

Knowledge and Attitude Assessment of pharmacists Toward Telepharmacy in Riyadh City, Saudi Arabia

Anoud alanazi, Ahmad albarak, albandari alanazi, Reema M. A. Muawad

Background and importance:

Innovative technologies such as telepharmacy have significantly affected patient safety, quality of life, and lower healthcare costs. It showed the potential improvement in the pharmaceutical care service quality by decreasing medication errors and adverse drug events. Besides, provide benefits in rural areas and places with a lack of facilities and/or specialist services.

Aim and Objectives:

Evaluate the pharmacist's knowledge about the telepharmacy concept, the skills required, the proper working environment, and the attitude towards telepharmacy in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, and to recognize any association between demographic factors, knowledge, and attitudes towards telepharmacy.

Materials and Method:

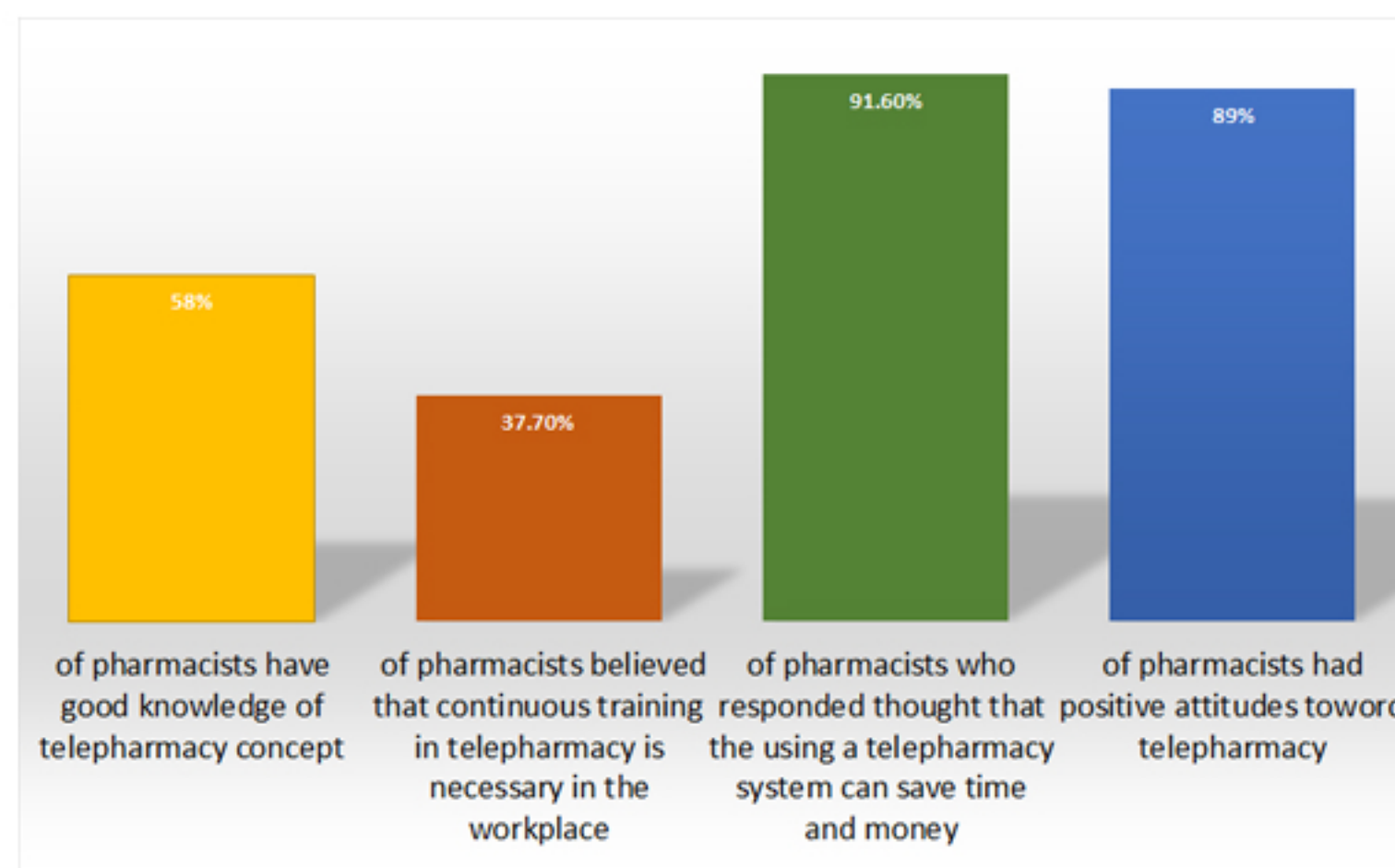
A cross-section multicentre study design was selected by convenience sampling technique. An anonymous survey was carried out among pharmacists in nine governmental hospitals in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. A validate self-administered questioner was used for the survey to assess knowledge, perceptions, and willingness of telepharmacy. Descriptive statistics, independent t-test, The Kruskal—Wallis H test, and one-way ANOVA were performed using SPSS version(25).

Conclusion:

This study helped to conclude that there is is a potential for telepharmacy to be completely incorporated into the healthcare system in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia if adequate education and training for pharmacists have been given, as knowledge measurement was significantly low. Improving pharmacist knowledge of the telepharmacy definition would be a key factor for effective implementation in the future.

Results:

- Total number of participants was 465.
- Response rate(66%).
- (76%) of psarticipants were females.
- (91%) of psarticipants were under 40 years old.



A strong association between gender perception and willingness p-value was (0.000,0.009), respectively, and specialty with willingness P-value (0.008). statistically negative correlation between perception and gender at (0.05) level using pearson correlation.

Contact information: Author name: Anoud Alanazi
E-mail: Asalanazi@pscc.med.sa
phone number: +966500581811