EAHP News

Findings from the EAHP European Statements Survey 2015

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May's edition of the *European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy (EJHP)* includes an original article on the 2015 European Association of Hospital Pharmacists (EAHP) Statements survey. It is the first survey of the new EAHP line providing general knowledge on the baseline implementation level of the European Statements of Hospital Pharmacy in all six sections of the Statements.

The original article analyses the survey results relating to sections 2, 5 and 6 of the Statements. In addition to collecting data on implementation, the survey also identifies the most important barriers to, and the drivers of, Statement implementation. It shows that Statements about the publication of research activities, contingency plans for medicine shortages, the use of computer-supported decision tools, the involvement in developing local and national guidelines/policies and the identification of priorities for improvement in medicines use process are areas in which hospital pharmacies have difficulties.

Insufficient capacity and different priorities of hospitals and health system managers are identified as the most important barrier to Statement implementation.

EAHP-EPISA INTERNSHIP PLATFORM: SIGN UP YOUR HOSPITAL PHARMACY

The EAHP-EPISA internship platform—a collaboration between the EAHP and the European Pharmaceutical Students' Association (EPISA)—has been operating for 4 years. The platform enables hospital pharmacies to offer students and young pharmacists from other European countries the opportunity to gain cross-border practice experience. Students and young pharmacists can apply for internships in 21 hospital pharmacies located in Austria, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Slovenia and Spain.

As applicants' interest has been growing, both EAHP and EPISA are keen to expand the network of hospitals on the platform. Any hospital pharmacy interested in hosting a trainee and located in one of the member states of the Council of Europe may get involved. If you are interested in providing a future hospital pharmacist with the opportunity to gain practical experience, sign up your hospital today by completing the application form available on EAHP's website.

For any personal queries about the platform please contact intern@eahp.eu

EAHP ENDORSES GS1 POSITION PAPER ON THE IDENTIFICATION OF THE PRIMARY PACKAGE LEVEL OF DRUGS

The EAHP recently endorsed a position paper of GS1 Healthcare on the

identification of the primary package level of drugs. The paper lays down good practice recommendations that would enhance patient safety in the medication administration processes for chronic diseases in hospitals, nursing homes or at a patient's home. It advocates the identification of primary packages through barcodes containing information on the General Trade Item Number (GTIN) as well as, optionally, the expiry date and/or batch data.

The paper endorses EAHP's views contained in the position paper on the need for barcoding of the single dose administered in hospitals. To reduce medication errors and protect patient safety, EAHP's position paper calls for each single dose of medicine used within hospitals and supplied to the hospital by manufacturers or wholesalers to include an individual barcode in GS1 data matrix format.

2016 EAHP STATEMENT SURVEY: RESULTS ARE AVAILABLE

The EAHP recently published the result of its 2016 Statement survey on its website. Together with the 2015 baseline survey and the 2015 Statement survey, this publication now concludes the first cycle of the surveys of practice.

The surveys of practice aim at assisting the implementation of the European Statements of Hospital Pharmacy by showing how their vision for hospital pharmacy is being realised across EAHP's 35 member countries. Data gathered by each country via the surveys of practice helps to inform EAHP members, the board, the implementation team and the project team about the overall existing state of the profession and the Statement implementation status. In addition, these surveys help to identify barriers to implementation.

The 2016 Statement survey focused on sections 1 (Governance), 3 (Production and compounding) and 4 (Clinical pharmacy services) of the European Statements of Hospital Pharmacy.

Production and compounding is the area that poses the lowest implementation barriers to hospital pharmacists, while the following five questions yielded the least positive results:

- Do the pharmacists in your hospital enter all medicines used onto the patient's medical record on admission? (section 4.4);
- Do the pharmacists in your hospital contribute to the transfer of information about medicines when

patients move between and within healthcare settings? (section 4.5);

- Do you have an agreed strategic plan for the development of clinical pharmacy services in your hospital? (section 4.8);
- Do the pharmacists in your hospital work routinely as part of multidisciplinary team? (section 1.1);
- Do the pharmacists in your hospital ensure patients and carers are offered information about their medicines in terms they can understand? (section 4.6).

EAHP Statement 6: Education and Research

Competing interests None declared.

Provenance and peer review Commissioned; internally peer reviewed.

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To cite Kohl S. *Eur J Hosp Pharm* 2017;**24**:251–252.

Eur J Hosp Pharm 2017;**24**:251–252.
doi:10.1136/ejhp-2017-001320