Contribute to EAHP's 2019 Medicines Shortages Survey

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On 7th November, the European Association of Hospital Pharmacists (EAHP) released its 2019 Medicines Shortages Survey which seeks to investigate the reasons and impact of medicines shortages on patients in European hospitals as well as possible solutions. Unlike previous surveys, this year's investigation will target all healthcare professionals working in the hospital environment as well as patients that have experienced medicines shortages during their hospital stay.

EAHP is extremely concerned by the growing problem of medicines shortages, in particular since it significantly impacts the quality and safety of patient care as shown by EAHP's 2014 and 2018 Medicines Shortages Survey results. Patients are at risk of suffering deterioration in their health status if they cannot receive their prescribed medicines in a timely manner. Simultaneously, the amount of time that different healthcare professionals are able to spend with patients is reduced by the increased necessity of investing more and more working hours into the management of medicines shortages.

The 2019 Medicines Shortages Survey of EAHP will be open until 13th January 2020 to gather information from healthcare professionals working in the hospital environment and patients that experienced medicines shortages while being treated. In addition to the English version, EAHP released additional language versions of the survey in French, Greek, Italian, Portuguese, Romanian, Slovakian and Spanish.

The surveys can be accessed via the following link: <https://www.eahp.eu/practice-and-policy/medicines-shortages/2019-medicines-shortage-survey>

SECURE YOUR SPOT AT #EAHP2020

Between 25th and 27th March 2020, the European Association of Hospital Pharmacists (EAHP) will be celebrating the 25th anniversary of its annual congress for the hospital pharmacy profession. The event will bring together hospital pharmacists from all over the world in

Gothenburg, Sweden. The programme is centred around the theme "Hospital Pharmacy 5.0 – the future of patient care".

The keynotes of EAHP's anniversary congress, will provide participants with insights on the latest developments in the fields of artificial intelligence, digitalisation and pharmacy prescribing. Other subjects, such as for example telepharmacy and 3D printing, that will influence the work of hospital pharmacists in the foreseeable future, will be addressed in seminars and workshops, also with a focus on the provision of optimal outcomes for patients.

The Synergy programme of the 25th EAHP Congress will address innovation trends that aim at improving patient care. "Oncology biosimilars – hospital pharmacists making the difference", sponsored by an educational grant from Amgen, will explore collaboration possibilities with other healthcare professionals on specific issues relating to the optimal use of biosimilars in the oncology field in hospitals. At the same time, it will empower hospital pharmacists to make a difference by providing them with knowledge and advice on how to implement and monitor biosimilars used in oncology. Financial impact assessment aspects will also be touched on.

The second Synergy Satellite "The Hospital Pharmacist's role in antithrombotic stewardship", sponsored by an educational grant from Bayer, will look at strategies that hospital pharmacist should apply to optimise anticoagulation use by appropriately modifying the reversible factors for bleeding. To this end participants will be made aware of the appropriate use of Direct Oral Anticoagulants (DOACs) to ensure the antithrombotic efficacy of the anticoagulants. In addition, the advantages of antithrombotic stewardship programmes will be presented, since these can help prevent complications, such as bleeding caused by incorrect use, by promoting adherence to anticoagulant guidelines.

To benefit from the reduced registration rate make sure to register before first February 2020 on the congress website: <https://www.eahp.eu/congresses/registration>

AWARENESS ABOUT EUROPEAN STATEMENTS IS INCREASING SAYS EAHP'S 2018 STATEMENT SURVEY REPORT

The 2018 Statement Survey results have been released by the European Association of Hospital Pharmacists (EAHP). The survey was conducted across 35 countries from October 2018 to November 2018 with the focus on the statements from Section 1 (Introductory Statements and Governance), Section 3 (Production and Compounding) and Section 4 (Clinical Pharmacy Services). The overall response rate to the survey was 16.9% (873 total responses), with wide variation across different countries.

Barriers to hospital pharmacies engaging in more clinically focused activities seem to be greater than for more traditional areas such as compounding. Lack of capacity (not having enough staff), capability (not having staff with the required skills), and support from managers are the commonly cited reasons for this, although there was considerable variation across the different countries. The five questions for which the least positive responses were received, are linked to Sections 1.1, 4.2, 4.4, 4.5 and 4.8. The European Statements of Hospital Pharmacy express commonly agreed objectives which every European health system should strive for in the delivery of hospital pharmacy services. Since 2015, EAHP is evaluating the barriers and drivers of Statement implementation by means of the Statement surveys.

Awareness of the Statements and agreement with the Statements has both steadily increased since the baseline survey in 2015. This trend can partially be attributed to the work of the EAHP Statement Implementation Ambassadors and the successful realisation of the implementation strategy. EAHP would like to thank all hospital pharmacists that supported the publication of the 2018 EAHP Statements Survey by inputting to the survey activity. The contributions received are essential for the development of the hospital pharmacy profession in Europe.

EAHP PROVIDES EXTENSIVE TRAINING ON PROCUREMENT AND TENDERING PROCESS

On fourth and fifth of October, the European Association of Hospital Pharmacists (EAHP) brought together different stakeholders that participated in the second Synergy Masterclass. The 2 day event, sponsored by an educational grant from Amgen, centred around the topic of "Procurement, tendering and

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decision-making processes in the hospital setting". It brought together healthcare professionals, representatives from industry and other interested parties working in the field of procurement and tendering in the hospital environment.

Speakers with knowledge in different procurement and tendering systems ensured through a mix of lectures and small working group sessions that the newly learnt techniques could be applied in practice throughout the intensive 2 day training. Parallel workshops encouraged the group to analyse and solve problems related to procurement as well as to evaluate procurement processes and their

outcomes. Overall, participants appreciated to learn about and exchange on different procurement systems in a very interactive atmosphere.

EAHP's Synergy Masterclasses are ACPE accredited one or 2 day mini congresses that are focused on the most groundbreaking and most needed topics relevant for hospital pharmacists and healthcare professionals. Those that missed this unique opportunity to participate, can participate in an open learning course on the topic of "Procurement, tendering and decision-making processes in the hospital setting" that will be released in the coming months.

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