

Review of Drug Use Evaluation Methodology and Applied Cases

Lee EK^o, Jang SM, Rhee J.

Department of Health Research, Korea Institute for Health and Social Affairs

Quantitative and qualitative approaches are two major methodologies of drug use evaluation. Quantitative methodology is mainly about drug cost and consumption. We analyzed antibiotic consumption using DDD (the defined daily dose) which is the international index of drug consumption. The data used here is amended IMS data of purchasing. Antibiotic consumption is calculated at 33.2 (DDD/ per 1,000 person/ per 1 day) in 1997. Oral antibiotic consumption (30.65 (DDD/ per 1,000 person/ per 1 day)) is much higher than injection consumption (2.52). But, in the proportion of pharmaceutical expenditure, oral is composed of 50.9% and injection of 49.1%. By type of disposition, cephalosporin occupy 44.1% of total antibiotic expenditure, but consumption, 2.14 (DDD/1,000 person /1day), is smaller than penicillin (17.5 DDD/1,000 person/1day) by one-eighth in 1997. It is due to significant price-difference among oral, injection and disposition. Forth, by type of facility, antibiotic expenditure is ordered in hospital (61.0%), clinic (22.0%), pharmacy (17.0%), but consumption is ordered in pharmacy 16.4, clinic 14.0, hospital 2.8 (DDD/1,000 person/1day) in opposite of expenditure trend. It seems that relatively cheaper antibiotic (i.e. oral, penicillin, tetracycline) is overused in pharmacy and relatively expensive antibiotic (i.e. injection, cephalosporin) is more used in hospital. Also, we reviewed 29 papers related to drug utilization review and evaluated them by qualitative approach. Justification of drug use ranges between 30 and 89%. We can conclude drug utilization study is important in that it can show actual features of drug consumption and enhance rational drug use.

[OF-3] [10/20/2000 (Fri) 12:00 – 12:15 / Hall C]

A Comparative Evaluation of Medical and Pharmaceutical Information on the Internet for the Public : the Case of Hypertension

Hong EJ^o, Hong SS, Oh JM

Sookmyung Women's Univ. graduate school of clinical pharmacy

Recently the rapid growth of the internet as a communication tool has brought about a great change in the transmission of medical and pharmaceutical information, and made such information readily available to the public. It is, however, not easy to discern which resources are accurate or appropriate for users.

This study was designed to first derive a criteria for the evaluation of medical and pharmaceutical information and then to evaluate the information provided on Korean internet sites in comparison with that on internet sites abroad. The evaluation criteria were composed of four categories: 1) credibility of contents; 2) credibility of sites; 3) conveniences of use and 4) others. Web search engines used in this study were: Hotbot, Infoseek, Altavista, Yahoo (English version), Yahoo Korea, Naver, Hanmir, Simmani, Lycos Korea and Wakano. The keyword entered into the query box was "hypertension" for search engines of English and "Korean word of hypertension" for those of Korean. A total of 60 web sites were retrieved from those search engines.

The study could not find a significant difference between both comparing groups with regards to credibility of contents and conveniences of use ($p > 0.05$). It was revealed, however, that information provided on internet sites abroad was better compared with that of domestic sites in terms of credibility of sites and other elements ($p < 0.05$). Specifically sites abroad are more likely to have such information or features as complementarity of the information, internal search engines, purpose of site, name of developers, transparency of sponsorship, confidentiality and feedback with webmaster; while domestic sites are not. In sum, Korean sites are pretty similar to those abroad in credibility of contents and conveniences of use, although not quite comparable in credibility of sites and other elements.