtained
- ❖ Ask patient if he/she has any questions relating to the medications.

## 7) Documentation and follow up

- ❖ All information should be documented
- ❖ Documented medications should be compared with the information obtained from health care professionals for any discrepancies.
- ❖ If any discrepancies – informed to the concerned physician
- ❖ Documented information will be helpful for ongoing pharmaceutical care



## References

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- Joseph T. Dipiro. Encyclopedia of Clinical Pharmacy. Taylor and Francis Group. New York: London.

**THANK YOU**